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HOURLY OF POWER OF 02.12.2007

PROGRAM OPENING/TRUMPET FANFARE/V.O. From the Crystal Cathedral in Garden Grove, California, join Robert Schuller in an Hour of Power now celebrating our 37th year as the face and voice of positive Christianity to the world.

HYMN - "O Come, All Ye Faithful" Oh come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant. Oh come, oh come all to Bethlehem. Come and behold Him, born the King of angels. Oh come let us adore Him, oh come let us adore Him, oh come let us adore Him Christ the Lord! Joyful and triumphant!

GOOD MORNING/OPENING SENTENCE/INVOCATION - RHS RHS: Good morning. Welcome to the first Christmas taping church service for this season. And turn around, shake hands with somebody behind you and say Merry Christmas. We welcome all the way from Germany, an Hour of Power member Bill Holler, who'll share the dramatic story of how God literally saved his life. I know him, I met him twice in Germany, I know the story and I can tell you it's a power story. We have Kathy Mattea, the Grammy winner in person. Amy Gillette who's also playing Mary in this year's Glory of Christmas, and is a Crystal Cathedral Choir member, will share her gift of music. Beautiful in face and in spirit. And then of course Don Neuen and the Crystal Cathedral Choir. Our fantastic associate organist, Tom Leonard, is at the magnificent Hazel Wright organ. Then we have Marc Riley, the Hour of Power orchestra. Yes, this is the day that God has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it. So thank You God, listen to the happiness coming through applause. Listen to the hope coming through our voices as we sing and speak and pray, silently or out loud. Oh God, look down upon this, a marvelous collection of people who have been saved time and again by the encouragement that keeps coming back when we need it. You are our God of love and mercy and grace and peace, hallelujah, Amen.

HYMN - "Come, O Long Expected Jesus" Come, O long expected Jesus, born to make our lives anew; From our fears and doubts release us, let us find new hope in You. Jesus, Strength and Consolation, Hope Your coming does impart, dear Redeemer of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Born Your people to deliver, born a Child and yet a King, born to live in us forever, now, Your gracious presence brings. With Your own eternal Spirit, rule in all our hearts alone; By Your all-sufficient merit, praises to Your glorious throne.

SCRIPTURE – Isaiah 40:1-5, 10, 11 - RAS RAS: Please be seated. The prophet Isaiah, in fact many of the prophets in the Bible, prophesied the coming of the Christ Child, the Messiah. So hear these words from Isaiah 40. Comfort, yes comfort My people, says your God. Prepare the way for the Lord. Make straight in the wilderness a highway for our God. Every valley shall be raised up; every mountain and hill will be made low. The rough ground shall become level and the rugged places plain. And the glory of the Lord will be revealed and all people together will see it. Behold, the Lord God shall come with a strong hand and His arm shall rule for Him. Behold, His reward is with Him and His work before Him.

He shall tend His flock like a shepherd. He shall gather the lambs in His arms and carry them in His bosom. He will gently lead those who are with young. May God continue to share His revelation and His joy and His peace and His goodness for us through this wonderful Christmas season.

SOLO – AMY GILLETTE - "Do You Hear What I Hear?" Said the night wind to the little lamb, do you see what I see? Way up in the sky, little lamb? Do you see what I see? A star, a star, dancing in the night with a tail as big as a kite, with a tail as big as a kite.

Said the little lamb to the shepherd boy. Do you hear what I hear? Do you hear what I hear? Ringing through the sky, shepherd boy. Do you hear what I hear? Do you hear what I hear? A song, a song, high above the tree with a voice as big as the sea, with a voice as big as the sea.

Said the shepherd boy to the mighty King; Do you know what I know? Do You know what I know? In your palace warm, mighty King? Do You know what I know? Do you know what I know? A child, a child, shivers in the cold let us bring Him silver and gold, let us bring Him silver and gold.

Said the King to the people everywhere, listen to what I say, listen to what I say, pray for peace, people everywhere. Pray for peace, people everywhere. Listen to what I say, listen to what I say, the child, the child, sleeping in the night; He will bring us goodness and light. He will bring us goodness and light! Alleluia! Alleluia!

