



DANIEL

SCALF

Sojourn of a Modern Missionary

This is a brief account of one of the most remarkable missionaries I know. Some of the most remarkable parts of his mission and story cannot be told for security reasons, but there have not been many who consistently risk their lives for the sake of the gospel and to aid the persecuted church as Daniel does. Daniel will not talk about it, but I also know that he often sleeps in his car rather than pay for a hotel room in order to save the money devoted to the work. When I ponder those who might end up on the right hand or the left hand of the throne, Daniel is one who comes to mind.

-Rick Joyner

Daniel Scalf is an international missionary who has journeyed to one hundred nations and forty states in the U.S. preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ. As a young teenager, he was the least likely to ever have such a testimony.

It all began in September 1971 at the age of sixteen when he awoke with a severe headache. Diagnosed with a terminal brain tumor, he spent four months in the hospital undergoing various kinds of therapy. During this time, he became addicted to morphine and codeine.

Addicted to pain medication with a life-threatening brain tumor, life looked hopeless.

That is until he received a call from a fellow schoolmate Kathryn Knapp (now Kathy Sprague) who brought him this simple message of hope: "She told me Jesus loved me,

but I just laughed at her," said Scalf. That was January 1972. Knapp then told him to pray, but he didn't know how. After searching for words he finally said, "God if You're real, reveal Yourself to me and I'll give You my life."

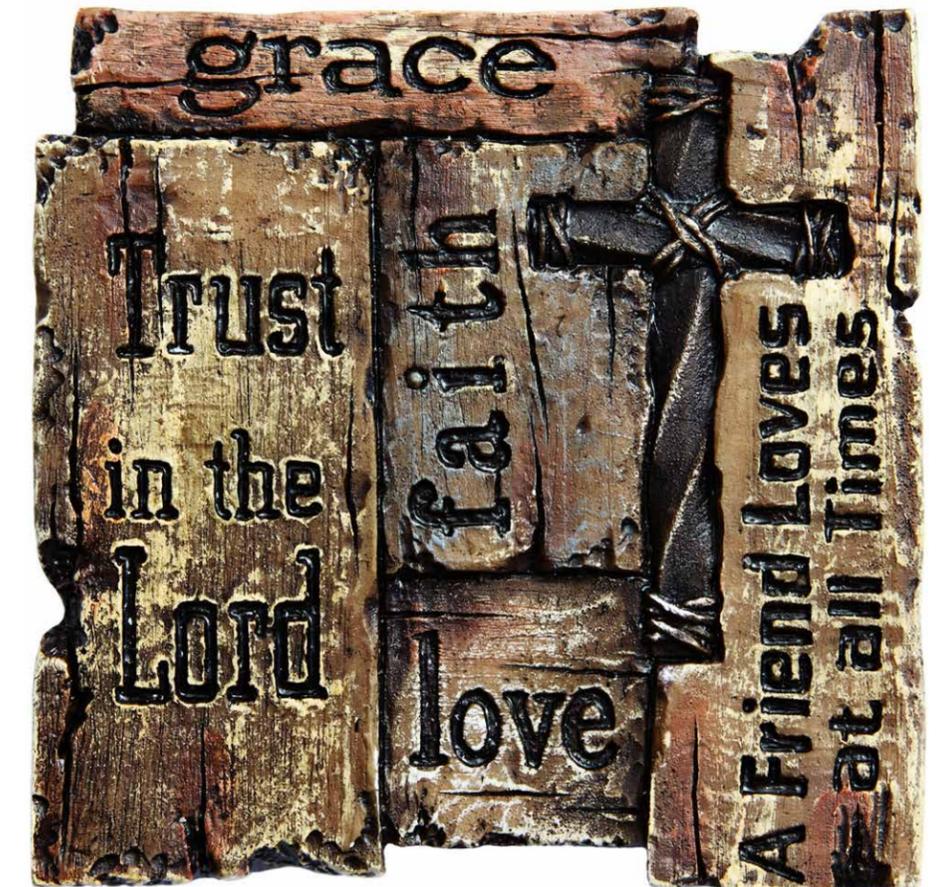
God began to reveal Himself to Scalf in more ways than one. He was in the hospital for only five more days after praying that prayer. Incredibly, the doctors could find no sign of the tumor, and he was completely delivered from the addiction. Scalf returned to his high school, where he led forty of his classmates to faith in Christ.

