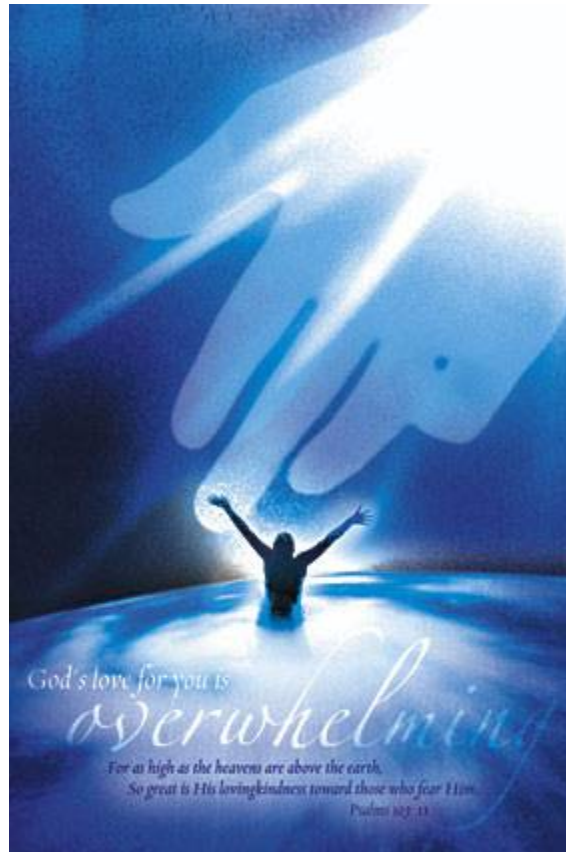


## *The Writer's Spirit*

### *The Spirit of Creation Moving in you...*

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*"For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place and you and your father's house will perish. And who knows whether you have not attained royalty for such a time as this?"* Esther 4:14

This is the bold guidance that Mordecai gave his cousin, Esther, a young Jewish woman, who because of her beauty and grace was elevated to the position of queen to the powerful King Xerxes I of Persia. Some time later, King Xerxes was deceived into condemning all of the Jews to death in a vengeful act by his second-in-command, Haman. Mordecai was able to convince Esther that she must act.

Queen Esther put her own life at risk by requesting an audience with the King without being summoned by him. Her courageous act saved a whole nation.

Unlike Esther, most of us have not achieved the status of "royalty. If you're anything like me, you are far from it! But we can be like Esther and realize that we have been born in this place (wherever that may be) and at this time for a "Kingdom purpose. Not one of us was born by luck, chance or even by mistake--as a few of us may have heard about our births in hushed whispers from time to time. God is sovereign. He does not make mistakes! Not once in all the recordings of the Bible, is there one instance where God has snapped His fingers and claimed, "Wow, I really messed that one up!"

That's not to say that He's never disappointed, angry and sometimes even sad at the choices we make. But even in our bad decisions and our wrong choices, we have a God who is forgiving and who still calls us "for such a time as this."

As He was forming us in our mother's womb, He planted a very special seed in each of us. Its imprint was marked with "this time" and "this place" to do "this work" for His Kingdom. While there is certainty around "this time" and "this place," I dare say that there are a few of us for which "this work" is still a mystery. We just aren't quite sure of what work God has called us to. It's the fortunate few who have true clarity and certainty of that purpose.

For those of us who don't fall into that category, we can take comfort in knowing that we belong to a God who:

- Is full of patience and slow to anger
- Loves us unconditionally in spite of our imperfections and failures
- Is strongest when we are at our weakest
- Is the Truth, the Light, the Way and the Living Word.

What more could we ask for?

This month MyFirstChapter.com is proud to feature **Mary Herring Wright**--author, historian, mother and friend extraordinaire. At the tender age of 10, Mary lost her hearing. With hearing completely gone, her mother planted strong seeds of faith in the bewildered youngster. Along the way, many, including Mary herself, watered

those seeds. Now they have sprouted into a garden filled with bright and colorful blossoms.

God has placed **Mary Herring Wright** here "for such a time as this" as a reminder to us all that with Him all things are possible. Growing up Black, poor, deaf, living in the rural South and during the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, from human eyes, the deck was definitely stacked against Mary. From God's eyes, He saw a heart that yearned to be used.

Though her physical hearing was gone, He chose to give her something far greater; hearing from the heart, soul and spirit. Even without her ability to hear with her ears, God has led her continuously. And amazingly, she has willingly and obediently followed. While she hears not our voices, her voice rings loud and clear in the two books that she has written to inspire us all.

**Mary Herring Wright** has been set apart by our Creator for all of us to see that we can do all that He has called us to do "for such a time as this." Let us yield to His calling and be the recipients of the blessings He chooses to manifest in our lives.

You may read excerpts from Mary's two published books, "**Sounds Like Home**" and "**Far From Home**" in our Reading Room. So read on and be inspired to carve out your very own special work "for such a time as this."

We, here at MyFirstChapter.com, pray that you will find that very special thing that God has called you to do.

If writing is part of your calling, we invite you to become a MyFirstChapter.com Writer. Please visit us at <http://www.myfirstchapter.com/> in our Reading Room and click on the Submissions Guidelines on the bottom of the page.

If your calling is to support writers by reading their work, giving feedback and making donations for future Grant assistance, please visit us at <http://www.myfirstchapter.com/>. Click on "For Readers" or "For Publishers" on the menu bar on the left side of the screen.

You are invited to serve as a guest contributor on "The Writer's Spirit." The goal of this newsletter is to inspire creativity using Biblical principles. For consideration, please send your article to [sheliaannb@myfirstchapter.net](mailto:sheliaannb@myfirstchapter.net).

New and updated works are now available for you to feast upon. Just to highlight a few:

- "No Outlet" by Christina Taylor (Fiction)
- "Tangled Roots" - PART I (of a 3 part series) by Shelia Benskin (Fiction)
- Reflections by Jacoby Johnson (Poetry)
- Excerpt from "Far From Home" by Mary Herring Wright (Non Fiction)
- Excerpt from "Sounds Like Home" by Mary Herring Wright (Non Fiction)
- The First, The Last, The Only by Sydney Sinclair (Fiction)

In closing, whisper this prayer in the coming days:

*My Loving and Generous Creator,*

*Thank you for blessing and equipping me with all that I need to do what you've called me to do for Your Kingdom for such a time as this. Let me see things not from an earthly view, Father, but from Your Heavenly perspective. Give me the wisdom and understanding from on High to respond as Your Son and my Savior would. Bless me with the guidance of Your Holy Spirit to accompany me and guide my every move every second of the day.*

Walk in the promises of our Creator and produce abundantly! Please be our ambassadors and spread the word about MyFirstChapter.com.

Blessings in great abundance,

Shelia & Al Benskin

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