

by Ingvar Solbrekken

ANOTHER S.E.A.



PUBLICATION



My Experiences with God!

By Ingvar Solbrekken

Copyright 1979

Published By
Solbrekken Evang. Assoc. of Canada
Box 2424
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

Foreword

May, 1979

Dear Friends,

It is with great joy that I present this book to you, written by my Father concerning his experience with the Lord. In my opinion my Dad is undoubtedly one of the "Great Heros of Faith" of this generation.

With great respect and love for him I share with you this testimony now in his 80th year.

Faithfully in Christ,

Max Solbrekken.
Heb 13:8

Below is a personal letter written by my mother regarding her experience of being filled with the Holy Ghost. This letter was written from Norquay, Sask., and translated from Norwegian into English - Max Solbrekken

March 29, 1956

Dear Max and Donna:

Thank-you so much for the phone call - it was so nice to hear your voices. I must tell you a little about the wonderful things which have happened to us here on the farm in Saskatchewan. It began with Dad receiving a marvellous spiritual experience. He sat in the big chair and listened to Oral Roberts Sunday morning and was expecting to receive healing from the Lord. This was the third Sunday morning he had risen early to hear this broadcast.

Oral Roberts said we should ask God to show us that He was God! Dad told us later on that he had done just that. The first I heard was when Dad began to groan and it sounded as though he couldn't breathe properly and then he began to cry. I jumped out of bed and ran to the front room thinking that Dad was dying or had become terribly sick. You have probably never seen

Dad cry: in over 31 years of marriage I have never seen him cry before. I asked him if he was sick and he barely managed to answer, "This is God's power". When I heard this I let him alone thinking if it is God's power then there is nothing to worry about. I fell to my knees and prayed. Dad seemed to be completely overtaken with this wonderful power of God which was upon him - he had just sat down in his big chair when this great power came all over him again and seemed to take complete control of him. It all began as Dad sat praying, and there appeared something like a pillar of fine rain or mist above his head and enveloped him - he just breathed in the wonderful presence of God and he was so thrilled with the nearness of the Lord and the beauty of this great spiritual experience. Then this great power seemed to fill his body, soul and mind.

Naturally, I became very surprised at all this and many thoughts crossed my mind - perhaps Dad was going to die - I could not really understand what this was! Such a change came over Dad and it caused me to really wonder about it all. He was completely taken up with spiritual things and wanted to talk about God and the Bible and also pray a great deal. In other words,

he had become a new person! He only wanted to do that which was right in all matters and he had such a burden for all those who were not saved.

I was overjoyed at the change in him - a short time later however (perhaps one week) Dad had lain down to rest on the bed, when suddenly began to speak in a foreign language, clearly and distinctly and for a long time.

I became so surprised that I began to cry as I had never heard or seen anything like this before. Dad continued to speak in these foreign tongues several times a day and continued praising and magnifying God.

All of this greatly surprised me as I could not understand it, but I knew it was the working of God, since I had observed the great spiritual change in Dad for the better! You know, he had never been a church man. So Dad rejoiced and spoke in tongues daily and worshipped God; I had always been afraid of those things, but now when I saw it in reality, I realized it was a great power from God. I certainly could see from Dad's experience!

Then I began to consider the

possibility or receiving the Gift of the Holy Ghost also, but I was afraid - to pray for this mighty gift and afraid to ask the Blessed Holy Spirit to come and dwell within me. Since I had these fears within me the devil didn't waste any time in trying to rob me of this great gift from God. Finally however, God gave me grace to pray for the Blessed Holy Ghost to come and take his abode within me.

For three nights I prayed earnestly to be filled with the Holy Ghost, but became rather discouraged because nothing happened. The presence of God, however, was so real in our home that many times I would tremble and shake as I sensed God's power all over me - it seemed I could just breathe God's goodness and power. Then one morning I woke up with strange heavenly words on my tongue which I spoke fluently. I thanked God as I felt a deep peace and tranquility fill my chest. The next day I lay down for an afternoon nap as I was tired. Suddenly I felt a trembling in my hands and a quivering in my mouth as my tongue began to move. The Blessed Holy Ghost had taken possession of my tongue and I heard myself speaking out loud in distinct and clear words - praises unto God in other tongues. After this had passed I

I became so overjoyed that God had visited me that I began to cry. Dad came running into my room, praising and magnifying God because I had also been filled with the Holy Ghost. It still thrills me to think that the Holy God would touch the lives of sinful humanity. It is all the grace of God through faith. Seek God and receive the Holy Ghost, Max and Donna. It is a great blessing.

Love,
"Mamma"



My experiences with God have been wonderful and exciting during these last sixteen years since I met the Master in a real and unforgettable way. I count it such a joy to be able to share with you a little of what God has done for me and also for His grace and mercy, because He came to me an undeserving and unworthy sinner; He not only saved my lost soul and forgave my sins but He baptized me with the Holy Ghost and set my soul aflame with His presence and power. There is no power as great as His power, no joy like His joy and no peace outside of Jesus. Hallelujah. The song writer has written, "Without Him I can do nothing, without Him I'll only fail, Without Him I would be drifting like a ship without a sail. Without Him I would be dying, Without Him I'd be a slave, Without Him life would be hopeless but with Jesus I know I'm saved." Praise God! I can surely say Amen to those wonderful words. You may ask me what do you base your faith upon and how can you be sure you are right?

