

HOUR OF POWER OF 04.05.2008

PROGRAM OPENING/TRUMPET FANFARE/V.O.

VO: Today on the Hour of Power Anne Beiler, founder of the national Aunt Annie's Pretzel Stores shares how her faith in God saved her life when her 18-month old daughter was killed in a tragic accident.

ANNE: September the 8th, 1975, changed my life forever. It was the morning that Angela went to be with Jesus. She was killed instantly on the farm; my sister drove over her with a bobcat.

VO: Then, one incredible family known as the Annie Moses band performs for the first time in the Crystal Cathedral.

(MUSIC PLAYS)

VO: Then, do you have confidence? Are you questioning your tomorrow? Pastor Schuller has the answer.

RHS: Here it is: Be confident in this one thing that God who has begun a good work in you will complete it.

VO: Join us today for the best hour on television, the Hour of Power with Robert Schuller.

HYMN - "Joyful, Joyful.."

Joyful, joyful, we adore You, God of glory, Lord of love; Hearts unfold like flowers before You, opening to the sun above. Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; Drive the dark of doubt away; Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day. Amen! Amen! Amen!

GOOD MORNING/OPENING SENTENCE/INVOCATION

RHS: Why did you come to church today? You know? I don't think you know. I think God brought you here for special reasons. Now turn around shake hands with somebody behind you or next to you and give them the blessing, God loves you and so do I.

For thousands of times I have said it: this is the day that God has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it. Let's pray. Father, You've got a lot of things in mind. You've planned this whole church service, the people who would be here, the singers, the spokespersons, the people in the congregation who will be praying for me. You know I need it. And those who make their offerings, God we're feeling hard times here. This is a blessing because You've got new people who have never done what they should and now they know we need it and they're going to start tithing and giving. Thank You. So we can spend an hour thanking You Lord, but hallelujah You are our Lord and we are one of Your favorite children, Amen.

HYMN - "Medley – O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing/I Love to Tell the Story"

O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise, the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of His grace.

Jesus, the name that calms my fears, that bids my sorrows cease: It's music to my listening ears of life and health and peace.

He speaks, and listening to His voice, new life the dead receive; The mournful, broken hearts rejoice; the humble poor believe.

My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim, to spread through all the earth abroad, the honors of Your name.

I love to tell the story of unseen things above, of Jesus and His glory, of Jesus and His love; I love to tell the story, because I know it's true, it satisfies my longings as nothing else can do.

I love to tell the story! Will be my theme in glory to tell the old, old story of Jesus and His love, and His love.

SCRIPTURE – Sel. Verses Ephesians 2 & 3 - RAS

RAS: Please be seated. St. Paul gives us some words that he wrote to the church that was established in Ephesus. And they're words that are powerful and real for us today.

But because of His great love for us, God who is rich in mercy made us alive with Christ. Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but are fellow citizens with God's people, and members of God's household, built on the foundation of the apostles and the prophets with Christ Jesus Himself as the chief cornerstone. For this reason, I kneel before the Father, from whom His whole family in heaven and on earth derives its name. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power together with all the saints to grasp how wide, how long, how deep, how high is the love of Christ. And to know this love that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled to the measure of all of the fullness of God. Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or even imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, to be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations forever and ever, Amen.

ANTHEM - "Open our Eyes"

Open our eyes, open our eyes, O loving and compassionate Jesus, that we may behold You, that we may behold You, walking beside us, walking beside us in our sorrow.

You have made death glorious and triumphant; You have made death glorious and triumphant. For through its portals we, for through its portals we enter into the presence of the Living God, into the presence of the Living God.

For through its portals we, for through its portals we enter into the presence of the Living God, into the presence of the Living God.

Open our eyes, open our eyes, O loving and compassionate Jesus, that we may see to follow You, Jesus, Jesus, Jesus our Savior, Jesus our Savior and Redeemer. Open our eyes, open our eyes, O Lord, Amen.

