

An Account of the Work of God in My Life
And Dealings with My Carnal Family,
Especially My Mother Susan Southworth
By: Justin Southworth

Foreword:

It is sad that brother Justin has been compelled by scripture, an evident need, and common sense, to write the following open account - not the account of his blessed conversion, but the gloomy testimonial below that, of the grievous treatment his family, especially his mother, has shown toward him and our church since he was born again of the Spirit of God. We at the Church of Wells love Ms. Southworth and desire, above all, the welfare of her never-dying soul. Nevertheless, based upon her behavior of publically slandering us on the worldwide web for many months now, encouraging others to do so, pointing others to call our honorable local authorities against us without a cause, accusing us on numerous occasions of having an "unclean spirit," and many such like things - all the while being unwilling to meet with us in person, hear sound reason, glorify God for the precious fruits of sin-slaying salvation in the life of her son (written in the first section below), or take responsibility for her behavior - and this all while calling herself a Christian, a follower of the meek and lowly God of kindness, charity, and truth, Jesus Christ - we have therefore, through much prayer and agonizing before God, believed it to be suitable to publicize this factual and judicious account from her son of the real character and deeds of Ms. Southworth - as opposed to her false Christian facade behind the cloak of her computer screen. We believe it necessary to do so, lest many souls are deceived by Ms. Southworth and the spirit working in her, which is evidently not the Holy Ghost. O! How we have longed for her (none more than her son Justin) to be saved from sin! Sadly, these behaviors have been consistent, are ongoing, and have not been repented of, nor do we know of anyone else who is keeping her accountable for such behavior. May God have mercy, and may those that have heard her malicious false reports, gross misrepresentations, and unrighteous one-sided allegations take warning for she has greatly withstood the words of Holy Writ. The scripture says, "*Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful*" and again, "*Be not deceived, evil communications corrupt good manners*" (Psa. 1:1, 1 Cor. 15:33; see also Pro. 14:7, Pro. 19:27).

It is our honest desire, God is witness, that Ms. Southworth would desist from such Christ-dishonoring behavior or stop calling herself a Christian as she, in darkness, does such things. The Bible is clear that liars, whisperers, backbiters, railers, revilers, talebearers, slanderers, busybodies in other men's matters, and the like, will not inherit the Kingdom of God (1 Cor. 5:11-13 & 6:9-10, Eph. 5:3-6, Gal. 5:19-21, Rev. 21:8). Truly, her behavior has strengthened the hands of many evildoers (slanderers - Pro.10:18, Psa. 50:20, Psa. 101:5) online, among whom she has been one of the chief; for the sake of righteousness therefore, we believe this public rebuke to be the only potential remedy. Reader, in the words of the Apostle John I plead, "*Beloved, follow not that which is evil, but that which is good. He that doeth good is of God: but he that doeth evil hath not seen God*" (3 Jn. 1:11). And again, "*For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reprov'd. But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God*" (Jn. 3:20-21). I pray that many, based upon the following respectable and honest account, will see things as they really are, to

the end that no reader would be guilty of the grievous sin of “*accepting the person of the wicked to overthrow the righteous in judgment*” (Pro. 18:5), and to the end that the reader would not be “guilty by association” with Ms. Southworth of shedding innocent blood. As it is written, “*He that justifieth the wicked, and he that condemneth the just, even they both are abomination to the LORD*” (Pro. 17:15). Finally, in light of the following personal eye-witness account combined with railing statements publically made by Ms. Southworth that we are being led by the “father of lies”, that we have an “unclean spirit”, and that we are a “dangerous cult”, to name a few, and these, with many intimations that Ms. Southworth is contrariwise for the truth, the Word of God, the Church, the Gospel, etc., please let the unbiased reader, upon reading this short account below (which is only the things that we know, and not the many evils being done in secret behind our backs, that God knows), “*judge not according to appearance, but judge righteous judgment*” (Jn. 7:24).

