

**HOW TO STAY  
ON *Top*  
WHEN THE  
*Bottom* FALLS OUT**



**REX HUMBARO**



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HOW TO STAY ON TOP WHEN THE BOTTOM FALLS OUT

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# Foreword

Rex Humbard, a true giant of the Christian faith, went home to glory on September 21, 2007. Few people have blazed such incredible trails and fewer still have impacted me to the degree that that man did.

I am often reminded of the tremendous history and soul-winning legacy he and his family embodied.

Rex's father, Alpha Humbard, accepted Christ as Savior at sixteen and became instantly and unstoppably passionate about winning souls to the Lord. That legacy was passed on to his son Rex and the entire Humbard family, as chronicled in his autobiography, *The Soul-Winning Century: The Humbard Family Legacy...100 Years of Ministry*.

Rex was saved at the age of thirteen, in 1932, and immediately began his own radio broadcasts that launched what eventually became his worldwide pulpit.

In the 1940s and '50s Rex and his family traveled across America and Canada conducting tent meetings while his radio ministry continued to grow nationwide. In 1949 Rex became the first evangelist to broadcast the Gospel on television, and by 1952 he had both a daily program and a weekly one-hour church service on the airwaves.

In the early 1950s, Rex Humbard became one of the first visionaries to build a ministry that incorporated radio and television programming, and in 1958, the Cathedral of Tomorrow opened in Akron, Ohio—one of the world's first churches designed specifically to accommodate television equipment, crew, and choir, as well as seating for 5,400 people. Broadcasts of the church services were aired on 600 stations in America and more than 2,000 around the world in 97 languages.

Few people have touched more lives with the Gospel than Rex

Humbard. As well known as he was in the United States, he was even more popular throughout the world, especially in South America, where he packed the giant soccer stadiums for weeks at a time. During one notable 1979 crusade, over 1.2 million souls filled a network of soccer stadiums across Brazil to see him preach the Gospel, and in a crusade in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, more than 130,000 souls accepted Jesus Christ as Savior in a single service!

He preached to packed audiences in the Sydney Opera House, the Budokan in Tokyo, as well as Madison Square Garden and Carnegie Hall in New York. He also ministered to hundreds of thousands in services across Africa.

Pastor Humbard was inducted into the Broadcasters Hall of Fame in 1993 and was named one of the “Top 25 Principle Architects of the American Century” by *U.S. News & World Report* on December 27, 1999.

The *Saturday Evening Post* wrote about him: “Putting God on Main Street has been the goal of this dedicated preacher for more than 60 years. Now, thanks to the electronic media, his ‘Main Street’ stretches from Ohio around the world.”

My friendship with Rex and his wife, Maude Aimee, spanned several decades. I had heard, seen, and read about the Humbards from the time I became a Christian. As I got to know them better and better through the early years of my ministry, and as he literally fathered and mentored me, I knew each time I was with him that I was in the presence of a true giant of the faith.

At our crusades throughout the 1990s Rex regularly preached a salvation message and gave the altar calls in our morning services, and he appeared many times with me on my television program, *This Is Your Day!* I consider those times with him, Maude Aimee, and the entire Humbard family one of the greatest privileges of my life.

I’ll never forget one of the last times Pastor Humbard spoke to one of our large meetings. He said, “There’s been tough times, and there’s been joyful and wonderful times, but never one time has the Lord ever left us...and one of these days, if I’m not around when the trumpet sounds, Benny, I’m going to meet you in the air! Jesus is faithful. Don’t ever forget it!”

I invite you to spend time with *How to Stay on Top When the Bottom Falls Out* discovering anew the deep faith that Rex Humbard stood for throughout his life. It is a shining testimony to the legacy of this amazing servant of God and his view of how to overcome your circumstances through the principles in God's Word.

Though written nearly three decades ago, every single word seems as fresh and relevant as the day Rex Humbard penned this now-classic book. And I believe the answers you receive through these powerful pages will change your life forever!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Benny Hinn". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the left.





# A Personal Word from Rex Humbard



## **The Bottom Is Falling Out!**

How many times have you heard this expression? It is not the message of some prophet of doom who stands on the street corner and proclaims that the world is coming to an end.

But it is the message that fills the evening news on television.

It is the headline of our newspapers.

It is the real issue of our day.

**Today, the bottom is falling out!** You don't need anyone to tell you that the bottom is falling out of our economy. You can give a firsthand report on the problem of spiraling inflation. You have been an eyewitness to the prices on everything increasing, while your earning power is decreasing.

