

Settle Your Account/Part 1: *My personal story and testimony*

By: Mrs. Irene Williams

No one knows my life story.

Freely I will tell it to give God glory.

No shame, no pride. I will not hide.

I've been born again, and I'm free;

free to serve God and free to be me.

*As you read my story, I pray and hope
that you will be encouraged and see
yourself as a victor and not a victim.*

I was born to a middle-aged mom and dad. My family was very poor.

We had very little, and we didn't own anything. My family consisted of three other siblings. My mom and dad were sharecroppers.

I remember - as a young child I had to work in the fields picking cotton, pulling corn, harvesting tobacco. Any in-season field work – I did it, working alongside my mom and siblings. My dad was busy with other chores in the field - like plowing. During the summer months when school was out, we worked in the fields from sunrise to sunset.

Sometimes it would be so hot until it was almost unbearable. In addition to working in the fields all day, there were other chores to be done at the house at the end of the day. We had no indoor running water, so every evening we were required to collect buckets of water from the outdoor faucet to bring inside for the night and next morning so there would be water available for cooking and bathing.

The only source of heat was the wood. We only had a wood burning stove to cook our food and a wood burning fireplace to heat the small wooden house we lived in.

In addition to bringing in the water every evening, we also had to cut firewood and bring it indoors.



Settle Your Account to be continued next month...