MY HOPE IS BUILT ON NOTHING LESS

My answer to you is this, "I base my entire life and my faith on the person of Jesus Christ as revealed to us by the Holy Scriptures, God's Divine Word. I believe that the Bible is the Word

of God and that Jesus Christ is the only Saviour of the world, the Son of the Living God, crucified and risen from the dead ever living as my Saviour, Redeemer, Lord and Master, I know that I am right because I stand totally and squarely upon HIS WORD and the Spirit Himself bears witness to me that I am a child of God."

There is a song I think is very appropriate and expresses my feelings completely. Here it is: My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus blood and righteousness, I dare not trust the sweetest frame but wholly lean on Jesus Name. On Christ the solid rock I stand; All other ground is sinking sand. Amen.

MY GREATEST ASPIRATION

At the time of writing this little booklet with the collaboration of my son Max, whom God is mightily using to spread the Gospel around the world, I have only one desire, and one aim in life and that is to serve God better than ever before, to seek His face more fervently, to live for Him more effectively and to be used in a greater way in the years that lie ahead for His glory and the salvation of lost souls. At this time of writing I am certainly not a young man but do not feel old

either. God's healing power has constantly been my companion and God's grace has always been sufficient since I really began walking with Him. My one aspiration in life is to be an effective tool in His hand and a vessel fit for the Master's use. Like Paul the Apostle I can say, "I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." (Phil. 3:13-14).

Shortly after I was filled with the Holy Ghost, the Lord spoke to me and said, "I will revise you to be a parent unto many people to their liberty!"

Even though I have not had the opportunity of taking the Gospel to multitudes personally, I have had the privilege of leading many individuals to Christ and giving my testimony in various parts of Canada. I love to share the Scriptures and what God has done for me together with what He will do for all who will put their trust in Him. I believe however that greater things are in store for me in His vineyard as I allow Him to lead me.

Certainly through the world-wide endeavours of me son, Max, our family has reached multitudes with the glorious Gospel of Christ.

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

To God be the glory, great things He hath done! Yes, the Lord is great and greatly to be praised for thus saith the Scriptures. (Psalm 48:1) **As I write my testimony and as it goes forth across the earth, my prayer is that God will be glorified thereby, that Christians may be encouraged and blessed and that sinners may accept the Lord Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour as a result of these few lines. Amen.**

MY EARLY LIFE

I was born in "The Solbrekken Home" May 13, 1899, up in Etnedahl, Valdres in Norway. The state religion of Norway is Lutheran and the majority of Norwegians are simply born into this faith since their parents are of that religion. Our family had always been Lutheran or so it seemed. At the time of the Reformation Roman Catholicism was "swept out" as it gave way to truth, and the teachings of Luther dominated the land of the Vikings. Our family had apparently taken some of its roots from the

the land of Denmark and settled in Norway over 400 years ago. As history books tell us The Solbrekken family had its early beginning as close relatives of **King Christian IV of Denmark**, tracing our ancestry back to "**Bugge Family**" (which was Danish Royalty).

My parents were hard working, honest, God fearing people who did their best according to what they knew to bring up their children right. Since we were Lutherans, I was baptized (sprinkled) when I was only a few weeks old. They believed that if a child should die before he is sprinkled he will surely go to Hell. I do not believe that now for the Bible says, Jesus took the little children and blessed them and said, "**Suffer the little children to come unto me and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God. Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child shall no wise enter therein.**" (Luke 18:16-17) and again Jesus said, "**And Jesus called a little child unto him, and set him in the midst of them, And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.**" (Matt. 18:2-3) Little children, even though they are born in sin have no ability to choose for themselves until they

reach the age of accountability when they are mature enough to either accept or reject the Gospel. Until that time they certainly would not be held responsible. Nowhere in the Bible did the early Christians ever sprinkle water on an infant's head and call it Baptism and no where in the Bible does it tell us little babies who have not been baptized shall be lost. The scriptures only record events where believers were baptized. Amen.

MY CONFIRMATION

During my fourteenth year I began my training in the Holy Scriptures. The minister taught us the Word of God and explained the truths of the Love of God in salvation. Forgiveness of sins came only by the shed-blood of Jesus Christ, God's Son on Calvary's Cross. "**For by grace are ye saved through faith and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.**" (Eph. 2:8-9) We were grounded in the Word of God as we learned of the glorious works of God. On my confirmation day as I along with other young people took my vows to serve Christ I **had very strong Faith.** I had made up my mind to be a real Christian and to follow Jesus. Sad to say after

Confirmation, most of the young people including myself went back on our promise to God; we broke our vows because of the weakness of the flesh. Unfortunately we knew nothing of the power of the Holy Spirit. We knew nothing of the mighty Baptism of the Holy Ghost and Fire, so without any backbone and without any spiritual power I drifted like the others into the sea of sinfulness and pleasure. Even though we didn't have any knowledge of the Baptism of the Holy Ghost we had a strong understanding of Martin Luther's scriptural teaching of "Justification by Faith." (Heb. 3:4)

After my formal schooling was over I began working on the farm with my father and later went to Oslo and worked at various jobs: Driving taxi, clerking and then taking a mechanical course in automotives. For a time I was employed by a wine importer. My job was to clean the bottles, fill them with wine and cork them. My employer gave me permission to drink all the wine I wanted to while I prepared the bottles for shipping. I tasted wines from all over the world and I thank God that His hand must have been upon me even then since I did not get a craving for these alcoholic beverages. Then one day I saw an ad in the paper asking for

young men to train for street car conductors. I answered the ad and became a street car conductor in Oslo. I received a good salary and liked my work very much. I liked the big city, I liked meeting people and I prospered in this company.