A few months later in March 1972, Jim Palosaari and the Milwaukee Jesus Movement came to the Quad Cities for a three-day meeting, which ended up lasting for three months. It was at this time that Scalf felt called to the ministry. "In May, I quit high school to go into the ministry full-time," he said. "I hitchhiked to Decatur, IL and joined the Christ is the Answer Crusade under the leadership of Bill Lowery." The group

traveled throughout the United States living in tents. This is where Scalf learned to trust God for his daily needs. He told the Lord he would gladly live simple so that others could simply live. This would become the heart of his life's mission.

From there he began traveling internationally to preach the gospel. "I turned seventeen in Sweden," he said. He often worked with the Full Gospel Businessmen's Fellowship and traveled on several airlifts to Scandinavia. At one point

while back in the United States, he had no money but felt called to go back to Europe. So in 1973, he and fellow Christian Frank Seekins (currently with Bondservants of Elohim) drove a car to New York City from Seattle, Washington in search of a way back to Europe. From there they went city to city and finally arrived in Halifax, Nova Scotia where they landed a job on a freighter. "We arrived in Hamburg, Germany 10 days later with \$2 in our pocket" said Scalf,



“We didn’t know anybody.”

Seekins stayed in Germany to minister but Scalf hitchhiked into Sweden, where he was immediately arrested and deported as a vagrant. Back on the ferry, Sven Lindahl, editor of *Dagen* (a Scandinavian Christian newspaper), president of a bank, and an International Director

of the Full Gospel Businessmen’s Fellowship took care of the border arrangements, and Daniel immediately returned back into Sweden. “Sweden has religious instruction as part of their curriculum so I targeted the middle schools and high schools. During my first three weeks there, three hundred people came to Christ in the public schools,” Scalf said.

While in Sweden, Scalf was preaching in a park when a woman started translating for him. She invited him and others to her house for Bible study where he shared his testimony. Three days later, a half-page article with his testimony went out to a million people in Sweden. It turned out she was a reporter named Ylva Eggehorn who is now among Sweden’s most famous contemporary Christian writers. This is just one of literally hundreds of divine appointments along Scalf’s journey.

Scalf made his first trip to Russia a few months later working with Slaviska Missionen (Slavic Mission). In 1974, he began working with Brother Andrew and Open Doors International, smuggling Bibles behind the Iron Curtain. “I’d hide them in vehicles,” he said. “If I had been caught, I would still be in jail.”

Scalf’s international journeys continued in the same way we could imagine the Apostle Paul to have traveled . . . with no marketing teams, no published itinerary, and no demographic analysis of the

regions he was entering. It was truly a Spirit-led journey. With the life experiences under his belt as a well-seasoned missionary, in 1976 young Scalf turned twenty-one years old while preaching in Leningrad.

Back in America in 1977, he began working with the Assembly of God Church in Davenport, Iowa. “I had a youth group about the size of the population of Atlanta [Illinois],” Scalf said.

From 1978–1990 he was employed as a campaign manager for pro-life and pro-family political campaigns. In 1990, while attending a Full Gospel Businessmen’s Convention in Decatur, IL, he got the word from the Lord to quit his job right in the middle of a governor’s race and return to the mission field. A few weeks later that was prophetically confirmed by Rick Joyner of Morningstar Ministries. It was then he found out about Assist News Service and for a brief time worked under their oversight where Dr. Dale Kietzman taught Dan on fundraising for missions.

He then went to Poland

where in the first year he was involved with the Pentecostal Union and helped plant twelve churches. “In the 1990s I was rescuing Russian Jews out of Russia by bus,” said Scalf. In 1991, after a bus he was in caught on fire, Scalf completed his medical care and returned to Poland. While changing planes in Stockholm, he divinely crossed paths with Pentecostal Pastor Kjell Sjoberg, whom he had not seen in seventeen years. Sjoberg connected Scalf to the largest bus company in Scandinavia and was given twelve, seventy-passenger buses to continue his work.