And no one seems to have the answers. With all the great minds in the world today, no one has found a cure for inflation. The great economists of our age can't even agree on the direction we should take. And while this great debate continues, our economy is crumbling out from under us.

The bottom is also falling out of our judicial system. The world has always been plagued by crime and violence, but today we are plagued by a much deeper problem. Recognition for authority in our land is gone. Our system of law enforcement has been critically wounded to the point where it is nearly impossible and very dangerous to bring a criminal to justice.

But the problem that seems to hit me square in the face every day is that the bottom is falling out on our families and homes. Divorce, runaway children, trial marriages, sexual freedom and unfaithfulness are all tools Satan is using to rob us of the most precious relationship we have—the family.

I want to be very tender here, and choose my words carefully,

for you or someone you love has already faced this tragedy. You can probably describe how the bottom has fallen out on a family very close to you and shattered the lives of those you love.

We know that Satan wants to destroy our homes, for if he destroys our homes then he can destroy our churches; and if he destroys our churches he can destroy our communities; and if he can destroy our communities, he can destroy our country—and our world.

Yes, the bottom is falling out of our world. You and I are seeing trouble like the world has never known. God has called me to carry the gospel through television. Because of my travels, I have seen this problem firsthand. There are wars and rumors of wars. Nation is rising up against nation. Challenges of even the weakest cultures are heard halfway around the world.

There is no safe place to hide, and in many parts of the world, terrorism is becoming a way of life. The ever-present threat of one of these sparks igniting the world is now a frightening reality.

**The Bible tells us these things would take place.** They are signs of the time in which we are living. They are a fulfillment of prophecies in the Word of God.

In Matthew 24, Jesus told His disciples that some day He would come back to take His people to heaven. The disciples asked Him, “Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?”

And Jesus told them there would be great trouble in the land. He said as it was in the days of Noah, there would be eating and drinking, and giving in marriage until the flood came. What He was saying is that the people had time for everything else but God.

We have come to that time today when we rely on our own strength, our own ingenuity, and we think we can tackle the problems of life without God’s help.

The Bible says these are just the beginning of sorrows. The Scriptures are very clear to describe that it is this same kind of global upheaval that will carry us into the last days.

- **International turmoil.** *“And ye shall hear of wars and*

*rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass” (Matthew 24:6).*

- **Mass murders.** *“And thus I saw the horses in the vision, and them that sat on them, having breastplates of fire, and of jacinth, and brimstone: and the heads of the horses were as the heads of lions; and out of their mouths issued fire and smoke and brimstone. By these three was the third part of the men killed, by the fire, and by the smoke, and by the brimstone, which issued out of their mouths” (Revelation 9:17-18).*
- **The creation falls apart.** *“And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood; and the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind. And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places. And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; and said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: for the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?” (Revelation 6:12-17).*

The world’s stage is set right now for all these predictions to come to pass. Yes, the bottom is falling out on this old world.

But the real purpose of this book is to talk about your own personal world, and what you can do when the bottom seems to fall out from under you.

Sickness, financial ruin, the pressures of life, sorrow, and the death of a loved one can pull the rug out from under us and turn an ordered life into chaos. If you have never been touched by any of these tragedies, you will, for sorrow is a part of life.

The philosophy of this world in recent years is to face these

problems head-on in your own strength. Use the resources available to you and work out your own problems.

Many go to counselors or psychiatrists. You've tried a thousand and one things and you have thought each time, "I'm going to get on top. I'm not going to fall apart when the bottom falls out of my life." But in spite of everything you've done, you still can't seem to get on top.

Far too often, our problems overwhelm us, and the bottom falls out.

But in spite of how bad things may be, for the Christian there is always good news, and I have written this book to tell you this—when you see these things beginning to come to pass, lift up your head and rejoice, for your redemption draweth nigh!

And as a child of God, you can have victory!

**The bottom may fall out of your life, but the people of faith are going to stay on top!** All these things that are happening are a fulfillment of prophecy. And they are telling us that Christ is soon coming. Some day soon, the trumpet will sound and the Lord will come back.

Then another prophecy will be fulfilled, for Jesus promised that He was coming to take us to heaven—a land where there will be no more twisted limbs, blinded eyes, heartaches, sorrow or trouble. No one will be sick or hungry in that place.