A LETTER TELLING OF GOD'S MIRACLE

One day I received a letter from my sister who was still living at home. She told of a miraculous happening which was stirring our community. Anne Hestikind, a neighbor girl who had been terribly sick for approximately six years was completely healed and well in her body. Anne, who had been bedfast and incurably ill for six years and had gone to many doctors who were unable to help her, had finally been healed miraculously by God. I could hardly believe it as I read this great testimony; an excitement stirred my very being and I wanted to see this girl for myself, question her and find out what really happened.

Someone had sent her a pamphlet telling of two men of God who were praying for the sick with remarkable success in a little place close to Oslo. Their names were Storm and Munson. They called their healing home, "Bethesda" taken from the Bible account in John 5.

train to Bethesda where she stayed for one week. For several days she read the Bible, prayed and listened to these two men of God expound the Scriptures. The first few days the Ministers taught about being born again, having your sins forgiven and leading a Holy Life. During these first few days was when Anne Hestikind made her commitment to God and was Born Again. The last remaining days of the week the men of God preached the Word of God in regards to Divine Healing and as they did, faith began to grow in Anne's heart along with others who were there at the time. (The sick came from far and near to be Divinely healed) At a time set everyone was to take the step of faith for their healing. They were to go down to the seashore where a bathhouse had been constructed for this very purpose. The ocean water came up under a certain part of the bathhouse where it extended over the water. At a given time the sick must go into the water (or be lowered into the water) and at the same time believe with all their hearts and turn their faith towards God. Taking the bath would be their point of contact with God as they believed that the miracle would

train to Bethesda where she stayed for one week. For several days she read the Bible, prayed and listened to these two men of God expound the Scriptures. The first few days the Ministers taught about being born again, having your sins forgiven and leading a Holy Life. During these first few days was when Anne Hestikind made her commitment to God and was Born Again. The last remaining days of the week the men of God preached the Word of God in regards to Divine Healing and as they did, faith began to grow in Anne's heart along with others who were there at the time. (The sick came from far and near to be Divinely healed) At a time set everyone was to take the step of faith for their healing. They were to go down to the seashore where a bathhouse had been constructed for this very purpose. The ocean water came up under a certain part of the bathhouse where it extended over the water. At a given time the sick must go into the water (or be lowered into the water) and at the same time believe with all their hearts and turn their faith towards God. Taking the bath would be their point of contact with God as they believed that the miracle would

"Now there is at Jerusalem by the sheep market a pool, which is called in the Hebrew tongue Bethesda, having five porches. In these lay a great multitude of impotent folk, of blind, halt, withered, waiting for the moving of the water, For an angel went down at a certain season into the pool, and troubled the water; whosoever then first after the troubling of the water stepped in was made whole of whatsoever disease he had." (John 5:2-4)

It was in the Spring of the year and the water was very cold, Anne Hestikind was a very sick girl and she was afraid to go into the cold water as she thought she might get worse. As she stood in the center of the room and wondered whether or not she should obey the instructions of the man of God, all of a sudden she felt a warm feeling went through her entire body and she knew this was God's healing power. She stepped out into the waters with the other girls who were there. After the bath she was completely healed and had no effects of the cold water whatsoever.

This reminded me of the story

of Naaman the leper who dipped in the River Jordan seven times at the instructions of the prophet Elisha and was made completely well. (II Kings 5:10-14)

In her letter, my sister told how that this neighbor girl had returned home shortly after and had walked twenty miles from the train station. When her mother saw her walking home she started crying because her daughter was well, and the whole community began talking about it.

In answering my sister's letter I wrote "I know this girl well and when I see her I will have a good talk with her regarding this miracle, for I want to hear it first hand from her. It is hard to believe."

At an early opportunity I went home for a short visit as I was determined to talk to the young lady who had been healed. I took one of my friends with me and we walked over to the Hestikind's home. As we were approaching their place, we noticed Anne and another girl walking toward us. I could tell by the way she walked that she was perfectly well and normal. She did not appear to be sick in the least and I knew she had been healed. It was the Spring of the year and the

green grass had just come up so we sat down on the grass and began to discuss her miracle.

The first thing I asked her was this, "Anne I know you have been healed and you are well but what I want to know is, Did God heal you or did you just get better?" She answered that Jesus Christ of Nazareth the Son of God had touched her and made her completely whole, not only in body but also in Spirit and soul as well. She also told us that God had called her to be a witness for Him to bring the lost to the knowledge of the Gospel of Christ. When she mentioned the Name of Jesus Christ and His healing power, something struck my chest and pierced my heart and I had a hard time to refrain from crying. When we bade the girls good-bye our thoughts were on God and His power and we knew we had heard the truth concerning the Gospel of Christ and His saving and Healing power. Our hearts were pricked and convicted as we were not saved.

The day came when my father could not manage the farm alone due to health reasons and I had to leave my position as a street car conductor in Oslo to go back to the farm. This had its good points however as I began seeing more and more of the lovely neighbor

girl, Anne. I was falling in love with her but did not let her know my feelings. She in turn was trying to lead me to Christ but I was stubborn and kept ignoring the call of God on my life.

IN THE ARMY

Every young man in Norway had spend three years in basic training in the Army. It was quite an experience to live, train and rub shoulders with hundreds of young men in Army Camp. It taught us how to get along with each other. We had a lot of rough and tumble fun and I found I could give it out just as easily as take it. It was a great experience and I gained many new friends and no real enemies.

As I was walking home from the train station when training was all over, I had to pass by the farm where Anne Hestikind lived. She was working in the garden and I stopped to spend some time with her. As far as I was concerned there was no one else I would sooner talk to since I had a real strong affection towards her in my heart. As we were conversing suddenly I found myself proposing to her and asking her to marry me. It came as quite a shock to her but she had a ready answer. She said, "You are not a Christian, so I cannot marry you!"

