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The words we speak are powerful. They can wound and they can heal. They can affirm and they can accuse. How much more powerful do our words become when we confess the truths of God! A decree is an official order issued by a legal authority. A decree is taking God’s words and speaking them out. A decree from our lips can be loaded with life, restoring the fallen and reviving the forsaken.

We have been given the authority from Jesus to speak decrees into our realms of influence, and as we do, we begin to create the will of God in our lives in the spiritual realm. I know without any doubt that speaking decrees over our lives and families can change our circumstances.

I once faced a horrible situation that I know was turned around when I made a decree from my mouth. Let me tell you about it.

My wife, Candice, and I were serving Christ as missionaries in the rainforest of Panama, living near the border of Colombia. The jungle surrounded us with all its dangers. One day our precious daughter was playing near the river with her friends,
suddenly one of the world’s longest pit vipers, known as the bushmaster, latched onto her ankle. The venom of this pit viper is deadly. More than one person has died in the jungle from a bite from the bushmaster. The effects of the venom of this snake are many: swelling, throbbing pain and internal bleeding.

I carried our daughter into our hut and immediately began to pray, hard! I pleaded, I begged God to heal her, I wept, I sought God’s healing power and asked heaven to spare her. But here is what turned it all around: I made a decree.

I spoke over her that we were sent by God to the jungle to win people to Christ, not bury a loved one. “You will live and not die!” I decreed heaven’s power and healing grace over her life.

Then I felt the shift in the atmosphere all around us. I knew God was going to answer my prayer of decree.

Yes, you know the end of this story. She eventually got better and was healed. Today there is no sign of that poisonous snakebite in her life, for God worked a miracle.

How many miracles are waiting for our heavenly decrees? There are times we must push aside our fears and doubts and simply declare God’s Word over our difficulties. Some might ask, “What is our authority to make a decree?” It is the name of Jesus. Everything must bow before the name of Jesus. It is the one and only name that has power on earth, in heaven and in hell.

You can use the name of Jesus as though He Himself, with all His authority, is standing beside you (see 1 Corinthians 6:17). King Jesus has given you the authority and power over demons, and you have the right to ask the Father for victory in His name (see Luke 10:19). John 14:13–14 (TPT) gives us one of the major weapons from the Throne Room—the name of Jesus:

“For I will do whatever you ask me to do when you ask me in my name. And that is how the Son will show what the Father is really
like and bring glory to him. Ask me anything in my name, and I will do it for you!”

Use the name or names of Jesus in your decrees and watch heaven move on your behalf.

You hold in your hands a book written by an experienced, powerful servant of Christ. In *The Power of the Decree*, Patricia King takes us on a journey into the depths of God’s authority and power that He means to operate in your life. You will read this and get excited. You will begin to speak life-giving words that will impact everything around you. You will see your family change, even your future change, by making decrees over what lies before you. Based solidly on Scripture and filled with practical information, this book may be the most effective book you have ever read to transform the world around you. Read it thoroughly and underline those statements that reverberate in your soul. Get ready for the booster rocket of *The Power of the Decree* to take you higher into the ways of God. You will be glad you chose this book.

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That Settles It!

Life is filled with challenges; you might be facing some right now. Perhaps you need a breakthrough in your finances, health, relationships or spiritual growth. You may have attempted to secure your breakthrough by hoping, praying, worshiping and remaining in healthy Christian fellowship, yet the adverse circumstances remain. The “mountain” has not yet moved.

I know exactly how that feels, as I have experienced similar frustrations. But God has given me a powerful solution and, in this book, I want to reveal to you the greatest Spirit-inspired key God has given me for sustained victory and breakthrough in life. Understanding this vital key and using it effectively has set me on a solid foundation, and I am convinced it will help you too. This key can powerfully transform your life, and I am excited to share it with you!

I was in a very broken and emotionally unstable place prior to receiving the Lord as my personal Savior. The night I invited Him into my heart was a transformational turning point for me.
Internally I knew I was a different person—a new creation—and yet so many circumstances remained in upheaval even as I prayed and believed.

Then my life was forever changed when I heard Dr. Oral Roberts preach a powerful sermon in which he emphatically and repeatedly declared, “God said it. I believe it. That settles it!” Those faith-infused declarations entered my heart that day and produced a fiery passion for the life-giving Word of God that continues to burn in me to this very hour.