RHS THANK YOU TO CATHEDRAL CHOIR

RHS: Thank you Cathedral Choir.

SOLO – TRAVIS COTTRELL - "Forevermore"

I will exalt You, my God and I will praise Your name. I will extol You, Lord, forever and ever. Great are You Lord, our Father most worthy of our praise; We sing Your righteousness forever and ever.

Gracious and compassionate, slow to anger, rich in love, faithful to Your promises and loving to all You have made. Your saints will sing for joy, they'll tell the glory of Your kingdom forever.

One generation will command Your works to another. They will speak of the splendor of Your majesty. They will tell of the power of Your awesome works. They will separate for abundant goodness and joyfully sing, and joyfully sing, and joyfully sing.

I will exalt my God, the King. My mouth will speak in praise of the Lord. Let every creature praise His name forever and evermore! Forevermore!

INTERVIEW – ANNE BEILER

RHS: ROBERT H. SCHULLER AB: ANNE BEILER

RHS: If you've ever been shopping at a mall and satisfied your hunger with a tasty snack from Auntie Anne's Pretzels, then you have experienced one of my guest's masterpieces. She's the brains and cooking genius behind the nation wide enterprise Auntie Anne's Pretzels. She went through the eighth grade in an Amish school. And she dared to believe that God could bless her. Many of you have far more advantages than she ever had and you think you couldn't pull it off. So we invited her and I'm so honored that with all of her busy connections around the world she said yes to be our guest today. And welcome with me Anne Beiler. Anne.

AB: Thank you.

RHS: What inspired you to start Auntie Anne's Pretzels?

AB: Well what inspired me was out of our pain; let me say, our passion and purpose was born. And Jonas and I experienced a marriage that was on the rocks and headed for divorce and God intervened for us in a way that was amazing! And through the love of God and the love of my husband, I was able to engage in my family life again and to begin the journey of wholeness in our marriage. But during that time my husband started to do counseling in our church, in our home, wherever we could find a troubled couple or families falling apart, he would go talk to them and he started to study psychology from Emerged Ministries in Akron Ohio. And that began the journey of our wholeness. So Auntie Anne's was born out of my desire to support my husband's vision, which was, at that point, he was counseling about three days a week as a free service. So free service; no grocery money..

RHS: But you have three kids.

AB: ..so I had to go to work.

RHS: And then you'd enjoy free pretzels.

AB: Well then yes, free pretzels on the side was an added bonus.

RHS: How did you make them soft? They're always hard.

AB: Well I have to tell you the Auntie Anne's pretzel is really an amazing miracle of God. The pretzel recipe itself, I wish I could take credit for it but I have to give that credit to Jonas, my husband, because we were starting to make soft pretzels in our little farmers market in Downingtown, Pennsylvania and they were very bad. Terrible pretzels. So after about six weeks we actually were tinkering with the recipe. I was going to give up and Jonas comes to the rescue. He said before you give up why don't you try something that I think might work. So

Auntie Anne's Pretzels should have been called Uncle Jonas' Pretzels because it's really his recipe.

RHS: Well what impact did your childhood have upon your later success?

AB: Well I think my impact from my childhood was everything. And I believe that the way we grow up, Dr. Schuller, really sets the pattern for our life, doesn't it? And I grew up on a farm in Lancaster County on an Amish farm and my dad taught me to work hard. And he said that if I work hard I could do anything I wanted to do. And you know what? He was true. He was right about that. I just worked hard and you know when you do anything if you want to be successful it does take a lot of hard work. It takes dedication, it takes commitment, it takes discipline and all of these things I learned on the farm. And I believe carried with me into the work place. And also faith; my mom and dad taught me to trust God, to fear Him, to love Him, to obey His commands and if I would do that God would bless me. So I was able to take hard work and faith right into the workplace and it worked very well for me.

RHS: Wonderful. Well how did you come to know Jesus so personally?