I then asked her, "Would you marry me if I became a Christian?" She replied that she did not know. I then asked her, "How can I become a Christian?" She then showed me the way of Salvation and as I departed, she reminded me that she was praying for me. Finally after three years we were married and spent two years in Norway after our marriage. During that time we went into business and built a General Store and did very well.

WE IMMIGRATE TO CANADA

In 1927 we sailed to the North American continent on the Berganshaw. We had two children by this time. When we were in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean we got word that a hurricane (or cyclone) was approaching in the direction of the ship. Many people were frightened and nearly everyone became very sea-sick as the ship tossed about like a cork on the raging sea. To be sea-sick certainly is no joke even at the best of times. It was however a great experience to sail the blue Atlantic from Norway to our New World.

TWO BROTHERS

As warning came regarding the coming storm there was a mixed

reaction from two Norwegian brothers who shared the cabin next to our. They were United States Citizens who had gone back to their native land for a visit and were now journeying back to the U.S. One of the boys was a farmer and the other a preacher the Gospel. The farmer became very excited and began digging through his suitcase for valuable papers. At the event he had to leave the ship. His brother, the preacher, very calmly took his Bible and knelt in prayer for God's protection. Here we see the difference in people. One was seeking God for His blessing and protection while the other was clinging to earthly possessions. God's hand was upon the ship through the storm and we made it safely over. When we landed in Halifax we went through customs and immigration and our baggage was checked. One of the questions they asked us was, "Do you have any guns or firearms?" Of course we didn't. We arrived by train in Montreal and had to change trains. As we were waiting a lady came up to my wife who was holding the baby and took it out of her hands. I was carrying our two year old boy and was walking behind my wife. There was so much traffic around I am sure the woman was a kidnapper and could have been lost in the crowds very easily. My wife ran after her and persuaded her to give

the baby back which she reluctantly did. We were Norwegians in a strange, new and foreign land.

THE GREAT TRAIN CRASH

Enroute to Quebec City and to the West we experienced a most devastating and terrible train wreck. It happened in the dead of the night while everyone was asleep. My wife and I shared double seats facing each other. I was sleeping with my head facing the front of the train with my feet on the other seat. Our two year old son was sleeping with me while my wife and baby were sleeping with their heads toward the rear of the train when the impact of the oncoming train threw the night into total confusion. Our train which was travelling at top speed, was met in a head-on collision by another train on the same track. The locomotive of the oncoming train was travelling with such speed that it crawled on top of our locomotive. Railroad cars were derailed and some were smashed like little match sticks, fires were burning, baggage and people were strewn everywhere, as people were screaming and yelling in the darkness. The lights were gone and havoc had filled the atmosphere. Little children sobbed as mothers screamed and others groaned in agony. We had to wait for six hours

in the darkness until help came. I didn't know too much since I was unconscious most of the time. When the doctors finally arrived I was taken to the hospital in Quebec City by ambulance as my neck was broken, and I could not move. My wife and children only suffered minor injuries and so were taken to a hotel. I was X-rayed and the doctor said I was in serious condition!

THAT BIG CAST

In order to set the bones in my neck, I was put through the process of neck stretching. In that room was a wheel hanging from the ceiling by a rope. They then put me on the chair beneath the wheel and put a harness on my neck and jaw and then proceeded to pull the rope to stretch my neck. After getting the bones into place where they could heal properly, a big, heavy cast was placed on me from the top of my head to the middle of my chest. It was very heavy and most uncomfortable as I felt like I was choking because it was so tight against my throat. I had to go to bed and be very still and not move in the least. The cast was so heavy that I could not sleep at nights. The only consolation was that my wife and children could come to visit me every day. It was however a rough beginning for a young family of new

immigrants. I knew a little bit of English and my wife knew none at all. In Quebec however they spoke French so we were in difficult straights.

Since it was so difficult for me to sleep I asked the Doctor If he could open the cast a little so I could breathe more easily but I found it did not help much because it was so tight and pressed on my chest so hard.

Since this was a **Roman Catholic Hospital** there were nuns and priests in abundance and they were very kind to me. Every morning the priest came to visit me. I asked the priest if he could get me a pocket knife so that I could cut the cast a little to make it looser. He said he knew people who were sick who wanted a knife to take their own life. I answered that this was not the purpose for which I wanted the knife. I said, "Dear Priest, please help me" and he answered, "yes, I will help you, I will pray for you." I told him that was good but what I really wanted was to have him bring me a knife so that I could slit a piece out of the cast as it was pressing against my throat. **The priest** said good night and returned early in the morning to see me again. That night I had slept **very little.** The priest brought me the

knife and I asked him to cut into the cast but he said he couldn't do it. **Then I asked him to hold my neck and head steady while I cut through the cast.** With the priest holding my head steady I kept cutting until the cast was completely loose. Just as the priest was leaving, the nurses came and began to question me. I explained to them what happened and they cooled down. When the doctor arrived I pulled the blankets up high so that he could not see what I had done. **After he was gone I took the cast off and threw it on the floor** but was careful as I could not so much as move my head. In the morning when the doctor came to see me he began to **jump up and down in excitement** and asked me what I had done. I answered that I could not breathe and I couldn't sleep while I had it on. He said they might have to take me into another room and **stretch my neck and reset it.** I then asked him if he could bandage it. So then he finally agreed and **splints were put around my neck to hold it in place.** After that I was able to sleep. I stayed in the hospital for three weeks after which my family and I were able to go to our destination **Norquay, Saskatchewan.**

Since I was very weak due to the accident and unable to work for **two years** I asked for

Compensation from the railroad. If I would have known the language and been able to get a lawyer, I am sure I could have collected thousands of dollars, but being a foreigner with **no one** to help me, I had to be content with the \$750.00 they awarded me.