Following this significant revelation, it became my practice to seek the Lord daily concerning the life situations that I was facing. I invited Him to give me insight and understanding into specific challenges, desires and longings. Waiting on Him in prayer, I searched the Scriptures. I found that, consistently and faithfully, the Holy Spirit would reveal God’s will, perspective and promises through His Word.

Once I understood His will and ways concerning a situation, I learned to stand on His Word and “settle it.” No matter what the circumstances were, I allowed the Word to be my plumb line and committed myself to that truth. By faith, I commanded everything to come into alignment with the Word, whether or not my current circumstances looked like it. And continuously, I began to witness answers to prayer, amazing breakthroughs and anointed empowerments that produced fruitfulness and success in God-appointed endeavors. Faith was cultivated in me as I believed what God said and determined to settle any issue in life according to His Word and its power to transform and create.

A few years into my walk with the Lord, my husband and I, along with our two young children, engaged in an evangelism/missions training program. This training organization depended on God for everything—the example they set was
wonderful. They taught us to wait on God in prayer in deeper ways than we had understood previously, and we gained a Holy-Spirit-directed burden for the nations. We watched God answer prayers over and over.

This organization’s emphasis was not so much on the Word (although they honored the Word), but rather on worship, intercession and character alignment. While all of these things are important and valuable, I found during my time in the program that my personal focus on and my commitment to the Word waned. It was no longer simply: “God said it. I believe it. That settles it!” As participants in the program, we sat through numerous sessions that emphasized Christian disciplines; we learned how to please God and gained insights on how we might have displeased Him. I began to buy into various distorted perspectives as to why God would not always fulfill His Word, and most of these perspectives were rooted in a belief that human failure caused His displeasure.

As a result, I found myself no longer focused on what the Word said about me as a beloved child of God, but rather on what my behavior and choices communicated. I so wanted to please God, and I began to strive to accomplish a level of behavioral acceptance in His sight. Although I was seeking Him with all my heart and we had left everything to follow Him, I still felt unworthy and often self-condemned. I always felt I was missing the mark, although I tried with everything in me to please Him. Having lost my confidence in His undeserved favor and unconditional love for me, I found it difficult to believe He would answer my prayers. In no way am I suggesting that our instructors were teaching error, but in that season of my life I was surely ensnared through my interpretation and application of their instruction.

James 1:23–25 teaches us that the Word is like a mirror and we are to see ourselves in the light of the perfect law of liberty.
When we walk away from the truth of the Word, we will forget who we are in Christ, and circumstances will then present to us a distorted image. That is exactly what happened to me. I felt that I was not pleasing to God because I could not perform well enough, even though the Word clearly declared that I was accepted in the Beloved (see Ephesians 1:6).

My acceptance in Him is based not on what I do but rather on what Christ accomplished for me two thousand years ago through His finished work on the cross. God said it. I should have believed it, and that should have settled it. But I had lost my focus. I was gazing on all my shortcomings and I had lost sight of the truth. It was a downhill slide for me—I lost my rest in Christ and experienced religious striving and self-condemnation.

Around that same time, an emphasis of biblical faith teaching emerged in the Body of Christ. This teaching encouraged believers to stand firmly in faith on the Word of God and not to allow themselves to be moved by circumstances. If God said it, it was true. This emerging movement had an emphasis on living the abundant life promised by Jesus (see John 10:10). Followers were taught to believe God’s Word and to receive His promises with unwavering faith.

After attending one of their meetings, listening to the faith-infused teaching and examining the Scriptures carefully, my simple faith was restored. It was as though a veil had been removed from my understanding and it became clear once again: If God said it, I believe it. And that settles it. Oh, how wonderful to enjoy that simple childlike faith once again!

It is important to exalt God and His uncompromised Word in an hour when “darkness is covering the earth and gross darkness the people” (see Isaiah 60:2 KJV). We must honor and believe the Word. We must humbly align ourselves with the uncompromised, all-authoritative, all-powerful Word of God.
Living by Faith

It was in this season of freshly awakened faith in God’s Word that the Lord called my husband, Ron, and me to leave our secular careers and serve Him full-time in missions and evangelism. The Lord invited us to live by faith with no visible means of financial support, and during that time He further instructed us to bring our needs before Him only and not to share them with others. Both Ron and I were excited for the opportunity to honor God in this way. In our evangelism/missions training program, we had seen God move in powerful provisional miracles on behalf of the missionaries serving in that organization, so we were looking forward to seeing Him move in our lives in similar ways. We gave God our hearty “yes” and we began the journey. Knowing that He is truly worthy, we laid everything on the altar for His glory and purposes.

