

THE IRON SAINT
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THE IRON SAINT
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PREFACE

The Church of the 21st century—particularly the American Church—finds itself sorely unprepared for what is coming. Indeed, the American Church, for the most part, is oblivious to the great persecution that lies ahead for those who follow Jesus Christ. For far too long, we have been accustomed to an easy Christianity—indeed, even a lazy and luxurious Christianity— that demands little of us in terms of sacrifice and suffering. It is the Christianity of the Laodicean Church.

But those days are about to end as Jesus prepares a Bride without spot or wrinkle. If you have been discerning these changes, then you understand what I mean. The year 2020 brought with it sweeping changes in our way of life—changes that have inhibited our freedom in multiple areas of life. It is as though a dark spirit has placed a noose around our necks and is slowly tightening it in order to steal, kill, and destroy. That noose is blatantly satanic and originates from Satan, the arch-deceiver himself.

For, the truth behind what is going on in the world is that we have entered that dark period of history that will soon lead to the Tribulation. By God's grace, those who follow Christ will be removed from the worst of it in the cataclysmic event called the Rapture, but we will, nonetheless, experience the ever-increasing persecution that leads up to the horrific persecution of the Great Tribulation.

On November 3, 2020, I was reading the entry for that day in Oswald Chambers' classic devotional, *My Utmost for His Highest*. As I read, the words "iron saint" leapt out at me, and the Lord spoke to my spirit. *"I want you to write a book titled The Iron Saint. It will be an exhortation to victory for My saints in these last days to prepare them for the fire of persecution. But this book will be not only for My saints who will endure persecution before the Tribulation, but also for those who will come to Me during the Tribulation."*

This book you hold in your hands is the result of that mandate from the Lord. I trust that its contents will encourage you, inspire you, and strengthen you to endure until the end. For only he who endures to the end will be saved.

It is one thing to start the race; it is quite another thing to finish the race. There is set before us the greatest of all races—the race to win the prize of our high calling in Jesus Christ. May we endure to the end and be saved. May we honor the King of kings by finishing the race!

INTRODUCTION

The Church in America is on the verge of a tremendous spiritual awakening, an awakening that will first be fueled by persecution unlike anything we have ever seen before in this land. Indeed, a prophetic word given in my home church during the month of November gave this warning to the Church: "Prepare for the fire of persecution!"

But the Church is not ready for this persecution. For the most part, the Church in America has been weak and lukewarm. Flabby and lazy. Consumed with the world and not with the things of God. As a result, the Church has been deceived and has subverted the divine order of things. To subvert this divine order is to invite disaster. Yet, that is precisely what the Church at-large has done. It has taken the principles of the Word and perverted their meaning. It has aligned itself with the depravity of the world in order to win the world. This is nothing but gross deception. The blind leading the blind. And, as we are witnessing, both are falling.

As a teacher in the Body of Christ, it is my burning desire to help correct this devastating error. It is my burning desire to equip the saints for the work of true, integritous, and effective ministry. This book is a result of that burning desire. In it, I have outlined a plan of action for strengthening the Church by obeying directives taken straight from the Word of God. These are principles I have applied in my own life over the course of my 50 years of walking with the Lord and being led by His Holy Spirit.

I have divided the book into three major sections, corresponding to the physical training an athlete undergoes who prepares for The Iron Man Triathlon. These steps are *Training*, *Fueling*, and *Transitioning* and are presented in that order. In each section, I offer Biblical principles for accomplishing each area of training, followed by practical steps to implement the principles for maximum effect.

Part One, titled *Building Spiritual Strength*, delves into the spiritual concept of Surrender and how it relates to independence of God and dependence on God. Part Two, *Fueling Spiritual Strength*, focuses on spiritual principles for maintaining and sustaining spiritual strength over the course of a lifetime. This section juxtaposes the seeming paradoxes of freedom and slavery to define the true meaning of being a slave for Christ. In Part Three, *Transitioning from Glory to Glory*, I explore the role of obedience in propelling the saint over the finish line and into the ultimate rest of victory.

It is my heartfelt prayer that you will read *The Iron Saint* with an open heart and an open mind, allowing the Holy Spirit to open your eyes to truths about being a Christ-Follower that you may have missed along the way. By the time you finish reading this book, I trust that you will be equipped to be all that Jesus created you to be on this earth and for His kingdom. May this book help you to be equipped to endure to the end with determination as you run your race to become an Iron Saint.

THE IRON SAINT

[Learn more here.](#)