One experience I will always remember happened one night while driving our **Model T. Ford** home. We had been visiting relatives and stayed too late and as we had **no head lights,** we had to make it home in the dark. I was doing fine until a car we met with lights, not being able to see us well, **forced me off the road and the old Model T. rolled over the embankment** approximately 12 to 15 feet down. I was able to leap out of the car but my wife and nine other people were in the car as it landed wheels up in the ditch. **Fortunately no one was injured** and we were able to turn it back on its wheels and carry it back to the road (with the help of four men who were in the other car). **The Lord was with us I am sure, protecting us from danger.** Since the windshield was broken together with a crushed top we traded the old Model T. Ford Car for an "Overland" automobile.

THE HUNGRY THIRTIES

We settled down on a little farm and purchased two horses and a few cows. Times were very hard and the depression came with full force. My wife was a wonderful person and worked very hard. Together we taught the children to pitch in and through the thirties we managed to make it and even made progress. More children were born and since we lived two and a half miles from school they had to learn how to put up with the harsh Saskatchewan winters in their daily trek to and from school. There were no roads in the winter because of the terrible snow drifts and only trails in the summer. The children had to walk through the deep snow and drifts and in the springtime through slush and mud but they didn't seem to complain. We all realized that an education was important and so had to put up with what came along. I made the children skis and they would sail across the snow one after the other on their ski trail to school and back every day (five miles).

Later I made an enclosed cutter for the children with a little heater that they could go to school in. In the summer they used a horse and buggy or rode their bikes. We worked hard and refused to

go on welfare but made our own way by God's help. All our children were healthy and strong and we continued to prosper.

I ASKED MY WIFE TO HOLD ON TO GOD

I had backslidden and was not living close to God but my wife did not waver in the least. I asked her to hang on to God as I wanted my wife and children saved and go to Heaven even if I was not right with God myself. My wife taught the children the Word of God and kept praying for me. I wanted to be a Christian but I was so weak. I didn't have the power of God in my life but God in His mercy didn't leave me but kept His hand upon my life until I was willing to yield completely to Him. It was then that He filled me with HIS DIVINE SPIRIT and power. As the children grew older and began attending High School we purchase another farm about 1/2 mile from Norquay. At this time we were farming 6 quarters of land and had built a Gasoline Service Station as well so we had a good living.

I BECAME SICK

In 1956 I took sick with my gall bladder: I had suffered for approximately 30 years with it but it got worse and worse. I was seeing

A constant pain stabbed at my left side and if I exerted myself too much I would have to lie down to calm my heart as it pounded like a machine gun. My nights were mostly sleepless as I wondered what would happen to my family if I would die. And besides that I was afraid to die because I was backslidden and away from God. I would pray to God often but no answer came. I knew God had healed my wife but He seemed so far away from me. At a time like this it is very difficult to believe especially when a person does not know the promises of God. I had a good doctor and he took me to the hospital for X-rays and a thorough examination. After staying some time in the hospital and having numerous tests and X-rays, I became very depressed, nervous and miserable. I decided that I did not want to have an operation or stay in the hospital any longer. So I got up early one morning and remembering where the nurses had deposited my clothes, I dressed and started leaving the hospital. The nurse saw me and told me I could not leave since I had no permission from the doctor. I told her I wanted to go home. She telephoned my doctor and he said that I could sign myself out

section but as I did I got so weak I had to lie down on the ground. A taxi happened to come by and took me to the Hotel. This was at approximately 9:00 A.M. and at 3:00 P.M. I was on the road heading home. I continued to be very weak and sickly. One day I said to my wife, "I will take my Bible and start seeking God for a miracle healing in my body." My oldest son had sent us some of Oral Robert's magazines which I hungrily read together with my Bible. I would rise early and have my private devotions, reading the Bible and the magazines. Faith began rising in my heart. How long this continued I can't quite remember but I do know that I began to believe that God would heal me.

I HAD A DREAM

One night I had a strange dream and in it I saw a "Chariot of Fire" travelling at a terrific speed. I awakened and knew I had dreamt something supernatural. I asked my wife what it could mean. She had no answer to give me since we were Lutherans and had had no real experiences with the Holy Ghost. My wife was a spiritual

person but besides being a Lutheran I was a "dead Lutheran".

A few nights later I had another dream. In this dream I was walking down a newly constructed road which ran east and west. It was a dry, rough road as it was still ungraded. I had a hard time to walk but I struggled on. Finally I came to a hill. I took a little rest before I tackled this hill. I wasn't sure I could make it because it was very steep besides being rough. I kept pushing forward and finally made it. When I stood on the top of the hill I became very happy. There were no buildings, but there was a strong light there and many tall trees that seemed to almost smile down at me. I had such a light wonderful feeling of joy and I was extremely happy. Just then a voice spoke to me and said, "You shall see greater things then these." When I awakened I wondered in my soul what these things could mean.

I HEAR ORAL ROBERTS ON RADIO

A week after this great experience I was up early having my devotions and tuned to hear Oral Robert's broadcast. I had been reading my Bible a good deal and prayed much during the week in order to prepare myself for God's healing power. As Oral Roberts began to

preach I sat very attentively listening to his sermon. He said, "If you want to know if God lives or not, lift your hands up towards Heaven and ask God to reveal Himself to you and show you if he lives or not." In obedience I did exactly what the man of God asked us to do. I did not hesitate but quickly raised my hands towards God and in sincerity prayed, "Oh God show me if you live or not." Immediately I felt God's power come down over me. It was like a charge of electricity coming down my arms into my chest. I saw a square pillar of fine rain or dew and the rain was coming down on my body. God's presence not only came upon my body but also into my body, soul, and mind. I became very afraid as I thought that I was dying. I felt my pulse but could feel nothing. The power of God was all over my body.