We began our journey by studying the provisional Scriptures from Genesis to Revelation. We discovered that God always provided in abundance for His people who believed in Him. Lack was never on His agenda—this was absolutely clear in our study of the Scriptures. We proceeded to write out the verses that promised His unfailing provision and declared, “God said it. We believe it. That settles it!”

Well, declaring it was the easy part. We had no idea that we were about to face excruciating and painful realms of testing over the next five years as we committed to believing His Word only. Two things were to be tested:

1. Our “yes” to the calling of God
2. Our belief in His Word in the face of all contrary circumstances
Literally, all hell broke loose against us. It felt to us as though the devil had assigned every demon of lack and poverty in the universe against us. It was truly a painful time, and we had to find our faith in the midst of it. We continually returned to the Scriptures. We read them, prayed them, sang them and meditated on them. Those precious verses were God’s promises to us. He said it, we believed it . . . and that should settle it. But—oh, the pain and the discouragement of believing His Word with all our hearts and not seeing an immediate manifestation of its truth.

We had given God our “yes,” so there was no turning back. We had no Plan B. We continued to believe, but the provision was definitely invisible. We literally had to believe for food to appear on the table when there was no food to be found in the house. We had to believe for fuel when the gas tank was completely empty. It was discouraging to see our children in need during this season of testing. However, as a family we continued to honor the Word. We believed it and we obeyed it. We continued to tithe, give and sow as the Word instructs us, even when there was very little.

During this time Ron lost hope for a brief time and he fell into a depression. My husband is a very stable man, faithful, loving, hardworking and responsible. He is a gift from God to me . . . a rock. It broke my heart to see him so deeply affected. Once for two days he had a hard time getting out of bed due to the discouragement. I went into prayer and right away the Lord spoke to my heart, questioning me: “Do you believe I am Ron’s Deliverer? Do you believe that I have a promise of victory and breakthrough for him?” My answer was a hearty “yes,” and then I knew exactly what to do: Search the Scriptures! What does God say?

I discovered hope as I searched the Word and wrote out a full page of Scriptures that promised Ron victory over his sadness and over his perceived defeat as a provider for the family. The
Holy Spirit further instructed me—and this was big—to write out the Scriptures in the form of a decree from God’s heart so that my husband could declare them as his very own personal truth. For example, in John 8:36, Jesus said, “So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.” From that verse, I composed a written scriptural decree for Ron to proclaim: “The Son has made me free and therefore I am free indeed.” I did the same with Scriptures such as 2 Corinthians 2:14, writing, “God always leads me in His triumph,” and Romans 8:37—“In all these things I overwhelmingly conquer through Christ who loves me.”

I prepared a full page of scriptural decrees for him to declare. However, in his depressed state, he was not at all motivated to declare them. He just wanted to sleep. So I became a little assertive and said, “I will decree them with you, but you will declare them!” He sat up in bed and barely whispered them. I honestly could not detect even a speck of faith as he read them through that first time. When he finished, he rolled over in bed, intending to go back to sleep. I lovingly fought him on that, saying, “No, you will continue to read these until you believe them and receive them.” I then walked him through the second round and the third.

By the third time through, he was already brighter and ready to get out of bed. The Word is powerful! I informed him that we would declare these Scriptures again at least five times that day. In each of the five sessions, we proclaimed the decrees three times. The depression and hopelessness left in that one day of decrees and did not return. God had said it. We had believed it. And that had settled it!

I was thrilled at the breakthrough God gave us through the act of decreeing the truth. I later included that initial decree for victory in a book of decrees I wrote, and I have included it in a specific chapter on the subject later in this book. That initial
decree created back in the 1980s—based on the Word of God written thousands of years ago—is still producing glorious outcomes in people’s lives. The Word never gets old or ineffective.

The Scripture teaches that God’s Word does not return void but accomplishes everything it is sent to do: “So will My word be which goes forth from My mouth; it will not return to Me empty, without accomplishing what I desire, and without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it” (Isaiah 55:11).

