

2018 Word of the Lord  
By Pastor Lois Robinson  
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*Reflections from 2017...*

Last year, Covenant Warrior's theme was, ***The Year of Completion and Triumph-Pressing Toward the Goal, On Purpose - For Purpose.*** In 2017, we saw our share of very real struggles, but what a triumphant year it was! We watched the hand of God overturn some things and put them in the hands of their rightful owners. We saw victories emerge because we chose to be steadfast and unmovable, and trust God against all odds amidst situations that looked like they were dead in the water. Securing adequate financing and launching the construction of our new edifice was truly a triumphant highlight in 2017. We were driven by the powerful, continually unfolding, prophetic words God spoke last year. As I reflect on the victories achieved, I am reminded that Minister Kiffany Bethel closed her 2017 word as follows: *"We must not lose sight of faith. Our preferred future is here, straight ahead...we march FORWARD to victory."* Now...

*A Word from God for 2018...*

The usual custom at Covenant Warriors is that, on New Year's Eve, Pastor Leander Robinson casts forth the goals and theme on which we are to focus for the new year. So, on December 31, 2017, he announced the theme for 2018 - ***FORWARD! EVER FORWARD!*** He introduced the following corporate goals:

1. Add seven to ten new families to the church
2. Continue to train musicians
3. Dedicate the new edifice
4. Wednesday Night group read and discuss of the book, *"Boundaries"*

In the early morning of Tuesday, January 16, 2018, as I was walking on the treadmill and doing my morning devotion and confessions, I heard the Lord say, ***"EYES, RIGHT!"*** Right away, I knew God had just given me the subject of my 2018 prophetic word. I was very excited about the title, even though, at the time, I hadn't a clue how to build a word around it.

I am the spouse of an Air Force veteran who served 21 years of active duty and honorable military service—16 of which I served alongside him in support of his service. I am keenly aware, that ***"EYES, RIGHT"*** is a command that "demonstrates military courtesy to reviewing officers and dignitaries during parades and ceremonies." This is often the case when there is a

“Change of Command” ceremony—usually signifying one commander is relinquishing command and another is taking charge. This is the first opportunity for the new commander to inspect his or her troops. When the command of execution, **“EYES, RIGHT”** is given during a parade, marching members turn their heads smartly and look 45 degrees to the right toward the reviewing officer (the new commander) as they are passing the reviewing stand where he or she is standing. A very important point is that, the shoulders and the body are kept squarely to the front because the body remains in forward motion even as the head is turned. Troops follow the reviewing officer with head and eyes until they pass directly in front of him or her or, in my words, they are looking squarely in his/her face.

I inquired of Father God what He would have me say to this local body and the body of Christ at large concerning those two words. At the time, it had not dawned on me that there was a spiritual connection between those two words and one of Pastor Robinson’s foundational scriptures for the series he began when he introduced this year’s theme: FORWARD! EVER FORWARD!

**Proverbs 4:25-27 (AMPC) reads: <sup>25</sup> LET YOUR EYES LOOK RIGHT on [with fixed purpose], and let your gaze be straight before you. <sup>26</sup> Consider well the path of your feet, and let all your ways be established and ordered aright. <sup>27</sup> Turn not aside to the right hand or to the left; remove your foot from evil.**

**2018 Prophetic Word: “EYES, RIGHT!”**

Recall Minister Kiffany Bethel’s closing statement in her 2017 word, *“We must not lose sight of faith. Our preferred future is here[;] straight ahead... we march FORWARD to victory.”*

As we embark upon this new year, I hear two commands: **FORWARD, MARCH and EYES, RIGHT.**

**THE FIRST COMMAND: FORWARD, MARCH.** March is the command; it is an action; a verb. Forward is the direction in which to march. I am reminded that, last year, the Lord said, FORWARD IS THE COMMAND OF THE LORD. THE LORD NOW SAYS, TAKE NO ALTERNATE ROUTE! Dispense with every thought of backing up, side stepping, or stopping all together. “FORWARD IS THE COMMAND OF THE LORD...EVER FORWARD.”