As I was prostrate under the mighty power of God I finally called out to my wife and said, "God has healed me and filled me with the Holy Ghost". My wife who was still in bed came running and said, "Daddy, you've had a stroke". I answered, "No Mamma. I have not had a stroke, but I have been filled with the Holy Ghost!" I then asked my wife to open her Bible at random and whatever it fell open

to place her finger on a verse and read it to me. Here is what she read, "Give ear, O ye heavens and I will speak, and hear, O earth, the words of my mouth. **My doctrine shall drop as the rain, my speech shall distill as the dew, as the small rain upon the grass.** Because I will publish the name of the Lord, ascribe ye greatness unto our God. He is the Rock, His work is perfect for all His ways are perfect. For all His ways are judgment: O God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is He." (Deut. 32:1-4)

MY WIFE RECEIVES THE HOLY GHOST

Then my wife fell on her knees and said, "This is the power of God!" Then she confided in me that she also wanted this great experience. I laid my hands on my wife and prayed in Jesus name, asking God to fill her with the Holy Ghost. (Two days later she received the Blessed Holy Spirit of promise and spoke in unknown tongues glorifying God).

One of my boys was asleep in his bedroom and when he heard me crying out to God he came running and in a very concerned voice said, "Dad you must be suffering a nervous breakdown." I answered him and said, "No my son I have just received the Baptism of the Holy Ghost and have

been healed miraculously by His Divine Power.

I had been totally set free from darkness and brought into the light of Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God. The glory of the Lord was in the house so strong that I could scarcely bear it. I could see with my visible eyes the "Shekinah Glory" and the anointing was so strong that I could hardly walk. This mighty power of Grace and Glory was upon me for over one month.

The same night that I received the Holy Ghost I was sitting in an easy chair worshipping God when suddenly a vision came to me. A cup was set to my mouth and I was given two sips out of this cup. I have never in my life tasted anything so wonderful as what I drank out of that cup. I believe it was a little taste of Heaven with God's grace and mercy that I was allowed to partake of. Hallelujah!

When I was kneeling on the floor of our living room seeking God during the radio broadcast I heard Oral Roberts singing, "Amazing Grace". The next night I said to my wife, tonight I am going to go on my knees to pray to the Lord and ask Him to stay His hand because the anointing was so strong that I could hardly contain it. When I knelt to

pray the anointing came over my head and stayed there for about two hours. One day when I was lying down on my bed resting I saw a coal of fire coming from the window and it touched my lips; it did not enter my mouth however. In that moment I thought of Isaiah's experience and trembled at the thought of God's holiness and nearness.

"Then flew one of the seraphims unto me, having a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with the tongs from off the altar: And he laid it upon my mouth, and said, **Lo, this hath touched thy lips; and thine iniquity is taken away, and thy sin purged.**" (Isaiah 6:6-7) I knew that my lips had to be cleansed because I had been a sinful man.

The first person I told my experience to was my own doctor. I told Him that I was healed and filled with the Holy Ghost. I also told him that **I didn't need any more pills.** That I was born again and changed by God's power. My doctor looked me square in the eye and said, "Mr. Solbrekken, You are a very lucky man".

From that time and onward I began testifying publicly for Christ, telling of my experiences with God and inviting them to accept Christ and to receive the Baptism of

the Holy Ghost. I soon realized that I had received an experience from God which seemed to be foreign to those with whom I conversed. Some people had the knowledge of sins forgiven and a personal experience of salvation but no one in our area had received the Baptism of the Holy Ghost. Some old time Christians had sought God in times past desiring this gift but had not received as yet. Others knew nothing about the Baptism of the Holy Ghost and still others were afraid of it because of wrong teaching in their churches.

I also noticed that I soon became a marked man and if I would go into a public building in my town and people were blaspheming or swearing when I entered they would abruptly discontinue this fowl language and calm right down as they must have felt the influence of the Holy Spirit within me. I learned also that I had received great power over demons and evil spirits as I would seek God in prayer.

PROPHECY FROM GOD

The Holy Spirit would speak to me regarding things to come. Usually this would come at night. I would pray to God concerning certain matters and ask Him to reveal His will to me and grant me His wisdom and

understanding in many matters. Then the Holy Spirit would speak to me through dreams or deep impressions.

God spoke to me declaring that He had given me power over diseases and demon spirits and that even cancer could not stand against me when I came against it in Jesus Name, with complete faith. He also reassured me that He would never leave me nor forsake me but would be with me always even to the end of the world. (Matt. 28:20)

I noticed that when the Holy Spirit wanted to speak to me I would become very tired and would lie down to rest. Then the Spirit of God would begin to reveal many things to me about things to come.

He showed me that a tremendous destruction was going to come over the earth. The impression I received was that the destruction would come as a result of a great world war, and that the aggression would come from the Northern part of the globe. One night in the Spring of 1956, the Lord gave me a dream in which I saw a big black cloud which covered the earth. Emblazoned upon the huge cloud was the Russian emblem of the hammer and the sickle in a bright glowing red color.