ANTHEM – “And the Glory of the Lord” And the glory, the glory of the Lord. And the glory the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, the glory of the Lord, and the glory, the glory of the Lord, shall be revealed, shall be revealed, and the glory, the glory of the Lord shall be revealed. And all flesh shall see it together, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth, of the Lord has spoken it, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken it and all flesh, and all flesh, and all flesh shall see it together for the mouth of the Lord has spoken it. And the glory, the glory of the Lord and all flesh shall see it together. The mouth of the Lord has spoken it, be revealed, and all flesh, and all flesh, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken it, has spoken it; and all flesh, and all flesh, and all flesh shall see it together, the glory, the glory of the Lord, and the glory, the glory of the Lord, shall be revealed, revealed, shall be revealed. And all flesh shall see it together, together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken it, for the mouth of the Lord, the mouth of the Lord has spoken it. RHS THANK YOU TO DON NEUEN & CHOIR RHS: Thank you very much Don Neuen and the choir.

INTERVIEW – BILL HOLLER

RHS: ROBERT H. SCHULLER BH: BILL HOLLER

RHS: My guest today is Bill Holler, all the way from Germany. He’s chairman of the board of the German aerospace standardization organization, and a member of the forum for aerospace in the German parliament. He is also the founder and owner of the Holler Consult Network, and serves on my German Hour of Power board. And welcome also at 9:25, before I interview Holler, Frank Handrich, our General Manager of the Crystal Cathedral Ministry in Germany, and to all of you

who are here from Germany today. Where are you seated? I thought you all looked German, yes. So bright and wide awake. Stand up. The first televised church service in Germany, the Hour of Power, coming from Garden Grove California. And thank you for the increased giving; you're needed. And we need in your giving. Make it happen, keep it alive and when you hear Bill Holler again this morning, you'll know how this Hour of Power stands unique, unprecedented and how God has used it, so Bill Holler, we welcome you to the Crystal Cathedral in this, the first of the Christmas season. BH: Thank you. RHS: Thank you. BH: Thank you. It's a pleasure to be here. RHS: Well Bill, what events led you sincerely, tragically, sadly to decide to take your own life? BH: The events that led me there started out in maybe nineteen hundred eighty. I was sitting in Ohio in a small place called Tiffin on a Sunday afternoon, not knowing what to do and I swept through the different TV channels and suddenly I saw somebody speaking to me through the TV. He had gray hair still back then, yes. And afterwards I forgot about it and I continued my life as before. Started a business, invested heavily, took all my money into this business and even more together with a friend we bought this company and tried to make the best out of it. Invested and the business grew until two years later I had to find out all the money was gone, although we were profitable. So due to the help of my friend, he made the money disappear. Suddenly I was in a position where I had lost everything. All I had is debts on the bank, lots of debts, which I was never able to pay back. In Germany, when you go bankrupt, you're finished. At least that was what I thought before. And on the other hand, I had a life insurance for about a million deutsche marks, which is five hundred thousand US dollars or more. So I decided to trade in this life insurance against the debts, which I never was able to pay back. I started on a Thursday evening, it was the Thursday before Easter and as you may know in Germany on the autobahn's we don't have a speed limit and I had a fast car. So I started driving, looking for that one single tiny moment when nobody else would be hurt, and I find a truck, or I find a bridge or whatever and it's an accident. To give my life insurance against the debts that I would have otherwise for my family. So I looked for those occasions during all the hours and hours passing on, I drove through the night. I drove the next morning; I drove the next evening, the next night and continued for almost three days. And there was not a single moment where such an occasion would be possible. And finally I was completely exhausted standing on a parking lot and suddenly realizing I was not alone in that car. I was not alone. If I was alone, I'd be dead by now. And I understood God has sent an angel to me to protect me from what I was doing. And in this moment, standing on the parking lot there, I heard that gray haired guy telling 'tough times never last, but tough people do.' And I understood if I'm one of those tough people, I at least give it a try. So I went home, had the best Easter I ever can imagine and with 50 years, I started to live. I took on the problems I had with this company, I bought it again. My own company, I bought it again during the bankruptcy, I received the money just in time to buy it. I don't know where it came from, but it was there, ready when I needed it. I was able to develop this company to put in jobs, to be the number two in Europe and now I'm sitting at the board of the various companies and so now suddenly all this materialized what I thought was absolutely, I shouldn't use this word here.. RHS: Impossible. BH: ..impossible, yes. Let's forget this word again. I forgot it for my life after that. So now my life is so blessed and I could achieve so much with the understanding that if God leads my life, if I have Jesus in my heart, this faith is carrying me through. I'd like to share with you a precious gift because of what you have done for me and it's the same which I'm carrying here, the symbol for the first Christians, the