This book is not a handbook on human relations. It is not a guidebook on the power of positive thinking. It's not even a manual on Christian ethics.

It is, however, a book that will show you the way to cope with the problems of life.

But before these principles will work, our hearts must be right with God. We must know which way is up before we can stay on top.

## **Which Way Is Up?**

There is a condition among pilots called vertigo. It means to be totally disoriented.

An aviation accident report once told the story of the tragedy of vertigo.

A rather inexperienced pilot was making his approach for a landing in a light plane. There was a dense fog, and visibility was zero. As he continued his approach, the pilot lost his sense of direction and suffered this unusual sensation of vertigo. Rather than trust his instruments, the pilot headed in the direction he thought was right. Before he knew what had happened, his plane dropped over into a tailspin. The frantic air controller screamed through the radio, "Pull up! Pull up!"

And the pilot's reply was, "Which way is up?" Those were his last words.

This is the cry and the hunger of the world today: Which way is up?

**God's answer to this cry is in His only Son Jesus who said, "*I am the way, the truth, and the life.*"** Men, women, boys, and girls are finding themselves in a tailspin. The bottom is falling out, and they don't know which way to turn.

But when everything is crumbling around you, you can stand on a sure foundation—Jesus Christ.

In Him you can be secure. You can be forgiven of your sins and find peace of mind. He will heal your body, mind, and spirit. And you can even find hope beyond the grave.

**This all happens when you receive Christ into your heart.**

Before you read another page, I want to make sure that if your heart were to quit beating today, you would go to heaven. If you're not sure, you can make sure right now. Here's how:

1. The first step we must take is to confess to God that we are a sinner.

*"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness"* (1 John 1:9).

2. The next thing to do is receive Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Saviour.

*"But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name"* (John 1:12).

*"That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt*

*believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation"*  
(Romans 10:9-10).

3. Now it is time to pray.

Dear Lord Jesus, forgive all my sins, and cleanse my heart from all unrighteousness. I receive Jesus Christ as my only Savior, and my only hope of a home in heaven. By the Lord's help, I will live for Him the rest of my life. Thank You, Jesus. Amen. If you really meant what you just said, the Bible declares that you are a child of God.

Now that Christ is living in your heart, you have the foundation to face any problem that comes your way.

The chapters of this book were written to show you how Christ can help you cope with the problems of life.

You will find in every chapter a checklist of things to do. In order for your faith to work for you, you must have a faith that works. I call this an active faith. The Bible puts it this way: *"Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead"* (James 2:17).

So in each chapter, I have given you something to do which will put God and you to work together to solve your problem.

Each chapter also has a section of promises straight from God's Word in your area of need. For it is God's Word that we can hold on to when all else fails.

And each chapter contains a prayer. If you will pray these prayers from your heart, you will see God move to meet your needs.

I've also included an index of problems in the back of this book so when you're faced with a problem you can look that problem up and find out where it is discussed in this book.

Now may God bless you as you continue through the pages of this book, and always remember:

**You can stay on top when the bottom falls out.**

*"But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ"* (1 Corinthians 15:57).



# 1 Freedom from Guilt



*"If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed." —John 8:36*

Johnny and his sister Mary were spending the summer at Grandma and Grandpa's farm. Grandma had a big old white goose as a pet. It would come up on the porch and wander around, knowing it would get fed.

One day, Johnny and Mary were playing in the yard when the old goose came waddling around the corner of the house. Johnny told his sister, "Hey, Mary, I'm going to hit Grandma's old white goose." He picked up a brick and Mary screamed, "You better not! You better not!" But he threw the brick. He didn't really mean to hurt the goose, but he made a direct hit, and the old goose fell down dead. Johnny and Mary were afraid. "What should we do?" they both wondered. Then Johnny ran out to the barn and got a shovel and hoe. They dragged the old white goose out in back of the barn, dug a hole, buried the goose, and smoothed over the ground.

The next day, Grandma asked, "Children, have you seen Grandma's old white goose?" There wasn't a word from either of them, and Grandma went on her way.

That night after dinner, Grandma said, "Mary, you clean off the table and wash the dishes."

Mary went out to the back porch and called, "Johnny, come here a minute." When he did, she told him, "Go in there and clean off the table and wash the dishes."

"I'm not going to do that," he protested. "Grandma told you to do it."

"Remember the goose?" Mary asked. "If you don't do the dishes, I'll tell Grandma you killed the goose."