AB: Well, when I was, like I said I grew up in church and at the age of twelve my mom and dad took me to a revival service in our church and I remember the night as though it was yesterday. When the Holy Spirit just really got a hold of me and said I really need to – I'm a good person. I was okay, but God really spoke to me and said you need to ask Jesus into your heart to be your Savior and I'll never forget the night. It changed my life forever and it was a wonderful decision.

RHS: Wow!

AB: Wonderful decision. It set the foundation for the rest of my life.

RHS: Now, you have been through horrific hurts. I'm not sure which is the worst. I was going to ask you, but I didn't know if I should. Now you have been through horrific hurts but the first hurt that you write about in the book, do you want to tell them about it?

AB: Sure. We were married for about seven years and we had what I would call a storybook marriage. I was very young when I got married and we had three girls and Angela Joy was the middle child and she was a blonde haired, blue-eyed full of life just, she was the kind of little girl that you just wanted to be with. And she demanded your attention 24/7. And September the 8th, 1975 changed my life forever. It was the morning that Angela went to be with Jesus. She was killed instantly on the farm. My sister drove over her with a bobcat. Instantly she was killed. And the grief and the sadness and the loss of our daughter just took me into a path of sorrow and sadness and grief that I knew nothing about.

And my husband and I, Jonas and I we separated emotionally and it became a very, very lonely path for me. What really took me to a greater depth of despair was that about three or four months later I went to our pastor who I thought was a good man. I'd known him for a number of years and I trusted him completely. Because of my grief I knew I needed to talk to somebody. So I went to my pastor and before I left his office that day he seduced me and I stayed in an abusive relationship for six years and that was the nail that put the coffin on my life as it was. And I had no idea that there's that kind of pain out there in the world, but it's everywhere around us. And I needed to experience this so that I could touch people with my own experience.

RHS: Did your husband know about this?

AB: Nobody knew about it. You know, Dr. Schuller, those kind of things we don't talk about. You know we keep it in our hearts and it's a deep dark secret. Who was I going to talk to and who would believe me? So I found myself struggling completely alone. I never spoke to my sisters, my friends, anyone in

the church because nobody would believe me because we're still attending the same church. And so I became, I felt like I would never again see the light of day spiritually. And I thought that I was of no value. My guilt and my shame and my pain completely consumed me. And so I sank further and further. I had thoughts of suicide, thoughts of depression, which I stayed in depression for many years even after I came out of that.

RHS: When did your husband find out?

AB: It was after six years and I finally couldn't bear this burden anymore. It was too heavy. And out of desperation I finally told my husband and what he did at that moment is still surprising to me. The love of God as we play it out here on planet earth really doesn't make sense. None of us really deserve the love of God, but my husband became Jesus to me. He was my point of contact person, the flesh and blood that I needed. And what the enemy had told me all these years, Dr. Schuller, was that if I ever tell then Jonas will leave me and take my children. That was unbearable; I couldn't imagine. But that was the lie that I believed for six years.

RHS: Wow!

AB: And when I told him the shock and the truth of the moment overcame him but he went on his knees before God and he said what am I supposed to do? And God spoke a truth in his heart and He said Jonas if you will love your wife as I love you there's hope for your marriage. And I'll never forget the day when he told me. My husband told me, honey I want you to be happy so if you feel like you have to leave please don't leave with a note on the dresser in the middle of the night. Just tell me. I'll help you plan, I'll help you pack your bags but the children have to go with you. The lie I believed all those years in my secret and in my sad heart it was a lie. And God's love just completely at that moment gave me hope and I thought wow! It took my breath away. I thought wow! We could actually be husband and wife and we can be a family with that kind of love. It gave me the hope that I needed to stay where I was.

RHS: Wow! Your husband, is he in this service?

AB: He's in the audience right back there.

RHS: Where is he?

AB: He's the most handsome man in here, sorry guys.

