



Pastor's Comments

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Northampton Assembly of God

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81st Floor Survivor

This miraculous story (condensed from news.crosswalk.com 9/17/01) reminds us of how God was there on 9/11:

According to *A/G News* (9/14) and *ReligionToday* (9/17), God helped Bethel Assembly of God deacon Stanley Praitnath of Elmont, Long Island escape from under debris and punch through a wall to exit the 81st floor of the World Trade Tower Two! "For some reason, I gave the Lord a little extra of myself that morning [during prayer]," Stanley said. "I said, 'Lord, cover me and all my loved ones under your precious blood.' I said it over and over."

Stanley was in his office on the 81st floor of Tower Two when he saw fire on Tower One and with others, evacuated to the concourse level. There a security guard said, "Two World Trade is secured. Go back." When Stanley returned to his office, his phone was ringing. "It was someone from Chicago calling to find out if I'm watching the news," he said. He told the caller everything "was fine." As he was talking, he looked up and **saw United Air Lines Flight 175 heading straight for him.** He said, **'Lord, you take control, I can't help myself here.'**

As Stanley dove under his desk, the plane tore into the side of the building and exploded. Miraculously, he was unhurt. However, **he could see a flaming wing of the plane in the doorway of his department.** He knew he needed to get out of the building fast. But, he was trapped under debris up to his shoulders. "Lord, you take control, this is your problem now," he recalled praying. "I don't know where I got this power from, but **the Lord gave me so much strength that I was able to shake everything off.**" Stanley's way to the exit was blocked, but **he punched through a wall,** and with another man got down to the concourse where firefighters were saying, "Run." The concourse was surrounded with fire. Wetting themselves under the building's sprinkler system, they held hands and ran through the flames. When they got two blocks away, Tower Two collapsed.