The next day I was to have my crop sprayed by a neighbor. In prayer that night I asked God about my neighbor. I wanted to know for sure if he was a born again Christian and the Lord assured me that he was. The next morning as we met on the field I engaged my neighbor in conversation regarding the Baptism of the Holy Ghost. He then asked me to pray for him that he would receive the Holy Ghost. I then asked him to remove his cap and I would pray for him right there. I laid my hands on his head and began to pray that God would fill him with the Holy Ghost. I then commanded him to receive the Holy Ghost in Jesus Name. The mighty power of God came upon him and he fell down overcome by God's presence and began speaking in tongues as they did in the upper room on the Day of Pentecost over 1,900 years ago. This continued for approximately 15 minutes as we worshipped God together in the open field. Then I helped him to his feet and asked him what had happened to him. The first thing he said was, "I am not afraid of war anymore!" Then he continued, "I have had a wonderful experience with God and have had a vision of three bright lights. First I saw a small light coming towards me and then a second larger light and finally a third light so bright that I could not look upon it and there was no

strength in me. Hallelujah! This is the power of God. Glory to His name; **Now I know Heaven is for me and that I will make it there."**

One week later I met this same neighbor again and he gave the following testimony. He had been **deaf in one ear for quite some time but his ear had opened up and he could hear perfectly from it since his wonderful experience in the field.**

ENTIRE FAMILY RECEIVED THE HOLY GHOST

Some time later I met a man who lived in a neighboring town. He told **me of the hunger of his heart for God and that he had been seeking to be filled with the Holy Ghost for several years. He had attended several Pentecostal churches in other towns and had a number of ministers pray for him but had not received the Holy Ghost as yet. I invited him to bring his entire family over to our home the next Sunday, and we would pray together and ask God to baptize them all with the Holy Ghost and fire.**

One Sunday morning they arrived at our home and what a glorious time we had **as the entire family recieved the Baptism of the Holy Ghost. They were speaking in tongues and**

magnifying God as they did in the House of Cornelius so many years ago. (Acts. 10:46) Then we prayed for his son who had an infected eye and he was healed instantly.

Another Sunday we were visited by **thirteen young people. As we sang, prayed and worshipped God the mighty Spirit of God filled the room and as hands were laid upon them, twelve of these young people were filled with the Holy Ghost speaking in other tongues. On another occasion as I was praying for a man to be filled with the Holy Ghost, the Lord revealed to me that the reason he was not receiving was that he was not genuinely saved and needed to be saved. As he repented of his sins and cried out for mercy God graciously baptized him with the Holy Ghost and fire.**

My **daughter** was in Manitoba teaching school. I wrote and told her I had received the baptism of the Holy Ghost. I then asked her if she wanted the Holy Ghost. She **wrote back and said she wanted this mighty experience. One afternoon she arrived home and then I said, "Let us go on our knees and pray." When the power fell I wanted to lay hands on her but she got excited because of the mighty surge of the power she ran outside. I then told her not to be afraid as she had already**

received this experience. In the morning she was speaking in other tongues.

GOD'S PROTECTION

One day as my son, **Emil** and I were travelling from one farm to another in our truck, God spoke to me. He said, **"There are obstacles on the way, go carefully."** Immediately I asked my son to slow the truck down, as God had spoken to me. He **slackened the speed a little and as we continued God spoke again for us to go carefully. I then spoke to Emil again and said, "Slow right down as God has spoken to me again."** We had no sooner slackened our speed than a front tire blew up and we **praised God for His protecting hand. That same day God showed His mercy to us as He stretched out His hand of deliverance.**

Emil wanted to do some burning on a certain piece of land which he was clearing where there was a lot of dry bushes and heavy dry grass. Since the wind was in the wrong direction and because our fire guard was not wide enough between our neighbor's land and ours we decided that it was too risky to burn that day. As the day progressed I noticed that the wind had changed and also that Emil had decided to

light the fire. Things were going good until unexpectedly the wind changed again and it was racing across the field towards our narrow fire guard and our neighbor's farm where there were granaries and haystacks. The wind became boisterous and the fire raged furiously. I realized that if God didn't help us we would be in trouble. So I ran towards the fire with my hands raised to Heaven and shouted, "I command this fire to turn in another direction in Jesus Name!" At that moment the wind changed and instantly the fire was racing in the other direction and we were safe. We lifted our hands towards God and praised Him greatly for His mighty intervention in our behalf. Hallelujah! I personally believe that we only barely touch the surface of what God has for us in this realm.

I HAD NEVER BEEN IN A PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

When God came to me in such a wonderful way and baptized me with the Holy Ghost it was an entirely new experience for me. I had never attended a Pentecostal Church and I knew nothing about the Baptism of the Holy Ghost. God showed me that I was a sinner that needed to be saved and that He wanted to save me, heal me and fill me with His Divine

Spirit. I humbled myself under His mighty hand and became obedient to His word and will. The Word of God says, "Ye shall receive power after the Holy Ghost is come upon you and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." (Acts 1:8)

The Lord spoke to me and said, "You are a chosen vessel for this generation and you shall not partake of the sins of this generation. I will lead you by my Spirit and I will use you as my witness. You shall be protected and guided by the Holy Spirit; you shall not suffer any ill effects or hurt as you shall be covered by the seal of God." Hallelujah!

I have seen many miracles and wonders and many have been filled with the mighty Holy Ghost. Praise the Lord.

PETER WAS A FISHERMAN

The Lord spoke to me to launch out into the deep, but I asked God how I could launch out since I was only a farmer. But He said, "Peter was a fisherman and he launched out and brought multitudes to Christ as many were healed and delivered from demon spirits as he used the mighty name of Jesus Christ

in Faith!"

