



**REVIVE!**  
*your Spirit*  
by Velma Jean Sanders

*Walk by Faith...*

Signs are a common part of everyday life. They make life easier, and without them we would not easily find our way. There are signs of every sort - signs that give direction, signs of identification, and signs of warning.

God Himself not only gives signs, but gives them in many ways. For example, for forty years while the children of Israel were traveling through the wilderness, He fed them with manna. This was a daily, consistent, and faithful sign of the provision of God to supply their daily bread. But when Israel arrived in the land of Canaan, the heavenly manna ceased.

Now there are many lessons contained within this wilderness experience. But, one very important lesson is the principle that as we develop more in the Christian faith, we learn to depend less on outward visible signs and more on God.

Paul, the Apostle, said in 2 Corinthians 5:7, "We walk by faith, not by sight."

It takes faith to believe that God has ordained the times and seasons of our lives, and that He is ordering our every step. It takes faith to believe that He will provide for us even in the midst of a fallen and shaken world. Faith believes that God is, God can and God will.

"We walk by faith, not by sight."

Simple words these are; yet profound in their meaning. These seven words embody within them a fundamental principle which is one of the keys of a revived spirit and a joyful heart. These words contain the secret of a trusting and quiet soul. To the exercisers, it grants assurance, peace, power and rest.

Upon close examination, you can see that each one of the words, "We walk by faith, not by sight", is comprised of only one syllable. I like that because it teaches me that while it is common to hear about "the deep, the secret, and the mysterious," God has made things quite simple for those whose hearts are prepared to receive.

Now, this walk by faith is not a walk "in the dark." It is a walk, instead, with the full assurance and confidence that God is leading us on the journey. It is together with Him, and with others, that we find ourselves on this path of faith. How does one walk? It is step-by-step, regardless of whom it may be. Regardless of social status or position, political affiliation or religious denomination, or any other social classification, the basic mode of transportation for man is walking.

For the person who chooses to honor God, what is the mode of transportation as he walks through this life? According to the scripture, it is faith. "We walk by faith." Faith is the shoe that holds us, the path that leads us, and the power that propels us as we travel along the way. What is faith? Simply stated, faith is trusting God. And so we walk trusting God, even when we cannot see any outward visible sign.

There is much in this twenty-first century that causes us to be in trepidation, fear and panic. In every realm and kingdom of this world things are being shaken. The Psalmist David said in Psalm 46:2-3, "Though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof."

With spiritual eyes we see the earth, and the patterns thereof, are quickly dissolving. Even the natural scientist, the common economist, the statesman and the everyday parent can see, figuratively speaking, mountains are being carried into the midst of the sea. Establishments and institutions, customs and laws; these signs, which have seemed secure for years and even for centuries, are now melting before our very eyes. The time of living on this earth is quickly fading away.

Nevertheless, God is in the midst of it all. We must look to Him with eyes of faith and keep walking. Walking in bold faith with the calm assurance that if everything we can see with our natural eye should disappear, there is still God! It will require that we have faith as we proceed into the future in this time of shaking.

God wants us to trust Him. He wants us to trust Him and not the economy or politicians, bankers or weathermen. He wants us to put our trust in Him alone. Without doubt, all of us are going to be tried, and the sight of things that we have grown accustomed to will be removed more and more.

Expect movement and shifting. Expect pressure and refinement. Then, you will not be surprised when it comes. And when it comes, understand and know that God is in control. God is able. God is faithful. This is the key to a revived spirit, and the key to successful passage in days ahead as "We walk by faith, not by sight."

## About the Writer Velma Jean Sanders



For over 25 years, Velma J. Sanders has been a Bible teacher. She is convinced that the faithful reading of God's Word will change the life of anyone that reads and studies it with a sincere and humble heart.

She teaches through her weekly radio broadcast, "God's Word, Alive!" in the communities of Albuquerque, NM; York, PA; and, Greenville, SC. However, she has no greater joy than to teach at the church where God has planted her, Salem Baptist Church, in Omaha, NE. It is here that she currently teaches the Contemporary Bible Class. She is also the Director of the Bread of Life Speech Choir.