Sincerely for Righteousness,
Ryan Ringnald

I. An Account of the Recent Work of God in My Life:

By the grace of God and the Lord Jesus Christ my Savior, I was brought from death to life on August 7th 2011. Before that time I lived a very religious life. I had a very good form of godliness, but in my heart I denied the truth and power of the gospel to save me from my sins. I kept many “secret” sins in my heart, that I dared not tell any soul; one, for instance, was lying. I also sought desperately to be seen of men, though outwardly I would deny it. It was all I thought about; how to make others like me and think something great of me. I did many dead works in my flesh wanting to be some great man that did much good here on the earth; all the while not truly knowing the Lord Jesus Christ. The wickedness of my heart abounded with lust, deceit, vainglory, self righteousness, and pride. I remember on multiple occasions when a person would ask me if I needed prayer, I thought I didn’t need it because I was good and blameless in my own eyes. I was also heavily involved in the Charismatic Movement and saw many lying signs and wonders done, even at my own hand: prophecy, casting out of devils, and “wonderful” works. In spite of all this, by God’s infinite grace I was brought to my end that wonderful Thursday night in early August of 2011 having never been previously saved.

Since the wonderful and miraculous salvation that God wrought on my soul about a year ago, the Lord has altogether demolished these heart sins. By His grace, believing liars go to hell, I now hate lying. The lust of the eyes and pride of life are despicable in my sight. And that, due to a fear of God imparted to my soul that causes me to love holiness and hate iniquity. Bless the Lord Jesus! Though not sinlessly perfect, a God-given new grace to cast down temptations and lusts of my flesh is present in my soul. A great longing for holiness and sanctification, desiring nothing but to commune with the Lord, and a true yearning to see souls saved, all dwell within me, which things in truth I never knew before. O to be like thee! O to be like thee, blessed redeemer, pure as thou art!

II. Dealings with My Family, Particularly with My Mother, Susan Southworth

If I could but for a moment share some of the dealings I have had with my family, since the time that the Lord saved my soul, that no man would judge a matter before he hears it. I truly care for and love my family deeply. Before many witnesses, I have wept many hours for my family and the salvation of their souls. Truly, countless hours have been spent pleading before the Lord to have mercy on them. I have many obvious scriptural reasons for this concern which are to follow. When I say my family, I do not mean all of my family, but certain individuals that are in my family.

From the beginning of my salvation, I sought only to be in the light and reason through the scriptures with my family, all of which was with much agony of soul, and all was to no avail (thus far). Just after salvation, they came on an unannounced visit (which I will speak of later). I willingly spoke with them, entreating all of them with meekness, by God's grace. For many months after this I spoke to my mother over the phone at least once a week or once every other week. I even made a trip out to California, where they live, and contacted my family, desirous to sit down with them and go through the scriptures. They have always been welcome to come stay with me and visit since the Lord has led me to this church. Sadly, I was resisted harshly in all of the above efforts and not heard, but only met with contention and strife. Nevertheless, knowing the terror of the Lord, I still deeply desire to see all of them saved. I care only for the eternal state of their souls and love them with the charity of 1 Corinthians 13, God knows. It would be hatred for their eternal welfare for me to speak merely of carnal matters when I have deep concerns over the state of their souls. This has been the primary reason for much of the division: my unwillingness to compromisingly speak peace to my family in light of my God-given concerns for them. May God by His goodness draw them to repentance.

I would like to address more specifically my dealings with my mother (seeing she has publically misrepresented me and the members of my church on the internet), since the time of my salvation. As mentioned earlier, my family had shown up in Texas just after my salvation (they showed up also with a man heavily involved in the Charismatic Movement). This was their first time to visit the brethren at the church, their first time to meet or talk with anyone, and their first time to talk with me since I was saved. They refused to eat breakfast with anyone from the church (who had kindly offered) or talk to many of the brethren further than an introduction.

