

PREFACE

I am thankful to the Lord that my fourth book *Truly Strong* can now be made available to God's children.

My first book, *Understanding Job (2003)*, is a reflection on the meaning and purpose of Job's suffering. My second, *The Two Kingdoms (2005)*, presents what I understand to be the biblical teaching on the kingdom of God and the fallen world, the meaning of our earthly existence and how we can live well as citizens of heaven in a fallen world. The third book, *Man of Faith (2010)*, covers the meaning of true faith and how we can maintain unwavering faith and a heart on fire for God under all circumstances.

The warm reception of these books by brethren in Christ from various countries has been an encouragement to me to continue to make available more books for the edification of God's children.

This fourth book, *Truly Strong*, is based on seven consecutive messages¹ preached in a local congregation in 1994, and it deals with the subject of true strength from the biblical perspective.

Just as in my preaching, I have sought to exercise care in the way I present scriptural truths in all my books. Careful readers will be able to see for themselves how these truths are arrived at from the scriptural texts, and that what is being presented are not the mere assertions or opinions of man.

These four books grew out of more than thirty years of fellowship and ministry in a local congregation. I am thankful to the Lord for His many provisions and the participation of the brethren in recording, transcribing and editing the messages. Brethren in other countries have also helped in the printing and distribution of these books. They have also helped to translate the first three titles into Spanish and *Understanding Job* into the Akha language as well. I am thankful to the Lord for their contributions which, to me, are meaningful expressions of fellowship among God's people in the local congregation and in the universal church.

Just as for the first three titles, this book is offered free of charge for those who intend to read it.

These books are part of an ongoing project to provide wholesome scriptural materials to help Christians grow and serve the Lord. The four books, together with many text and more than 500 audio messages on major issues of the Christian faith, are available on the website www.godandtruth.com, and they may be freely downloaded for personal use and forwarding to others.

I would appreciate your prayers for the Lord's guidance and undertaking for this whole project so that it may contribute to the growth of believers. It is my prayer that God's children may be truly strong, walking in the truth and in close fellowship with God.

¹ Messages AR140-146 from the message series *Appearance & Reality*