When this experience happened to me I was a stong Lutheran and my family had been Lutherans for 400 years but I was a dead Lutheran but thanks be unto God that today I am alive spiritually and I know Christ as my Saviour and have received the mighty infilling and Baptism of the Holy Ghost and Fire.

After I was saved and filled with the Holy Ghost, people began to ask me, "Mr. Solbrekken, you were a Lutheran, what are you now?" I would answer, "I was a Lutheran, but now I am a Christian!" Hallelujah! Many people attend church and have their name on the church role but do not know Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour and know nothing about the life of faith and the walk in the Spirit as we commune with God. How sad!

The Lord spoke to me one time and said, "Life is not a force; it is a give-away." How true. Many people feel that they are so important because they are powerful, rich, influencial or prominent but not until they give their lives away to Christ and become His do they really become a force for good in this world. Another time God spoke to me and said, "There is no hope for that person that does not

Spirit. I humbled myself under His mighty hand and became obedient to His word and will. The Word of God says, "Ye shall receive power after the Holy Ghost is come upon you and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." (Acts 1:8)

The Lord spoke to me and said, "You are a chosen vessel for this generation and you shall not partake of the sins of this generation. I will lead you by my Spirit and I will use you as my witness. You shall be protected and guided by the Holy Spirit; you shall not suffer any ill effects or hurt as you shall be covered by the seal of God." Hallelujah!

I have seen many miracles and wonders and many have been filled with the mighty Holy Ghost. Praise the Lord.

PETER WAS A FISHERMAN

The Lord spoke to me to launch out into the deep, but I asked God how I could launch out since I was only a farmer. But He said, "Peter was a fisherman and he launched out and brought multitudes to Christ as many were healed and delivered from demon spirits as he used the mighty name of Jesus Christ

in Faith!"

When this experience happened to me I was a strong Lutheran and my family had been Lutherans for 400 years but I was a dead Lutheran but thanks be unto God that today I am alive spiritually and I know Christ as my Saviour and have received the mighty infilling and Baptism of the Holy Ghost and Fire.

After I was saved and filled with the Holy Ghost, people began to ask me, "Mr. Solbrekken, you were a Lutheran, what are you now?" I would answer, "I was a Lutheran, but now I am a Christian!" Hallelujah! Many people attend church and have their name on the church role but do not know Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour and know nothing about the life of faith and the walk in the Spirit as we commune with God. How sad!

The Lord spoke to me one time and said, "Life is not a force; it is a give-away." How true. Many people feel that they are so important because they are powerful, rich, influential or prominent but not until they give their lives away to Christ and become His do they really become a force for good in this world. Another time God spoke to me and said, "There is no hope for that person that does not

register his name in Heaven." How true! Jesus said, "Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." (John 3:3) Again the Bible says, "...And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire." (Rev. 20:15)

I AM SO THANKFUL

Before my healing I had a difficult time walking the 1/2 mile from our home to town but after my healing I could run downtown and back and felt I was almost more in the air than on the ground. Since my healing I have had absolutely no trouble with my heart. Praise God.

There were two things I could not understand. First, why would God love me and want to give me His gifts when I was such a great sinner? God spoke to me through the scriptures and showed me that Christ had died for the ungodly (Rom. 5:6) and that He had come to seek and to save that which was lost. (Luke 19:10) Jesus said, "They that be whole need not a physician, but they that are sick. But go ye and learn what that meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice: for I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance." (Matthew 9:12-13) Second, I did not know how easy it was to receive from God. As

I read the scriptures I realized that all a person has to do is believe the Word of God completely and in simple faith, trust and obedience reach out and take whatever you need from His hand because He stands ready and willing to give it to you. Jesus said, "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For everyone that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened." (Matt. 7:7-8) Then thank, praise and glorify Him for His goodness toward you.

In closing remember my friend that Jesus died for you and that God loves you and wants to forgive you, heal you and fill you with the mighty Holy Ghost and power. May God richly bless you. Amen.

THE WHITEHORSE STAR,
Whitehorse, Yukon,
March, 1979

Making Canadians Aware Of God Again

A man described as "Canada's premiere evangelist" was in Whitehorse for one day this week.

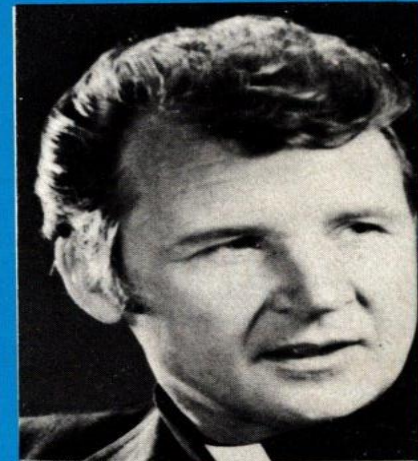
Max Solbrekken, a veteran of 16 years of spreading the gospel in Third World countries, gave a service at the Yukon Indian Centre on Monday night and left on Tuesday afternoon.

He hopes to return to Whitehorse in June, if he can find an opening in his schedule.

If he can't, he adds, then Whitehorse Christians will have to wait another year before he would be able to return.

Solbrekken has traveled over a million miles "preaching the gospel", and constructing churches and orphanages all over the world. In recent years, he has returned to his native country and has made it his crusade to revive Canada and make Canadians aware of the "glories of God".

He is concerned with the moral deterioration of Canadians, especially through the mis-use of alcohol and the collapsing family system.



MAX SOLBREKKEN

"As goes the family," he said, "so goes the nation."

Solbrekken did his early ministry in northern B. C. and his adopted home is Prince George. He is also an honorary chief of the Eagle Indian Tribe in the Prince Rupert area.