

REINHARD BONNKE

1940 – 2019



*„Well done, good and faithful servant!
Enter into the joy of your Lord!“*

Matthew 25:21

Dear friends,

The people who met Jesus were forever changed. Jesus loved them selflessly, he accepted them unconditionally and he saw in faith what God would make of them. That was how I felt when I met Reinhard Bonnke for the first time 40 years ago. It was at the 1st Charismatic Congress in Berlin.

I had heard of his work in Africa and wanted to see him live. He preached on James 2, verse 19: **"Demons tremble!"** I had never heard a man speak so passionately and with such authority. No wonder hell trembled when Reinhard Bonnke preached. His words went into my heart like an arrow. The Holy Spirit gave a message through him: **"Thus says the Lord: I have called you and appointed you, but you have to take the first step ..."**

My first step back then was to stand up and dedicate my life to Jesus. **"Lord, I will do what you want me to do; I will go where you send me and I want to become what you want."** Hundreds were touched by the message and did the same. After the meeting, I was sitting in the foyer of the large congress hall and writing a postcard. I noticed someone sitting down next to me and I looked up. It was Reinhard Bonnke. I greeted him and said I would like to do a voluntary year in Africa. He asked me a few questions and as we said goodbye, he shook my hand and said: **"I will see you again in Africa."** Six months later I was a voluntary worker with Christ for all Nations in South Africa. One year turned into a total of 13 years that I got to work in his organization.

I met Reinhard Bonnke for the last time in May, at FIRE 19 in Hamburg. As always, he preached with great passion. We are running the last lap, since Jesus is coming soon! The Holy Spirit spoke through him and hundreds of young people ran forward to dedicate their lives to Jesus. This time, my son was standing at the front. We had no idea that Reinhard Bonnke would soon cross the finish line and be with Jesus.

Jesus and Reinhard Bonnke have shaped and changed my life forever. Today I am more or less doing the same thing, just on a smaller scale. Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching, preaching and healing every disease and sickness, Matthew 9:35. Reinhard Bonnke went to the biggest cities, and we generally go to villages because a small evangelistic campaign costs less than a large-scale one and our budget is much smaller. We reap in places the big combine harvester does not reach.

In 2019 we were able to conduct a total of 11 evangelistic outreaches. The gatherings of the last outreach in 2019 were very blessed. Many people were set free from demons. The pastors told us that, when dismantling the platform, they found a boa under the stage. They killed it and took it as a sign that Satan's power over their town, Bombe, was broken.

On 1st January we set off for our first evangelistic outreach of the new year. We were at a height of 3,000 m (9,000 ft) in Goba, a Muslim town where hardly anyone goes to evangelize. We had blessed meetings and the pastors said it was a breakthrough for the region. Please help us again this year, as the Lord puts it on your heart, so that we can continue going month by month and scatter the living seed. Isaiah 61:7 says that God wants to give us a double portion. That is what we are believing for in 20/20. God wants to double the harvest and also give you a double blessing.

That is my wish you for this new year, since all things are possible for those who believe!



Ekkehard Hornburg

HEALING TESTIMONIES

BOMBE, ETHIOPIA



For 3 years she was depressive and bound by evil spirits that also caused her to be physically disabled. She was set free and the disability has gone.



For 20 years he heard voices that made him want to kill himself. He was set free from an evil spirit.



For 4 years one leg had been stiff and he could not walk properly.

For 10 years he could not work properly because of back pain. 2 months ago he had an accident that caused one eye to go almost blind. He was set free from both problems.



For one year she had been in hospital because of intestinal typhus. She came in pain and was healed.



For one year he had been suffering from pain and the doctors thought it was malaria. He was delivered from an evil spirit and is now free of his symptoms.

For years she had had burning headaches. It was as if cold water flowed over her and now she



Ever since childhood she had been plagued by evil spirits who threw her into fire and water. She was set free.



Since early childhood he had suffered from severe headaches that even caused his eyesight to suffer. Now the pain has gone and he can also see clearly.



REINHARD BONNKE

A Tribute by Ekkehard Hornburg



When I think of Reinhard Bonnke, I think of Jesus. He always lifted up Jesus, never himself. He put Jesus at the centre, not himself. He was free from himself and Jesus became visible through him. That is what people felt about him when they met him. There was someone greater than Reinhard Bonnke. A donkey carried Jesus to Jerusalem. Reinhard Bonnke carried Jesus. Wherever he went, Jesus went. He no longer lived, but Jesus lived in him.

Reinhard Bonnke was like the burning bush out of which God spoke, and his close relationship with the Holy Spirit was the key to his ministry. In the book *Holy Spirit: Are We Flammable or Fireproof?* he writes about this. It was not success or money that drove him but the Holy Spirit. He wanted to become a soul millionaire and he did multiple times over. He plundered hell and populated heaven. Reinhard Bonnke loved the word of God, and the Holy Spirit made Jesus ever greater to him. When we met him for the last time in Hamburg, he said he reads and studies the Bible for four to five hours every day. The word of God lived in him and he lived in the word of God. Reinhard Bonnke was a man of prayer. He got up early to spend time with God. I remember a time when every day, early in the morning, he would pray at the mission centre and anyone who wanted to could join him. Prayer was as essential to him as breathing.

I once heard him say that it was not the mass gatherings that gave him fulfilment but his relationship with Jesus. Reinhard Bonnke loved Jesus above all and he loved people. He had faith in God and faith in people.

He knew no fear, only the fear of God. He was a man of great faith, great love and great kindness. I know no one who was more generous than he was. His gospel was pure, passionate and simple. He lived what he preached. He was humble and did not draw attention to himself. He always gave Jesus all the honour. He was immune to praise and immune to criticism. At the beginning of his ministry, when he sometimes preached to five people, he was asked: *"What are you doing wrong, that so few people come to your services?"* He answered, *"I don't know."* Years later he was asked: *"What are you doing that so many people come to your services?"* and he answered: *"I don't know."*

Reinhard Bonnke was the "real deal", as they say. He was genuine through and through. The better you knew him, the more you came to appreciate and love him. I thank God that I had the chance to get to know him and to work for several years in his ministry. Reinhard Bonnke was the spearhead and pioneer of a whole new generation of evangelists. He often said, *"If Jesus can use me, a nobody, then he can use anyone."* He also believed that the greatest harvest of souls in the world was imminent. His life is an example of what God can do with someone who surrenders himself completely to Jesus and follows the Holy Spirit without compromise and without fear.

"The greatest outpouring, the greatest anointing of God's power ever known, is coming upon us. Past revivals will seem as nothing when Pentecost breaks upon the entire church."

Reinhard Bonnke

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