In 1992, Soviet Georgia had only thirty full gospel churches when Scalf began working there. Today there are three hundred. In war-torn Ossetia, the work grew from one church to 84 churches today, although many died during the war. “Many of my former students spent time in jail in Russia. Four were beheaded in Chechnya during the civil war. Four more were killed in Ossetia,” Scalf said. Working under Pastor B.H. Clendennen,



he saw the School of Christ International grow from 102 students to a group that has planted 1,600 new churches in the former Soviet Union. That school now is in 140 countries and 50 languages.

In recent years, he has been heavily involved in church planting, evangelism, and humanitarian issues worldwide, but with a focus on Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Republics.

In June 2008, Scalf suffered a massive heart attack and died. “The left main artery, the one they call the ‘widow-maker,’ was completely blocked. I was dead for 10 minutes. Then I coughed and came back to life.” Scalf said

while he was hospitalized, his nurse gave her life to Christ while he was on life-support.

Back in the United States, he then served for two years as Pastor of the Atlanta Assemblies of God Church in Atlanta, Illinois before resigning and re-launching out into itinerant work in September of 2011.

Today, Scalf continues to minister from a base in Atlanta, IL traveling throughout the United States and into Canada. He preaches in churches, at conferences, and retreat centers, especially sharing the needs of the persecuted church. He has appeared on TV and radio broadcasts throughout the world. Fluent in Swedish and also speaking some Russian, Polish, and German he said, "It's not because I'm smart that I know all these languages, I just got hungry. If you live in a country long enough, you learn the language when you need something to eat." He continues to minister to persecuted and imprisoned pastors and church leaders through encouragement and monetary support. He is now working in alliance with Rick

Joyner and Jorge Parrott of MorningStar/CMM (Christ's Mandate for Missions) and is available to minister upon request. In his meetings, many come to Christ, are physically healed, and are filled with the Holy Spirit. He has four grown children, who have travelled with him internationally in up to nineteen different countries to minister the gospel.

"The Holy Spirit has laid on my heart a burden for

our brothers and sisters in Christ throughout the Muslim world. Many are being persecuted for their faith. I am not ashamed to ask for your prayers and your monetary support so that their pressing needs for jail bond, transportation, food, and shelter may be met." said Scalf. "As I travel, I also ask for your prayers and support so that I can preach the gospel. I believe that it is God's will for me to return to

