

Rewriting Your Broken Story: The Power of an Eternal Perspective

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In *Rewriting Your Broken Story* well-known author Kenneth Boa:

- Gives hope for how to live life from an eternal perspective
- Teaches the wisdom of numbering our days
- Helps readers fight temptation and live purposefully
- Offers stories and examples of how to leave a legacy

Time to Change Your Perspective

An old Pennsylvania Dutch adage contends that we grow “too soon old and too late smart.” Is it true? If it doesn’t come to our attention sooner, by midlife there will be no getting away from the realization that some of the dreams of our youth are disappearing, and along with them the supposition that we’ll have all the time in the world to accomplish our goals.

So now a choice is at hand. We can simply listen to the voice that says we are destined for more, or we can act on what it whispers in our ear. We must evaluate our activities and responsibilities in light of the “something more” for which we are destined. We might need to make adjustments to our lives, but once we have taken our hope off the world’s promises and put it firmly back on Jesus, we may find that our faith grows and our trust in him increases. These moments of realization, then, are no longer cause to fear; instead, they are cause for joy and permission to rest.

We let eternity inform our present day and live each day in light of the fact that we will one day see Christ. This is an eternal, biblical way of seeing. It runs contrary to the idea that coming into contact with our mortality is a bad thing; instead, it offers hope. Pain and sorrow, disappointments and shattered dreams in this world get contextualized into God’s bigger picture when we begin to see that the story is not over at the end of this life.

When we watch a play and all the important characters die in the end, we call it a tragedy. *Hamlet* is a tragedy. If we see a play and it looks like it’s all going to go completely awry, but somehow things turn out well at the end as in *Much Ado About Nothing*, it’s called a comedy. It’s not always funny, but it has a happy ending. We are in something not far removed from Dante’s *The Divine Comedy*; trouble may abound, but paradise is at hand. All things will end well.

And that is what God wants us to see. All of the pain, sorrow, disappointment and brokenness in our lives can be used to draw us to Jesus. These times can actually become, as we look back, moments of grace. They can shatter our autonomy, our independence and our arrogance. They can cause us to walk in dependence on God and in humility. We can learn to help others out of our own weakness instead of out of our own strength, instead, depending on God’s strength.

Wisdom will help us loosen our grasp on the illusory hope in the promises of this world. Instead we can embrace the hope of the promises of God’s Word – the hope of something better. And this will become the radical difference in our lives. “The hope of glory” (Colossians 1:27) will be manifest in our lives. When our story is part of Christ’s story, we have no beginning and no end. Our life goes on forever. Because he lives, we will also live; because he rose from the dead, we will rise from the dead. His destiny is now our destiny;



BOOK EXCERPT

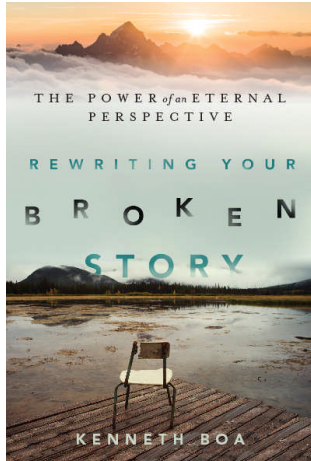
his inheritance is our inheritance.

“Rewriting Your Broken Story helped me to better see my smaller story as an opportunity to tell God’s larger story by how I live.”

— **Larry Crabb**, founder and president, NewWay Ministries

In light of this, God’s plan for us is an incredible concept! And we ain’t seen nothing yet! “‘What no eye has seen, what no ear has heard, and what no human mind has conceived’ — the things God has prepared for those who love him” (1 Corinthians 2:9). We just don’t have the imagination to begin to fathom all that God has in store for us. But he promises that any pain we go through is to be considered as nothing compared to what he is offering us!

— *From chapter 1, “Your Broken Story”*



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Words of Recommendation for Kenneth Boa's *Rewriting Your Broken Story*

"Offering captivating illustrations from an incredible array of angles has long been one of Ken Boa's great gifts. This book is a fascinating journey through history, pop culture, biography, philosophy and the arts. But why take that journey? Because ultimately, we all must wrestle with the fundamental questions of life: Who are we? Why are we here? What's gone wrong? How can we be made whole? This book is a journey through those questions, and Ken a most helpful guide."

— **John Stonestreet**, president, The Chuck Colson Center for Christian Worldview

"Ken Boa is one of my favorite authors, and this book epitomizes why. It's deep, it's practical, it's theological, it's emotionally stirring, and it helped me see life in a way that God longs for me to see it so I can live it in the way he wants me to live it. Highly recommended!"

— **Chip Ingram**, senior pastor, Venture Christian Church,
teaching pastor, Living on the Edge

"Some books inform. Others inspire. This one does both, but with a goal that few books reach. Ken's words have the potential to transform and to lift readers into the larger and eternal story of God. *Rewriting Your Broken Story* helped me to better see my smaller story as an opportunity to tell God's larger story by how I live."

— **Larry Crabb**, founder and president, NewWay Ministries

"Søren Kierkegaard was right when he said that we have to define life backwards and then live it forwards. It is the arrival that defines the reason for the departure. It is right thinking about life that gives freedom its map. And as Ken Boa observes in this book, 'an eternal perspective will inform us of something more (and better) than what we can see.' Boa has provided a helpful and hopeful map to guide us through life's journey. I know his words will encourage and challenge you."

— **Ravi Zacharias**, author and speaker

"Relevant, thought provoking and creatively expressed in ways that lead us into new avenues of thinking about old and important issues. In *Rewriting Your Broken Story*, Boa reminds us that how we ask and answer life's biggest questions will determine the quality of our day-to-day lives here on earth from a spiritual perspective. *Rewriting Your Broken Story* helps us break through the paradigms that hold us prisoner and prevent us from seeing life the way it really is."

— **Pat MacMillan**, president, Triaxia Partners

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ENDORSEMENTS



Kenneth Boa is an author, speaker and the president of Reflections Ministries. He is the author of over fifty books including *Conformed to His Image*, *20 Compelling Evidences That God Exists*, *Face to Face* and *Faith Has Its Reasons*. He is a contributing editor to the Open Bible, the Promise Keepers Men's Study Bible and the Leadership Bible, and is the consulting editor of the Zondervan NASB Study Bible.

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Follow him on Twitter:
@kennethboa.

"Suffering hits us like nothing else in life. We find ourselves crying out why or thinking we don't deserve it. We may rail at God and what we feel is the unfairness of life or the absence of God's care, but unless we can reframe our trials in light of a good, loving and holy God, our trials will make us bitter. This book is a tonic for the soul and full of solid biblical insight. Few are as qualified, compassionate or practical as Ken in terms of offering good spiritual counsel. I commend this book for your journey."

— **Stuart McAllister**, regional director of the Americas,
Ravi Zacharias International Ministries

"No one I know has the ability to stretch the mind and encourage the heart quite like Ken Boa. His presentation in this book will help all of us to write a different page in the diaries of our present by seeing the last page from God's perspective. This book will be high on my recommended reading list for the men I meet with and seek to mentor God-ward."

— **Mark L. Bailey**, president, Dallas Theological Seminary