RHS: Stand up. Stand up. Thank you.

AB: But it's the love of God.

RHS: Absolutely!

AB: People in this world around us, they're looking for Jesus. And we are supposed to be that.

RHS: They're looking for the real God.

AB: That's right. That's right.

RHS: And that's where you find the real God.

AB: That's right.

RHS: In the life and death and resurrection of Jesus.

AB: That's exactly right. And I'd like to just say for the listeners out there all across the world, you know Satan lies to us. And he tells us if we don't talk about it it'll go away or whatever the lies are. Dr. Richard Dobbins says Satan builds his strongholds in the secrets of our lives.

RHS: Oh that's good!

AB: And then he reinforces them by silence, don't say anything. When I break the silence, I break the strong hold. So I want to say for those out there who are afraid there's this deep dark secret. It's looming, it's consuming you. Find a safe

place. Find someone. Confess to them and that can be the beginning of your wholeness.

RHS: Well you have been a blessing to millions of people. You had struggles, hardships but boy did your faith pull you through. I'm so proud of you. Do you feel at home here? I bet you do.

AB: I feel at home here and Dr. Schuller I want to say in my travels around the world, I saw you, I listened to you. And thank you for being the light and the hope and your congregation, you know, for being here every Sunday and being the salt and the light that the world is looking for. So thank you for this ministry.

RHS: Thank you.

AB: And God bless you.

RHS: Thank you.

AB: It's my honor to be here today.

RHS: Thank you.

AB: You're a good man. Thank you.

INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLE – ANNIE MOSES BAND – “This is My Father’s World”

This is my Father's world, and to my listening ear all nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres. This is my Father's world: I rest me in the thought of rocks and trees, of skies and seas, His hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world; He shines in all that's fair; in the rustling grass I hear Him pass. He speaks to me everywhere.

RHS THANK YOU TO THE ANNIE MOSES BAND

RHS: Wow, wonderful. Thank you. They are all brothers and sisters, is that true?

FEMALE: Yes sir, yes these are all my brothers and sisters, my parents and two of our dear friends on the drums and the base.

RHS: And Julliard trained and your dad really keeps the thing together. He's the genius.

FEMALE: Yes, he is.

RHS: Father, wave to the audience so they know who you are. You had to wave because you look as young as one of her brothers, you see.

FEMALE: Thank you for inviting us. It's been an honor.

RHS: You're welcome, you're welcome. This is a special occasion. Thank you very much.

FEMALE: Thank you.

RHS: We love you all.

MESSAGE/PRAYER - ROBERT H. SCHULLER

"Confident Living = Creative Living: Part 2"

RHS: I think I've been living on the edge all my life. You're looking at some people and say boy they really live on the edge. What does that mean? It's different for different people. I think I've lived there all my life. Living on the edge is when you do what God wants you to do and He doesn't tell you how it's going to happen. I've lived it, on the edge. So are you. You are alive. You have to make decisions. They're in relationships, marriage and family, neighbors and co-workers. But all relationships are on the edge because you never know how it can be so easily turned to grief. Suddenly my guest this morning, suddenly her sister backs out of the driveway, not knowing that her little one and a half year old girl

had run out of the house and was behind the car. And in a moment, would be gone forever.

Life is on the edge! And you're alive.

We're all alive today! Hallelujah! How about tomorrow? Life is filled with uncertainties, un-predictables, assumptions. Then I must say to you. then why have I enjoyed my life so much? Why am I so happy today? Oh, we're standing on the edge more than ever before because of what's happening a million houses in foreclosure, it's never happened in the history of the United States. Why am I enthused when the challenges we face are greater today than I've ever faced in my earthly life.

