

THE TESTIMONY

By Kimini Randall

KIMINI: Good evening ladies and gentlemen, my name is KIMINI for those of you who isn't as familiar with me as others are; and this piece is entitled The Testimony, so please bare with me and enjoy! Just as you all out there in the audience, my life is in accordance to God will for it, and I submit to him and only him whole-heartedly; therefore, bear witness to the truth, in regards, to the Lord God love for me in my testimony; henceforth, I became a part of the covenant that God made with Abraham only after being introduced to the Lord at a very young age by my mother: brothers and sisters please note the following: that my mother has a personal relationship with God like no other human being I ever encountered besides myself, she told me personal things that she told no one else because she knew that they would not believe her. For example, my mother told me of a story which happened in two acts that derived from the same occurrence and it wasn't until years later that this story became true when it shook me to the core; moreover, from a bad choice that I made and from the consequence of the atrociousness within my mother's life I was placed within the system at ten years old so the only mother and father I ever had was my father God Lord Jesus, due to the fact that as a baby boy within them gloomy walls of juvenile hall I used to cry my little heart out to God because I had no one else to turn to, my mother was gone, and like any other human child at that age my mind was only able to conceive her back then because she was the only one hugging me, kissing me, and feeding me, so when she was taken away from me I felt so alone, afraid, and broken-hearted, but did exactly what she told me to do before our departure which was to "pray and be strong no matter what", so every night I prayed just as I remembered her praying with tears streaming down my face, and every time I came out of that cell for any matter, I was being strong. In addition to praying and being strong, I also had faith in God even when I didn't have an actual notion to what faith was, because I remembered that no matter how hard it got on my mother her prayers was always answered by food, shelter, and clothing being provided for her children, so I knew without a doubt that my prayers was going to be answered also and they were after a two year stay inside of juvenile hall then being released to a boy's home. However, approximately 30 days after being placed inside of the boy's home, I made a choice to AWOL, and I did just that: now after ending up back in Los Angeles at the age of twelve homeless with about two dollas in my pocket, I went to the local burger stand to purchase a burger, and behold my mother appeared pushing a basket...

(MOTHER enters)

KIMINI: Momma, momma, it's me, KIMINI!

MOTHER: Mojoe, that's you?

KIMINI: Yeah, momma! What happen?

MOTHER: Nothing!

KIMINI: What you mean nothing, momma? Look at'cha! Where my 'lil brothers at?

MOTHER: I don't know, Mojoe; they took'em!

KIMINI: Who took'em?

MOTHER: The people!

KIMINI: What people?

MOTHER: The damn people, KIMINI, okay? Just leave me alone, all of y'all just leave me alone!
(MOTHER begins trying to walk away)

KIMINI: No, momma; please talk to me!

(KIMINI temporarily prevents MOTHER from leaving)

MOTHER: Move! Let me go handle my business, boy. Move! (Angered and rushing while exiting center)

KIMINI: Momma, where you going? I missed you, momma. Please let me help you, please!

MOTHER: Move, boy; right now! You hear me? Leave me alone. I don't need yours or nobody else damn help!

(MOTHER stops center, angrily removes KIMINI's palm off her shoulder, then begin exiting again)

KIMINI: Momma, momma, mommaaaa!

(KIMINI standing center aisle shouting for MOTHER)

KIMINI: After seeing her like this I became so detached from humanity that I did what so many other young boys did in the ghetto who witnessed their mother's addiction to crack cocaine, I joined a gang and from the consequences of my actions I attended many funerals, fought many trials, stayed in and out of juvenile facilities, and became addicted to PCP and alcohol, but just as Moses indicated to God's chosen people in Deuteronomy 8: verse 5, when he said...

(Thunder and lightening effects before MOSES speaks through PA)

MOSES: Think about it, just as a parent disciplines a child, the Lord your God disciplines you for your own good!

(KIMINI in spotlight as MOSES speaks, then thunder and lightening again)

KIMINI: Therefore, for my deviant behavior I was arrested, convicted, and sent to a level four facility as a teenager with nobody in the world to call on but God and a prison sentence beyond my comprehension. But the Lord showed me favor once again by answering my prayer, which made it possible for this very moment here in the Garden Chapel. Needless to say, I come from a long lineage of stubbornness as Moses indicated to God's chosen people in Deuteronomy 9: verse 6, when he said...

MOSES: (over PA) You must recognize that the Lord your God has not given you this good land because you are good, for you are not – you are a stubborn people!

(KIMINI acting during MOSES dialogue through PA system)

KIMINI: Therefore, the freeing me from a prison sentence beyond my comprehension and all the miracles that God performed for me wasn't enough to bring me into submission of his will for my life. It wasn't until the rape of my daughter, at the hands of a man who raised her as his own child that I was shaken to my core and afterwards prayed to my father God Lord Jesus with all of my heart because there was no way without God that I had the strength to be strong in regards to that ordeal, due to the fact that the guilt I felt for not being able to protect my daughter from such an evil act almost caused me to lose my

sanity. However, rather than losing my sanity I submitted to God wholeheartedly, with the help of my daughter being used by God as a vessel to give me a chance at life again because after witnessing the trauma that this rape opposed onto my daughter a part of me died every time I heard her cry. Needless to say, in spite of this cruel act that was committed against my daughter she had told me that she forgave this man and asked me to make a promise to her that I will forgive this man. So after praying to my Father God Lord Jesus, getting baptized for the first time ever, and reading my bible on a constant basis the God of Israel placed within my heart to forgive just as he was forgiven from the beginning when he inquired to Adam in Genesis 3: verse 11 the following:

GOD: Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree whose fruit I commanded you not to eat?

KIMINI: Therefore, I made that promise to my daughter and was able to forgive myself; this man, her mother, and my mother. Now brothers and sisters, recalling that in the beginning of my testimony, I asked for you all to please take note that my mother has a personal relationship with God like no other human I ever encountered besides myself and it wasn't until years later that the story she told me became true. When it shook me to my core and this is how it became true; after forgiving my transgression, other's transgressions, and the transgressions that were committed against my family, I was blessed to recall the story that my mother told me which happened in two acts that derived from the same occurrence that consisted of her running away from home at the age of 16 because she too was tired of being raped by her step father. So after making the correlation to both of the acts that were committed against my mother and my daughter, I realized that the story was true, because I felt my mother's pain through my daughter's rape. Therefore, I clearly understand now that everything I have been through as a child, teenager, and adult was done by the Lord God for me to learn forgiveness; for me to love him wholeheartedly, for me to trust him wholeheartedly, for me to worship him wholeheartedly, for me to fear him wholeheartedly, and for me to submit to his will for my life wholeheartedly, and by me being in obedience to my Father God Lord Jesus command for my life he has blessed me abundantly to the point where I am here indulging in God's grace and everlasting love with you all. In closing, all praises go to God; God bless you all, and thank you!