fish made of pure gold and diamond. It's for you. RHS: Thank you. So, then I met you in Germany. I think I got a letter from you first and said if I'm in Germany I want to meet that guy and you agreed and we met. And then there was the last time, on the way to the hall where I was, something happened. BH: It was on the 24th of September in 2004 and I still keep this entrance card back from the concert, from the speech that you gave from that concert hall. I still keep it in order not to forget that very important moment because you invited me to speak at the next day where we had a preachers meeting. So I drove up with my car to this meeting and when I parked it at the parking lot, I realized well it was a beautiful day outside. I realized I'm going to meet Dr. Schuller again. And his words made all this life changes happening. You saved my life; this is what I realized to that. I understood my life; the way I've been going is so wonderful now. I couldn't imagine to be anywhere else than here, I understood I have to do one thing. So I took the telephone and called a number and I called a guy who was sitting in his yacht in the Mediterranean.. RHS: The guy. BH: ..Sea. RHS: This is the guy that did you in the first time. BH: Right. I called him. And I said you'll be surprised that I called you because you're not expecting my call, you may be surprised to hear what I have to say to you, I'm going to say it anyway. You don't have to answer. I told him I understood that where I am now, I couldn't have a better life. I couldn't imagine anything better than now. So the way I had to go to come here was a very difficult way. RHS: Yeah. BH: And you have been part of this way. At the time, when the things happened, I was very angry about you. But now I understood God's plan, was much more than I could imagine at that time. So I thank you for bringing me where I am because without you, I wouldn't be here today. This is what I told him. And I added, if somebody asked me who you are for me, I will tell him very sincerely, you are my friend again. RHS: That's forgiveness. BH: And I was relieved from the very same moment. RHS: Wow. BH: No hate, nothing, no burden, no hurts in my heart anymore and I was relieved to have this friend from new. RHS: Wow. Bill Holler, you are such a great friend of ours and the Hour of Power and a prayer supporter and a big commitment and I thank you for everything you're doing. BH: Thank you so much. RHS: A final word, you know that German, going on German television, major network, was a scary decision. What do you think? BH: It has been such a wise decision, especially in Germany, which has become more and more secular, to put in a service, to put in your service, which takes people back home where they need it most. People which may be in a depression, people which may have lost their hope. And the broadcast of this service in Germany is so important and your gifts and your contribution have made it possible. And now the German group is growing and we are getting in more people to support the ministry. I was honored to be on your board now. And I am very sure that we will have a great future with this service in Germany. RHS: Thank you. Thank you very much, Bill Holler. BH: Thank you. RHS: God bless you, thank you.

SOLO – KATHY MATTEA - "Angels We Have Heard on High" Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing o'er the plains. And the mountains, in reply echoing their joyous strains. Gloria in excelsis deo, gloria in excelsis deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous songs prolong? What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heavenly song? Gloria in excelsis deo, gloria in excelsis deo.

Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing. Come adore, on bended knee Christ the Lord, our newborn King. Gloria in excelsis deo, gloria in excelsis deo.

Angels we have heard on high.. Angels we have heard on high.. Angels we have heard on high.. Angels we have heard on high..

RHS THANK YOU TO KATHY MATTEA RHS: Thank you, Kathy. Thank you, you're loved. Very much appreciated.

