

# Brother John Wallace Isom Jr.

The U-Can! Man LLC

Darryl Smith  
The U-Can! Man God Chosen Iron Sharpens Iron Advisor  
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John and I met in March of 1994, when we were both instructors at the Army's Recruiting and Retention School. At the time, I felt that I could do no wrong and that somehow God was excusing my mess. One story comes to mind that captures my tour with John during our early years: the story of the battle of Ai. Israel had just experienced a great victory at Jericho. God had commanded Joshua that in the previous battle, the children of Israel should not take any of the spoils. One of the men of the tribe of Judah, Achan, took some of the accursed things. God warned Joshua that if he did not get the accursed things out of the camp, He would not stand with them in battle. Joshua and his men brought Achan, his family, and all that he had before the entire camp and stoned them to death. What a tragic story. But this is the story that burns in my heart when I think of my days back in Indianapolis with my friend John. See, I was the man Achan, and I felt that I had brought trouble on my family because of my disobedience. I did not want my friend John to go through the same ordeal because of disobedience.

God had brought both of us away from the lofty egos of the instructors at Fort Ben Harrison, and we were stationed in Fort Jackson, South Carolina. There, our pride and limited understanding of God took us down other paths. From telling fellow sister saints that they were on Gerber's baby food when it came to spiritual matters to laughing our way through some of the most trying times, we amassed many testimonies that we still laugh about today. I never tired of hearing stories about John's past. From being

cell 229.588.6112  
office 229-244-5991

[theucanman@yahoo.com](mailto:theucanman@yahoo.com)  
[www.geocities.com/theucanman](http://www.geocities.com/theucanman)



And I will make them and the places round about my hill a blessing; and I will cause the shower to come down in his season; there shall be showers of blessing.

Ezekiel 34:26

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accidentally shot in the arms room to being in a car accident that saw one of his friends killed, John had lived an incredibly eventful life. Life was good to both of us at Fort Jackson, South Carolina. We were both seasoned recruiters and instructors. In our eyes, we could do no wrong. God had plans for both of us. We parted ways in the summer of 1996; I went to Dothan, Alabama, and John remained for another year at the recruiting school. In Dothan, God allowed me to come to grips with my ego and I quickly realized that I missed my friend, John, and those days at the NCO Club when we would eat our lunch with some of the other instructors and tell tall tales of our accomplishments as field recruiters.

One thing that I can say about John is that he is never at a loss for words when it comes to Jesus. Jesus was always the rallying point of all conversations. Whether we were entering into a major trial or coming out of one, Jesus was always on our minds. Even when we probably didn't want to walk with Him, He never let us go our own way. John and I had a wide range of apostles, prophets, teachers and pastors to lead us in our Christian walk: Bishop T.D. Jakes, Charles Stanley, Joyce Meyers, Tony Evans, John McArthur and many others. This is just one of the ways God let us know that we were never alone.

I believe John and I have been tested in every area of life: financial, physical, emotional, and spiritual. In March of 2005, a workout on my treadmill did not feel right. That evening I went to the doctor, thinking I was having a heart attack, but I was sent home. The next day, my doctor recommended that I see a cardiologist. The cardiologist

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advised a stress test to see what was going on with my heart, and the test results were not good. The cardiologist told me that if I did not go to the hospital that evening and have surgery on my heart, I would be dead in 4 weeks. I could not believe what I was hearing—after seeing me for only 15 minutes, this man was pronouncing death on me. He told me that the stress test results proved that my arteries were clogged and that I would have to have a procedure called angioplasty done to open the arteries and place stints in them. The cardiologist also said that I would be on medical for the remainder of my life. Well, I told the doctor that I was not going to the hospital that evening. I informed him that I would go the next day. He was insistent, but I was just as insistent in my refusal. I did not go to the hospital that evening. I went home and went to my prayer closet. The Lord told me that I would not die, but live.

The next day, I went to the hospital. The doctor came out of the operating room shaking her head. She told my wife that the stress test results must have been erroneous. She went on to say that there was absolutely no blockage in my arteries; my arteries were clean. She also asked my wife if I was a runner. My wife informed her that I did run a lot. She said that my heart was conducive to a runner's heart. I was allowed to go home that day. I still had follow-up appointments with the cardiologist up until two days ago, when he told me that there was no reason for me to see him again. Praise be to God!!!

This is just one of the many testimonies that I have shared with my friend John. From having all of our household goods stolen in a military move to being told I only had four weeks to live to being shot by a fellow soldier who said that it was an accident, John

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and I have been through it all. The Holy Ghost leads our lives now. John has gone from being in the Army to being the U-Can! Man and is on his way to being conformed to the very image of God's son Jesus Christ. Without God, my life would be nothing. With God and my friend John, my life has been enriched and encouraged beyond measure. John, this is just the beginning. Keep the message alive. "U-CAN!"

Special note to our prayer warrior friend, Ethel: I want to say thank you for your prayers and encouragement for John and myself. John mentioned that you had informed him that you understood the challenges I was facing in finishing up my testimony for John. It was your conversation with John that motivated me to finally finish this testimony. God bless you. You are precious to the body of Christ.

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