At the same time our oldest son, who was in the second grade, was facing a challenge in his academic studies. He lost his confidence as a result, and he was very discouraged. I realized it was becoming dangerous when I heard him saying things like, “I’m stupid. I can’t do anything right.” He was so young, and I was concerned. Having seen Ron achieve his great breakthrough through decreeing the Word, I decided to do the same for my son. I prepared decrees based on the Word of God that were written in a way that his young mind would be able to receive and apply. Instead of writing out the decrees for him, I recorded them on a tape recorder. I called it his “nighty-night tape.” In it, I proclaimed decrees such as:

 Jesus will strengthen you in all you do at school and at play.
 Like Daniel, you are smart in all wisdom, full of understanding and knowledge.
 You are God’s own child—deeply loved and cherished.
 You are filled with wisdom and understanding in the knowledge of Christ.
 You have confidence in God and it gives you great reward.
 You are highly favored. Everyone loves you. God’s favor protects you.
God’s face shines upon you with pleasure.
Your memory is blessed.
You are a champion in Jesus.
God’s peace fills you.

The decree recording was a full hour. Every night, he went to sleep with it on, and it continued to play as he slept. Within a very short time he gained confidence and his grades improved.

Psalm 119:130 teaches that the entrance of God’s words brings light. When you decree the Word of God into someone’s life or into a situation they (or you) are facing, it will not only establish that person or situation in truth but will cause light to expel darkness.

The decree of God’s Word established my husband in confidence again and expelled the darkness of the depression by which he had been attacked. The decree of God’s Word established my young son in renewed hope and vision and expelled the darkness of discouragement, self-condemnation and academic weakness.

Our family faced many battles in that season, but every day during the five-year period of testing, I intentionally reminded myself: “God said it. I believe it. That settles it!”

As I was learning about the power of decrees, a couple Ron and I were close to were experiencing severe marriage problems and were at the point of filing for legal separation and divorce. I made up a page of Scripture decrees that I proclaimed faithfully over their marriage in my prayer time. In a very short period, their marriage was healed, and they were enjoying a fresh, sweet love for each other. They continued to live happily until the husband’s passing over thirty years later. The Word had gone to work. It did not return void but accomplished what it was sent to do.
God cares about everything that pertains to us—even things that seem small and insignificant. After that five-year season of testing, we started to minister among the poor in Tijuana, Mexico, which necessitated frequent trips from Vancouver, Canada, where we lived, to our mission field. We always ventured out in faith, as faith in God’s Word alone was our only stable currency and promise of provision.

One time, as I was driving down to Tijuana with one of my prayer team members, our vehicle blew a tire on an isolated patch of highway in California. We pulled over to the side of the road and discovered that our spare was deflated—and neither one of us was very efficient with mechanical issues. We were stuck. We began to praise God. I remember looking at the tire and decreeing, “In the name of Jesus, you are repaired and filled with air.” I repeated it over and over and soon began to laugh. It seemed a little ridiculous to be speaking to a tire. I continued to decree and laugh.

After about ten minutes or so, someone pulled up and asked us if we needed help. We explained what had happened. He kindly and enthusiastically said, “I surely believe I can help you.” He went into the back of his truck and pulled out a brand-new tire—the exact size we needed! He changed the tire and we were ready to go. When I turned around to thank him, he was nowhere to be found and neither was his truck. We assumed it must have been an angel because we had no natural explanation. We will never know for sure whether or not he was an angel, but we do know for sure that the decree worked!

Over the many years that followed I exercised the power of decrees based on the Scriptures both in larger issues and smaller issues in life. I watched God faithfully move in response to the command of His own Word. Decreeing His Word brought forth results of peace, love, wisdom, healing, freedom and prosperity.
God desires all His people to live in His divine order and blessings. His Word is our plumb line, and decreeing it establishes His will and purpose in and through our lives. You and I were created to decree His Word.

In the following chapters, I will teach you how to discern the specific passage of Scripture that applies to your situation, how to stand in the presence of the Lord to hear the affirmation of His authoritative decrees and how to declare the decrees with confidence concerning anything in life you might face. My desire is for you to become skilled in the execution of God’s will through decrees. I am confident that you will find decrees a God-given tool that you cannot live without. Every area of your life can flourish through decrees. Everything can align with God’s will and His abundance. God says it. You can believe it. And that will settle it.

Testimonies from Those Who Decree the Word

God opened doors of favor for me

I love decrees! I was brand-new to being a professional photographer and I began to decree every morning that I would be the nation’s leading political photographer and influence government officials with the Gospel of Jesus. Since making these decrees, I have had the opportunity to photograph presidents of the United States and many elected officials. Get the Word of the Lord and begin to decree it every day! What is finished in heaven will begin to manifest in your life before you know it.

—Jonathan Williams

Land healed by decrees

In 2009 my husband and I had an opportunity to purchase a commercial building and open an automotive dealership. It was a former
gas station and the ground had been contaminated due to the underground gas tanks leaking into the environment for years.

