

# ***Forerunners for Christ Los Angeles***

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January 15, 2023 – God’s Creative Power For Today – Erlinda Cruz

## ***Why Do We Decree and Declare?***

(Give Me 5 - Dutch Sheets)

Why Do We Decree and Declare?

It was 1980, and I was fresh out of Bible school. I was radical enough spiritually to pray for anything that moved...or grew. That’s why I was standing in the middle of a field, reading Bible verses to a crop of maize.

No, I’m not kidding. I was taking my cue from Jesus, who spoke to a tree on at least one occasion. He spoke a death sentence to the tree, and the next day it was dead (see Mark 11:13-14, 20).

He also spoke to a storm, commanding it to be still (see Mark 4:39), and even addressed a corpse, giving it life (see John 11:43). One of His disciples also did the latter (see Acts 9:36-41).

No, I’m not trying to start a communing-with-nature cult. Jesus knew that nature and dead people weren’t “hearing” Him, but that His words were releasing the power of Holy Spirit to impact those realms.

Our words, when they are God’s words and Holy Spirit leads us to speak to them, also release divine power. That’s why I was reading the Bible over a field. Actually, I was reading it to the field and some flies that were invading it. I read the blessings of Deuteronomy 28 concerning the crop: “Blessed shall be the produce of your ground. The Lord will command the blessing in all that you put your hand to, and He will bless you in the land which the Lord your God gives you. And the Lord will make you abound in prosperity in the produce of your ground” (vv 4, 8, 11). I read Psalm 91:3 concerning the flies: “For it is He who delivers you from the snare of the trapper, and from the deadly pestilence.”

The flies died and the crop lived.

The situation was as follows: A Guatemalan farmer, already in financial trouble from previous losses, was in danger of losing thousands of acres of maize to these flies. He was about to spend approximately \$25,000 to have them crop-dusted and wasn’t even sure this would stop the plague. We spoke to this new Christian about the biblical principle of tithing and the promise that God would “rebuke the devourer” (see Malachi 3:10-11) for those who obeyed Him in this regard.

(To be continued.)