I'll tell you it's because the bible text preached the first Sunday I was here as a guest in California, Ray Lindquist. Philippians 1:6. Paul is speaking, not Billy Graham, not Norman Peale, not Robert Schuler, St. Paul: here it is, "Be confident in this one thing that God who has begun a good work in you will complete it." If you're alive He's not finished with you yet. I have no idea why not, but He's not finished with me yet. He's not finished with anybody who still has a breath to breathe.

You say it's not true if they're in a death coma. Oh yes it's true. He is creating a need for people to see themselves as servants and they're caring till the last breath. Oh yeah. Confident living. Where do you get it? From Awards? I've had a lot more than I deserve and they're a great kick but you forget about them very soon. Awards? Oscar Awards? You know its one disappointment I've never won an Oscar. Thank you for laughing I meant it as a joke. Where do you get them? Fame doesn't give it, fortune doesn't give it, money doesn't give it, material things don't give it. They give you a kick. They last for a while, they serve a purpose and they're not to be down graded or dishonored and taken without gratitude. But that's not where real confidence comes from.

St. Paul says, "God began the good work in you." You are His idea. "God who began a good work in you will complete it." Wow! God keeps the end in mind all the time and He improves us in the process. Well, can you really have it without a faith in God? Don't ask me. I've never lived that kind of a life. All I can tell you is I've got it. I got it the way Tolstoy got it. This Great Russian, he got so depressed with all of his success and talent, he got so depressed he had someone come in his house, take the rope that he kept in his house and take it away hide it. I don't dare to leave it here. I'm afraid I'm going to use it. Wow. Then suddenly out of nowhere the thought of God came into his brain and it was real and he could tell this is real. This is real. And he said I believe in You God and I love You. And the rest of his life was fantastic. There is no substitute for God.

Somebody said to me a while back, I think I shared this with, but some of you maybe were not there. They said Schuller, they were an atheist, what if you come to the end of your life and it can be proven to you beyond a shadow of a doubt before you die that there's no God, there's no Jesus, there's no Spiritual truth. You've lived a lie all your life. They said what would you do if you could live your life over? I said if I knew it was a lie, there was no truth in it? I'll tell you what I'd do; I'd believe the same thing because of what it's done for me! What it does for me. And if it does something for me like it has, check me out! I believe in something if it works. This faith works.

Oh, there was a time when I was very close to Armand Hammer, till he died actually. He had wonderful friends. My work was introduced to Gorbachev. Hammer asked him to take a little religion in their world and they did. Well it was phenomenal experience. And then one day he said to me, you know there's a great artist here in America, hasn't been discovered yet, but a great artist. I just bought

one of his most beautiful and potentially valuable oil paintings: A mother holding a baby, the hands of God underneath it. I bought it for you, it's for you, for your church and it's been hanging in the arboretum for many years. It's extremely valuable.

Then one day he called, he said Eric Sloane the great artist and he said I want you to see his work. If you're ever in New York visit the Hammer Galleries. I've filled my galleries with all of his work and it will be hanging for a while. So I happened to be going through New York and I went to the Hammer Galleries and I saw the prize of the collections of this great artist, Eric Sloane. Beautiful and the clerk came up to me and introduced herself; she knew who I was. And she said, oh it's too bad you weren't here last night, Eric Sloane was here in person. And he doesn't go out that much. And then suddenly her mouth dropped open, looking at the front door she said, there he is! He's coming in. And before she could move, his head lifted up, saw me the only customer, came walking fast straight to me, reached out his hands, embraced me. He said Dr. Schuller. Oh, Dr. Schuller. Thanked me for all that we've done for him, unknowingly through television.

Then he said, you know my story. I said no I don't. He said well let me tell you my story. I was born into a very wealthy family. And in the early twenties my father died and left a million dollars in cash for me and a million dollars then is more like ten million today. And he said so I never had to work. I lived on it. Loved it. I had everything you could possibly imagine that I would want and I had the life.