**THE SECOND COMMAND: EYES, RIGHT.** The Lord is calling us to cut covenant with our eyes. Prepare for PASS AND REVIEW. It’s time for your eyes to look right [with fixed purpose] on the reviewing officer, who is JESUS. It’s time for your gaze to be straight before you. He says, it’s time to be sure footed, considering well the path of your feet. No more

sloppy, haphazard marching. Plant your feet with fixed purpose. Do not turn to the right hand or to the left; stay in forward motion with your **eyes right** on Me.

Commander Jesus is in the Reviewing Stand and He says, as you pass My way, let your shoulders and your body remain in forward motion even as your head and eyes are turned towards Me. Commander Jesus has invited guests (dignitaries) to sit with Him in the Reviewing Stand to inspect the works of His mighty hand. Yes, says God! Their eyes are on YOU to observe MY handy works. They will inspect you as you pass by, and they will wonder, how can a small church like you do the things you are doing. The Lord says, **“EYES, RIGHT!”** Keep your eyes fixed on me. Did I not say, I have been working underground in obscurity, but now I am about to work above ground for all to see?

**Psalm 127:1 [NKJV] Unless the LORD builds the house, They labor in vain who build it; Unless the LORD guards the city, The watchman stays awake in vain.**

**Psalm 127:1 [NLT] Unless the LORD builds a house, the work of the builders is wasted. Unless the LORD protects a city, guarding it with sentries will do no good.**

Keep listening, He's still speaking. The Lord also says, keep watching! I am about to flip the script. There will be those whom I never invited to the viewing stand who will pass by and gaze on you as your gaze is straight before you. To be clear, The Lord says, while you're gazing straight ahead on ME, they will gaze upon YOU! And by the way...

The Lord says, never mind the reference to the number eighteen (18) that symbolizes physical and spiritual bondage. He says, I was speaking of this day before the end of 2017, the year that denoted completion, victory, triumph, and overcoming the enemy. Did you catch it? On December 24<sup>th</sup>, during the Christmas Production, I used two young people connected to this house to tell you, through dance ministry, **IT'S TIME!**

It's time for what, you may be asking. According to **Deuteronomy 1:6 (AMPC) The Lord says, You have dwelt long enough on this mountain. IT'S TIME** to enter the promised land—the land I promised. Go back and check your promises. What has God said? Remember, He said to us corporately, your preferred future is here, straight ahead... march FORWARD to victory.” The more you gaze [FOCUS] upon Him, the clearer vision for this ministry and you individually will become, and the more obscure the works of the enemy will become. Fix your eyes on Jesus and watch the enemy become a blurred vision.

Just as the Lord said in 2017, “What's happening in our nation is not the barometer with which you are to focus or measure the validity of My word,” Again, the Lord says in **John 6:63 [NKJV], “The words that I speak to you are spirit and they are life.”** They are my spiritual barometer, not what is happening in and around you.

I am reminded, in 2015, through Elder Sharlean Briggs, the Lord said, *“My dear children, we have come to that place of no return, a place where you must act with eyes of faith. A place where you will know Me as “I AM” or not.”*

I am sensing that God is about to bestow untraditional blessings again! Just as He did when He had Isaac to pronounce the birthright blessings of the older son upon the younger, He’s about to do it again! God says, I will not be boxed in! I’m about to do it again! So, with eyes of faith, I see untraditional blessings coming to this ministry as part of God’s divine plan. God always responds to faith!

**Finally, DIVINE GUIDANCE IS KEY THIS YEAR!** The Lord says,

**“I WILL INSTRUCT YOU AND TEACH YOU in the way you should go” [Psalm 32:8 NKJV];**

**“I WILL GUIDE YOU along the best pathway for your life. I will advise you and watch over you.” Psalm 32:8 NLT]**

Saints of God, this year, we will be divinely guided by God’s word. For at least the past two years, the Lord has warned of numerous struggles, storms, and wars—figuratively and literally. Now, He simply says, **“EYES, RIGHT”**. Keep your **“EYES, RIGHT”** on ME for there is, NO ALTERNATE ROUTE. Selah.