MESSAGE/PRAYER - ROBERT H. SCHULLER "The Beginning that Changed the World" RHS: My message today, which sets off the whole Christmas season from this place, is entitled "The Beginning that Changed the World." There are infinite possibilities in little beginnings if God is in it. And there are infinite possibilities in the world when Jesus was born. That was the beginning of a new religion that would change the world forever. The world would call it Christianity. And one of the most beautiful things is that it celebrates the giving of gifts you know. It's so much fun to give gifts. Well this church is offering many gifts to the whole community and to the world this Christmas season. First of all, we have the Glory of Christmas and the attendance is running higher than last year. It's phenomenal and it's getting rave reviews around the world. Exchange student from Germany watched the rehearsals this week and she couldn't say enough about it. She'd never seen anything like it. So don't miss it, even if you saw it before and its become Southern California's Christmas tradition like the Rose Parade in Pasadena has become a New Year's tradition. Don't miss it. Put it on your Christmas gift list. Or, bring somebody to the Christmas Eve church services. They're totally free. Seven of them. I will be speaking at all seven. Phenomenal! And they will be on television live coming from the Crystal Cathedral in Garden Grove California. We're thrilled about Christmas Eve and you can come here in person. That's a gift. Take somebody with you. You can bring these gifts. Make it a great Christmas. I want to say that the birth of Jesus was the beginning that changed the world. And I don't think anybody that looked down at that little baby in a manger, in a cow stall, in Bethlehem, could ever have imagined what would happen. But today, more people belong to faiths that honor the name of Jesus than any other faith. What really happened with the birth of Jesus? I would say look at the Christmas tree. That's a good illustration. The Christmas tree. I remember a Christmas in my home when all of our kids were little and we got the tree up and they were all tiny. And they wanted to decorate the tree so that we got out the box and they put the stuff here, all the way along the bottom. And they finally said they're finished dad. Boy it's beautiful. And when I went to look at it, guess what: it was decorated from the bottom up to about a little over half. They said it was done. They couldn't reach any higher. It was a limit to their eyes. Christmas came to the world and one of the greatest religions in the world at that time was Judaism. And one of the young Jews was named Jesus. And He said we're going to add something because by the time you finish with Moses and the prophets, we needed something more. We need a charity, we needed grace, we needed love. So God sent His son into the world to finish decorating the Christmas tree. It was Jesus. And He put a star at the top. The Christian religion has never changed. Look what Christianity brought to the world. The hospitals, Christians invented the hospital system. Literacy, country after country, Christianity brought literacy and sent missionaries to take the spoken language, put it in writing. Religion changed forever when Jesus was