One Saturday I went into the bank and I had this card and they would cash it in at any bank in America, I was told. And I never had it refused. But one Saturday I went into this bank, I think it was in Arkansas, a western state, and said I want to withdraw a hundred dollars. They left, came back, handed my card back and said Mr. Sloane I have bad news for you, you've spent it all. There is nothing left. And he said I went into a depression that I couldn't handle. I had no career, I had no profession. Nobody knew me, well some girlfriends did and some people made a lot of money off of my money, they did.

I could hardly sleep Saturday night. Sunday morning, he said, I got up and I just walked the streets and I came back past a little church and it was open. People were singing. I walked in, sat in the back and the minister wrote his sermon title on the board. He said I'm writing it on the board because I don't want any of you ever to forget it. It could be the most important sermon you've ever heard. The title was God's Providence. Providence. God's providence is your inheritance. Oh, there was another inheritance. I'd never heard about it. Didn't know anything about it. But I became a believer that day in that church, Dr. Schuller. And I went home and I picked up my brush and colors, oils, I had a hobby of painting. And I painted a picture. And someone saw it accidentally and they said is it for sale? And I said yes. How much? And I dropped a number and they bought it. Oh, God's providence is my inheritance. I wrote it at the bottom of my easel. When I went to my home, which I bought in earlier days in Santa Fe New Mexico, I wrote it on the mantle of the fireplace. God's providence is my inheritance. And he said the rest is history. I'm old but I'm wealthy. God's providence has been my inheritance.

Well, then he thanked me for all that we've done for him. You folks bringing the Hour of Power to him through those decades and then he thanked me for coming and he wanted me to have some of his signed works. And he sent us out a very limited edition I think fourteen or fifteen of his most famous oil paintings signed. They're a gift to this church. They're in our welcome center.

Tuesday, two days later, he was standing next to a light pole when his knees weakened, his breath grew short and he fell asleep, landed on the sidewalk and was dead on arrival. But the last thing he did he had his prized pictures published in a book in Italy and he said there are only six copies so far, the rest are on a boat. Before he died in that gallery he said Schuller I want you to have the first autographed copy. And he autographed it. I have it. It's probably the only autographed copy because he died before other copies could come. God's providence is my inheritance.

I don't know how you're going to find the kind of confidence I've had, but I've lived with it! Take a look! I'm living with it today and I need it today more than I have ever needed it in any one time in my eighty-one years. Where do I get it from? God? Yes! But where does God give it to me the confidence I need? Through you and you and you and you and you and you and you. Unbelievable, unbelievable. As I said I repeat it, if it was proved that I've been wrong all my life, that there is no God, Jesus was a fake and I could live my life over, what would I do? I'd do the same thing! Nothing can do for me what this faith has done for me. Accept Jesus Christ. Say it in your life, say it in your mind, close your eyes, accept Him. Live it! Do it today! Wow!

You know what? You'll start quoting another bible verse: "I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that neither life nor death, nor angels nor principalities, nor powers or demons can ever separate me from the love of God in Jesus Christ." And I breathe my last and I'm there with Him, and my parents and two sisters and I won't need confidence anymore! I'm living with certainty for sure. Hallelujah. Amen.

ANTHEM - "Surely He Has Borne our Grief"

Surely, surely, surely, surely, surely, surely He has borne our grief and carried our sorrows. He was wounded, He was wounded, He was wounded for our transgressions. He was bruised for our iniquity. The punishment that brought us peace was upon Him, and by His wounds we are healed, and by His wounds we are healed, by His wounds we are healed, we are healed.

We all like sheep, have gone astray, have gone astray. Each of us has turned to his own way. Each of us has turned to his own way and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

Surely, surely, surely, surely, surely, surely He has borne; He has borne our grief and carried our sorrows. He was wounded; He was wounded, He was wounded for our transgressions. He was bruised for our iniquity. The punishment that brought us peace was upon Him, upon Him. And by His wounds we are healed, and by His wounds we are healed, by His wounds we are healed, we are healed. We are healed, we are healed.