They asked me to come with them to breakfast alone, and as soon as we sat in the car they began to bring all manner of railing accusations against the church and me. *When I sought to clear up these things and go to the Word of God, my mother ripped my bible out of my hands and said she didn't want to hear that.* Soon after, against my will, my cell phone was taken from me as well. The day climaxed as they sought to hand me over to the police (which didn't work) so they then sought to commit me to a mental health hospital, on the premise of being a danger to myself, brainwashing and that "they didn't even recognize me anymore". After speaking with police and a specialist from the hospital, it was concluded that I was of a sound mind and the police saw no reason to arrest me. Not to mention, in the waiting room of the hospital, they prayed over me and spoke in "tongues," thinking to cast a devil out of me. This manner of hardness and unwillingness to hear the scriptures has prevailed with them since, especially my mother. To the dismay of my heart, she has never repented of this sort of behavior, which is consistent. To the reader I ask, does this sort of behavior seem to be that of a Christian? Do I not have reason to be concerned for my mother's soul? Please consider this scripture:

“But the tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison. Therewith bless we God, even the Father; and therewith curse we men, which are made after the similitude of God. Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not so to be. Doth a fountain send forth at the same place sweet water and bitter? Can the fig tree, my brethren, bear olive berries? either a vine, figs? so can no fountain both yield salt water and fresh. Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? let him shew out of a good conversation his works with meekness of wisdom. But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth. This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish. For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work. But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy. And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace”

(Jam. 3:8-18).

After this, when speaking to my mother over the phone weekly for many months, she would be extremely unreasonable. There was, and still is no willingness to even hear why we stand for the things we are standing for, though I have sought to share these biblical convictions many times. She never even asked to hear my testimony of the work that God did in my heart, but would openly say it was not of God. When I would bring up the scriptures, she would lose all rationale and become unable to carry on a reasonable conversation. She has told me on multiple accounts that she will not listen to anything I have to say. Furthermore, I have directly asked my mother to meet with the pastors of this church, which she blatantly denied, despising the thought of it (Besides prayer, what more can be done?).

My family lives in open sin and yet claims the name of Christ, turning the grace of God into lasciviousness (even saying I'm of the Devil because I go to the scriptures for all manners of life, am living a life of holiness, am fleeing from sin with all my heart, and giving all I have not to be a hypocritical Christian).

When in California, we sat down for a dinner and I was met with an attitude that everything was fine and we don't need to talk about God or the scriptures. It seemed that everyone just wanted to get along and have peace at the expense of biblical truth, when there is no peace outside of the truth of God's Holy Word. As soon as a few scriptures were quoted (I speak the truth, to the sorrow of my heart), my mother erupted and began to yell. She would not allow me to finish a thought or hardly a sentence without interrupting me. It was shameful the way she treated me, and infinitely more importantly, the Lord. She has yet to repent. There were many witnesses for that account.

I do love my mother deeply and desire her to come to know Christ, but according to scriptures, we are to have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness but rather reprove them, and if anyone abides not in the doctrine according to godliness, we are to withdraw ourselves from them (Eph. 5:11, 1 Tim. 6:3-5). I do desire to speak with her more, but by her own actions of being unreasonable and unwilling to hear anything from the word of God (not even having worldly American norms of civil respect) it is next to impossible to have a sound conversation. I simply cannot be in fellowship with her unless she repents from this blatant evil. “For what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? And what communion hath light with darkness” (2 Cor. 6:14)?

III. A Recent Visit From My Mother:

Near the end of this August, my mother came to visit in Wells, TX. When she had mentioned her desire to come visit, with much willingness I told her that she was more than welcome to come. I also offered for her to stay with my wife Brittney and I, and told her we could pick her up from the airport; both of which she decided against, saying she would prefer to rent her own car and get a hotel.

She arrived in the morning, and we hugged and gave our “hellos”. She also met Brittney for the first time. We all went out to eat in Lufkin. On the ride there she began to speak of all the things that she has been doing. She also updated me that my cousin is living in much open sin and rebellion, but that “he is still saved and okay with God”. I began to explain to her how the scriptures speak that the grace of God will teach a man to deny ungodliness and worldly lusts (Tit. 2:11-12); also, about how the fear of the Lord is to depart from evil (Job 28:28). This was met with much contention and justification of living in sin and rebellion as long as you still profess God with your mouth. Also many things were said by her of how you have to enjoy your life and all the things God has given us here on earth; i.e. volleyball, movies, TV, riches. She spoke of how glad she was to live here with many riches rather than in Iraq, thus professing that “gain is godliness”, contradicting 1 Timothy 6. For further exposition on this heresy, listen to the sermon “At Thy Sacred Feet I Bow” by Ryan Ringnald.

