

TESTIMONY OF JON DENHAM

In II Cor. 6:2, it says that "In an acceptable time I have heard you, and in the day of salvation I have heard you. Behold, now is the accepted time; Behold, now is the day of salvation." That day for me was Oct. 3, 2010, and it was the best decision I ever made. When I was 6 years old, I was introduced to drugs. By 8, my father had died and my mother had found me a step-father who abused me & beat me up almost daily. He was also the person that introduced me to harder drugs. I am 30 years old & have spent 14 years in prisons. When Mel Novak was at Pelican Bay, I was in the shoe. And again at Donovan Penitentiary & Susanville. I spent a lot of time in the hole for fighting. When I ended up in jail this time (7th or 8th time), I finally listened to God's call when Brother Mel was preaching a sermon in the chapel at L.A. County Jail. I felt **GOD'S** presence and I felt peace wash over me as the tears flowed out of me. That's when I confessed my sins and asked for forgiveness. Now I am a new creation in Christ and an ambassador in chains for the Lord. Every morning, I read Pastor Novak's Arsenal Prayer and have seen changes in myself. He asked me where all of the anger was coming from. I had to tell myself the truth & he said, "You need to forgive that step-father." I did, & no matter the temptations the devil throws my way now, I know that as long as I have my Sword, the Word of God, I can overcome. Because I Cor. 10:13 says, "That God will not allow me to be tempted more than I can handle." I am able to do this because of the awesomeness of God, following Gal. 5:16. "Every saint has a past & every sinner a future," is a saying I've heard while participating in the M.E.R.I.T. Program and it rings so true. **GOD** uses those who were criminals to do His works in the Bible, and with me & my companions who have given our lives to the Lord Jesus, **HE** hasn't changed His ways. One Friday, when Pastor Mel was ministering, he said, "You are all called to serve." His piercing eyes looked at me & I knew.

That brings me joy, knowing that God chose me because I can't take credit for my change of mind, soul and heart. God did it all and I thank, love and praise Him from the time my eyes open to the time when they shut. Is this walk with **CHRIST** easy? **NO!** But I will endure the trials that the **LORD** has allowed to be put in my path for His rewards and blessings will be greater than any the world ever gave me. I am putting my whole mind, soul & heart in the service of the **LORD** and I will be a warrior in **CHRIST** like Brother Mel. Eph. 6:10-18 says to pray on the whole Armor of **GOD**. I will also continue to spread God's message by any means necessary. God Bless Brother Novak & you all.