

# Coach House Church

# BEACONS

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## INTERVENTION

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6TH JULY 2020

In this Beacon I'd like to share a testimony of something that the Lord did for me many years ago. I want to do this to show you just how gracious and wonderful the Lord is. I'm not blowing my own trumpet; I just want to encourage you in the Lord: to build up your trust in Him. First though I would like to bring to you a Bible passage. It is from 1Chronicles 16: 23 – 27:

*23Sing to the Lord, all the earth;  
Proclaim the good news of His salvation from day to day.  
24Declare His glory among the nations,  
His wonders among all peoples.  
25For the Lord is great and greatly to be praised;  
He is also to be feared above all gods.  
26For all the gods of the peoples are idols,  
But the Lord made the heavens.  
27Honor and majesty are before Him;  
Strength and gladness are in His place. (NKJV)*

This passage is an extract from the song of David on the occasion when he brought the Ark of the Covenant, God's earthly throne, into the tabernacle he had made for it in Jerusalem. David was rejoicing in God's reality, that He is not like the gods of the nations which are mere lifeless idols, but He is real, and He is to be praised.

I was once involved in an unpleasant situation at the place I was working. And I had a tremendous deliverance that showed me for all time that the Lord, in whom I had come to trust about five years or so earlier, is very real.

I was working for a manufacturer of plastic toys and household items, and I was assisting in the running of a small despatch department that was an adjunct to the firm's larger despatch department that worked with the firm's own lorries. Whatever orders were not sent to customers that way were given to us to despatch via National Carriers, a now defunct courier firm of the time. This was in the 1970s and during the time of the miners' national strike and the three-day working week and power-cuts.

There were seven loading bays in all, separated by wire and timber fencing; mine was number six with an alcove that served as an office.

On one occasion I entered my loading bay and found three of the loading-bay labourers pushing boxes of toys into the adjacent loading bay through a break in the fencing. These were being received by a seasonal driver and of course, they were being stolen. When the labourers, who were known to me, saw me they quickly completed their illicit additions to the driver's load and came for a word with me. The upshot of this was that I should keep quiet or else! So, I was left wondering what to do. These thieves were using my loading bay to steal our employer's goods. I was a Christian and felt that I should uphold Kingdom values and not become an accessory to crime by being silent. It was a very difficult situation because I had been threatened with violence if I "ratted" on them. What should I do? Well I decided to trust God and stand up for Kingdom values: I reported them to the despatch managers. The seasonal driver got the heave-ho, but the three labourers didn't even get a reprimand. This showed me that the management were all too willing to turn a blind eye to what was happening. As for me? Well my situation deteriorated alarmingly. And the management didn't give a monkey's! I was subjected to verbal abuse and minor violence; I also knew that sooner or later a lynching would happen to me at the end of one of the working days outside the building – I could feel it coming.

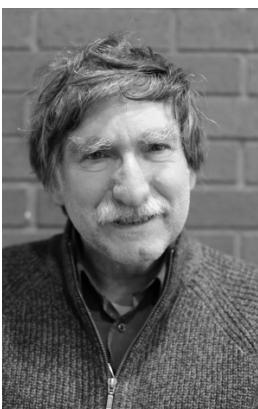
It was then that the Lord took a hand in the proceedings! I had to go up to the warehouse, the sixth floor of it, to get something for my job. On the way back I was waiting for the lift to come, and my mind was full of apprehensions over my situation. And yes, I had been praying about it. Just before the lift arrived the Lord suddenly spoke audibly to me. This had never happened to me before – not in this way at any rate – and it made me jump! The Lord said to me, "Peace shall be given unto you". Then the lift arrived, and I got into it wondering about what I had just heard. The lift arrived back in the goods-in department from where I had to walk back to despatch, and who should I see approaching me but my three

antagonists! We stopped, facing each other. They surrounded me, and instead of laying into me, which is what I expected, they clapped me on my shoulders, asked if I was ok, and then walked away! I was amazed. Just moments before, the Lord told me I would have peace.

After that there was no more hostility from them towards me. The awful atmosphere that had prevailed was gone. It was as if the whole thing had never happened, and there was no expected lynching! But I do know that it did happen. And I know that I experienced a miracle of Biblical proportions! I know that the Lord intervened in a desperate situation and saved my bacon. Praise Him! I know He is real. I know that He will always be there for me, and I want to be there for Him.

I hope this encourages you in your life with the Lord, and if you don't know Him, then commit your life to Him now – you won't be sorry.

Amen.



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**STEVE WENT**



*Coach House Church*

leadership@coachhousechurch.org // 0161 432 5604

the coach house church, 222 wellington road north, stockport sk4 2qn