“If any man teach otherwise, and consent not to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which is according to godliness; He is proud, knowing nothing, but doting about questions and strifes of words, whereof cometh envy, strife, railings, evil surmisings, Perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, supposing that gain is godliness: from such withdraw thyself. But godliness with contentment is great gain”
(1 Tim. 6:3-6).

After sitting down to eat, at IHOP, I shared a testimony of how an eleven year old, Carolyn Wiegand (whose testimony you can find on this website), was recently regenerated. My mother did not agree with how Carolyn sought the Lord for a number of days before being saved. She claimed that just as long as she believed that He’s God, she’s saved. James 2 states that the devils believe and tremble but are not saved. As the conversation progressed she would time and time again contradict herself; she would agree with just about all we said, but then later deny that she believed it. This happened in many different parts of the conversation. Brittney and I were constantly being interrupted and could not finish a complete thought, as there was neither slowness to speak nor quickness to listen. For instance, while I was reading about Christ from Isaiah 53, she put her hand over my bible, covering up the words while arguing that she is under the New Testament and does not want to hear the Old Testament.

One telling instance of contradicting herself would be the issue of Lordship salvation. When we spoke to her of this (that you obey God in all things and do what He leads you to do, and you can’t go off and do whatever you want, though it be a “good” deed) she agreed. Just a few moments later she contended with us on how she believes you are to just go out and do things for the Lord. She sought to reprove us that we weren’t using our carnal gifts, such as being a doctor or going to school to be educated in a profession (Note: *“We are not against higher education if the Lord leads in that direction. However, don’t misunderstand us, we are persuaded that*

higher education is almost entirely dominated with the most advanced arguments in the Devil's war against God i.e. macro evolution, liberal theology, psychology, proud intellectualism, and national morality/popular thought." Pastor Sean). She said we need to choose our own path for our life, following the desires in our heart, though the Lord has clearly spoken to us that this is not his will. It is written, "There are many devices in a man's heart; nevertheless the counsel of the LORD, that shall stand." "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death" (Pro. 19:21; Pro. 14:12).

I asked her a number of questions, including: "What is the fear of the Lord?", "What is repentance?", "What does it mean to flee the wrath to come?", "What does it mean to be lost?" all of which she had no scripture to go to, nor understanding of, but gave very short unlearned answers to. She did not know what it meant to fear God or what it meant to be lost and flee the wrath to come. Her lack of understanding is one thing, which I don't despise, seeing I was once in the same place. However her unwillingness to be wrong or corrected by the Bible is the cause of my grief. *"He that refuseth instruction despiseth his own soul: but he that heareth reproof getteth understanding"* (Pro. 15:32).

Multiple times during the conversation, she would tell me to be quiet and then begin to look around, and it seemed as if she was hearing voices. She would say "shhh; be quiet, listen." I am not sure what voices she was hearing, but soon after she would then try to cast a devil out of me. This was all of no effect and somewhat awkward; for truly the Holy Ghost resides in this poor vessel.

After about three hours of much pleading with her and reasoning through the scriptures, my wife and I had no more liberty to stay. All of the above account of the "Recent Visit" was before multiple eye-witnesses; namely, both my wife and I. At no time were there any fruits of holiness or righteousness in my mother. She had not listened to one thing said and only met us with contention. I believe all of this was very grievous to the Lord and a portion of a verse came to my heart because of it, "from such withdraw thyself." As I pleaded with her one more time to examine herself and to repent, she tried to rebuke a devil again. With much grief and sadness of heart we left and cried out to God that He might have mercy on her.