born. A new religion and the Christmas tree finally had lights all the way to the top. Wow. We made a new God decision. That's what happened. Today, two thousand years later, more people respect the name of Jesus than the name of anybody else. Wow. And we acquired a leader. You can't make a movement succeed without a leader. We had.. a leader is the one who makes the final interpretations and when it comes to religion, every movement needs a leader and the leader is the one who has the last word. And when it comes to interpretation of religious life and principles, we have the greatest leader. His name is Jesus. Yes Christmas was the beginning that changed the future of the whole world. Without Christmas, we wouldn't have a New Testament. We needed a New Testament because the Old Testament alone is law and not grace. Hear me clear: we need grace. What is grace? Christian religion is the only religion of ethical monotheism that teaches grace. The others, its law. Judaism has its laws. The Muslim movement has its laws. The Christian religion has laws. But the last line is grace. And what is grace? Grace is the promise that you can be forgiven because God loves you. Grace is God's love in action for people who haven't deserved it. That's grace. A remarkable shocking contribution to religious thinking happened when Jesus was born and as He lived His life and finally died on the cross. And we're taught in Christianity that we're to exercise grace, not judgment. Forgiveness. My guest this morning from Germany said it all. Yeah. Just before he went to meet me for the second time, something had to happen. God told him to call up that man who bankrupted your company, ran off with the money, took your telephone call on his yacht, and you forgave him even before he repented. Pretty shocking. That's our religion, the final word; the most honorable word is when you call somebody a graceful person. Grace. Yeah. And then, Christianity was the beginning that changed the world because it gave the world a new emotional support system. Think of this. Think of this! Think of it. There never was a religion that gave a full and adequate emotional support system to the human being. I started preparing for the ministry, not by taking Bible classes. I had a lot of that in catechism. I started by psychology at Hope College. They had a good psych department. The professor, Dr. Myers has written a primary book on psychology that is read by more entry students in the universities of America than any other textbook. It's a good college. And emotional support is: where do you get the hope to hang on anyway? Where do you get the strength not to hit a bridge? Where do you get the courage to stay alive even after your spouse left for someone else? The biggest problems are only decisions you don't want to make or don't dare to make. When you get the courage and the strength and the wisdom to make them, that's what you call emotional support. And this is the only religion on planet earth that has a full scale, fully beautiful emotional support system through its prayers, through its forgiveness. You heard our guest this morning how he called and forgave an enemy. Show me another religion outside of Jesus that teaches that. You can't. That's why Christianity always survives. I told you last week I came back from China, wow. Nineteen years, total atheism. Every church closed, well with a couple exceptions. Theological schools that would teach people to believe closed. Except for two. One in Nan King. I went there and saw the name of my denomination that helped build that almost a hundred years ago. It's now open and I'll be going back next year at their invitation to teach our theology. And seminary students are going to go out over China, churches with standing room only. No gray hairs. Preached to the church on Sunday morning. They didn't know me but there were a thousand people plus every corner was filled to standing room and it was only one of four morning church services. And they're young and now we are given the joy and the opportunity to train in

positive, possibility thinking theology, the faith that you've heard us here preach for 50 years. The world is changing. This church is a big part of it, more than you'll ever know. So emotional support system. You come out of this kind of a faith with a book called the Bible. A person called Jesus. A God that's intelligent, not just a vague cosmic force. I don't need that kind of a God. A God who is intelligent and a God who's affectionate. And a belief system that has grace at its core. And a religion that is targeting emotional support. You land up with the kind of a personality and you begin to dream a dream! That's what this kind of religion does. You begin to believe in possibilities. That's what this religion teaches. Then you believe in forgiveness. That's what this religion teaches. Finally, eternal life. The beginning that changed the world. Finally, God came in His Son Jesus Christ to live and to die on a cross and to rise again and leave this as His last word. All the things Jesus taught, everything that He left. It started when He was born in Bethlehem and His last word was there is life after death. The soul is the recording; the brain is only the recorder. The recorder goes out of business but the tape recording never does. Eternal life to you who accept Jesus. God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, about that long, little baby. Whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. So Merry, Merry Christmas. Come, join the Christian faith. You can't match it or surpass it and its simply coming to love Jesus. Amen. Dear Lord, it's the Christmas season and when we remember what changes came into the world, what changes come into human life when they let Christmas be the rebirth of their eternal soul. People here now and I want them to raise at least the hand in their heart, when I ask them to accept Jesus as their Savior when I ask them to step into the faith. Stop waiting, stop wondering, stop waiting, stop putting it off. Give yourself the best Christmas gift you can. And that's following Jesus Christ born 2000 years ago. Amen.

ANTHEM – “O Holy Night” O Holy Night! The stars are brightly shining, it is the night of the dear Savior's birth; Long lay the world in sin and error pining, 'til He appeared and the soul felt its worth. A thrill of hope the weary soul rejoices, for yonder breaks a new and glorious morn; Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices! O Night Divine, O Night when Christ was born! O Night Divine, O Night, O Night Divine!

Christ, Christ is the Lord, O Praise His name forever. His love and glory forevermore proclaim. His love, His love and glory forever, forever, and ever and ever proclaim!

BENEDICTION - RHS RHS: Now may the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. And may God give you His peace in your going out, in your coming in, in your lying down, in your rising up, in your labor and in your leisure, in your laughter and in your tears until you come to stand before Jesus in that day in which you will be blessed like you could never imagine. Amen.