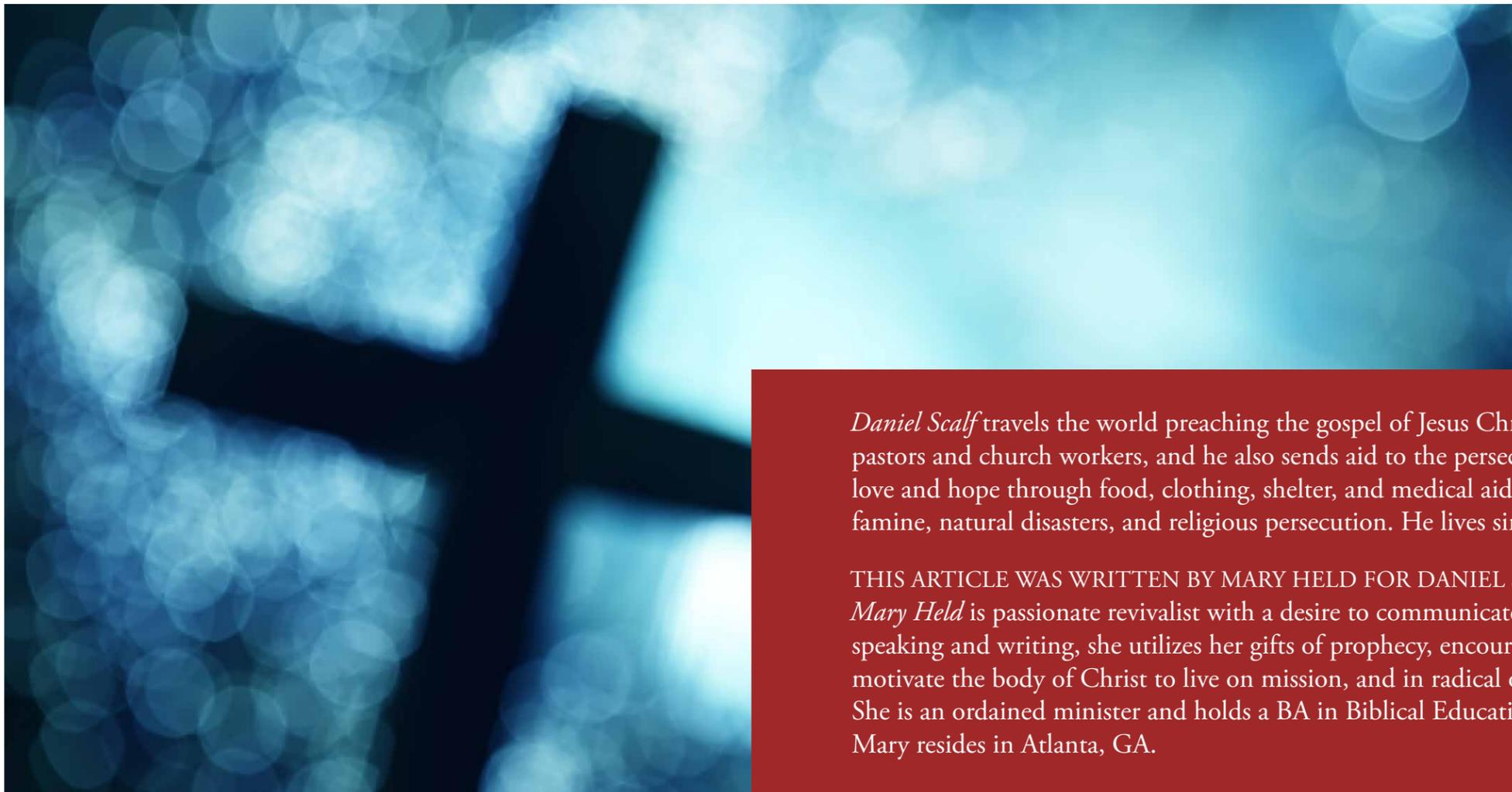
the foreign mission field as soon as possible. My goal is to establish a School of Christ International in Cyprus and a home base for International Humanitarian Aid to work throughout North Africa and the Middle East. I believe many in the surrounding nations can be freed from their religious bondage and brought into the marvelous Light of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ by having more churches

planted in the Muslim world."

The most effective way to help is by becoming a monthly partner.

Monthly partnership will most benefit our efforts to reach the world with the message of Jesus Christ. "Whatever you can do to see that the Word is carried to the uttermost parts of the world will be greatly appreciated. I live simply to be the hands and feet of

Jesus Christ ministering to a dying world. Your prayers and giving will make this possible. God will reward any part you have in this effort. All donations will be used for the Gospel," Scalf said. "It's all about Christ. I live simply, so that others may simply live." ☺



Contributions can be mailed to:
CMM (the official missions arm of MorningStar Ministries)
P. O. Box 7705
Charlotte, NC 28241
To donate online, please visit:
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Daniel Scalf travels the world preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ, helping to free imprisoned pastors and church workers, and he also sends aid to the persecuted church worldwide. He provides love and hope through food, clothing, shelter, and medical aid to those suffering through war, famine, natural disasters, and religious persecution. He lives simply so that others may simply live.

THIS ARTICLE WAS WRITTEN BY MARY HELD FOR DANIEL SCALF.

Mary Held is passionate revivalist with a desire to communicate God's heart to the world. Through speaking and writing, she utilizes her gifts of prophecy, encouragement, and teaching to equip and motivate the body of Christ to live on mission, and in radical obedience to our Lord Jesus Christ. She is an ordained minister and holds a BA in Biblical Education from Beulah Heights University. Mary resides in Atlanta, GA.