So we decided to believe God to heal the land and began to walk the dealership lot and decree, “We call this land healed in the name of Jesus”; “We decree that all environmental poison will evaporate and the land will be clean.” We also decreed a new name over the land, calling it “blessed” and “highly favored.”

The environmental people from the government had been drilling bore holes and testing the soil every six months from the time we arrived due to the seriousness of the poison in the ground. We were told to expect this for a lifetime, and the big oil company who had built the gas station had signed a contract to be responsible for a lifetime of environmental cleanup.

But seven years after we started decreeing, they were able to stop testing because the bore holes were now coming back totally clean.

We eventually received a certificate from the government declaring that the land was now clean and was being taken off the official contaminated list.

Two years later we sold the property, and it had gone up so much in value that we were able to pursue some Kingdom dreams we have had for years!

—Wendy Peter

Establishing presence in first ministry office and studio

When we were establishing our ministry’s new offices and studio, the Lord gave us a dozen Scriptures to decree over the land and building He had blessed us with. We faithfully decreed the scriptural promises of His presence, power, glory and blessings every day. We also wrote them on stakes and drove those declared promises into the ground of the new property. When we held our very first meeting in the new building, the manifest presence of God was so strong that everyone in attendance ended up on their faces overwhelmed by the tangible reality of our awesome and faithful God.

—Robert Hotchkin
Decrees gave us breakthrough in our marriage

Decreeing the Word of God brought the breakthrough we were needing. My husband and I walked into a tough season in our marriage and our relationship. God reminded me of the Scriptures that He gave us over our marriage and led me to other promises in His Word. By decreeing His Word continuously, we were able to move from defeat over our circumstances to victory! Our marriage is thriving because we chose to agree with God.

—Mari Maynard

Our financial breakthrough came as a result of decrees

During a season of financial challenge due to health issues in our family, the Lord highlighted Philippians 4:19 to me in The Message version:

You can be sure that God will take care of everything you need, his generosity exceeding even yours in the glory that pours from Jesus.

(Philippians 4:19 msg)

I wrote this Scripture out and kept it taped to the window above my kitchen sink, renewing my faith as I often decreed it, sometimes several times each day. We saw God’s hand at work in miraculous ways, with our bills always being supernaturally met each month, and we even had a special circumstance arise where we needed an additional $4,000 to pay a special tax bill, and within a one-week span, money came in from three unexpected sources and even that additional bill was met!

I am a firm believer in regularly decreeing Scripture and standing in faith on what the Word says!

—Lorrie Myers

90 percent of my medical bill waived

I was needing a creative financial breakthrough due to an unexpected medical emergency for one of my children. I held on to the promise that God is my provider. I remember not feeling defeated, but rather peace after getting off the phone with the medical insurance company...
that I was responsible to for this sizable debt. In that moment, I began to decree promises from the Word of God into that mountain of debt and into my finances. Within two weeks, I received a phone call from the medical provider that said they were looking at my situation and that they were going to waive over 90 percent of the amount owed. I LOVE decrees!!

—Jamie Suiter

From weeping to decreeing

A number of years ago I found myself crying over one of my children who was making unhealthy choices that were causing strain in our relationship. The Holy Spirit spoke to me and told me to stop weeping and to begin decreeing in my “secret place” the destiny call over my child’s life that He had revealed in early childhood. I decreed it all by using Scriptures that confirmed the revealed call. It was only a few weeks when I realized that the atmosphere had shifted. Doors for conversations began to open and our relationship made a huge shift. As the years have passed, I continue to decree rather than weep. I have learned to trust God, and I see my child’s huge God-ordained future unfolding. My burden is light as I rejoice in what He has done, is doing and continues to do. There is power in aligning with the Kingdom of heaven, and learning to decree made all the difference!

—Ruth Hendrickson

Sent the Word to heal

While ministering at a crusade in Nigeria, I gave a word of knowledge about someone who had spent all the money she had looking for a cure, but yet was not cured, and that the Lord was going to heal her. A breast cancer patient came forward for prayers. I decreed God’s Word of healing over her body. Shortly afterwards she went for another biopsy and they could not find any cancer in her breast tissues. She was completely healed, with medical documentation.

—Ella Onakoya

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QUESTIONS TO PONDER

1. What areas of your life currently need to be “settled” according to God’s Word?

2. Do you believe that God wants you to have breakthrough in these areas? (If not, why not?)

3. Are you ready and willing to position yourself in God to “settle” these areas? Write a statement of commitment and date it.