

## **Ludacris Feat. Bishop Eddie Lee Long "Freedom Of Preach"**

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Can the church say 'Amen'? Amen, Reverend  
We gon' do another off in right now  
We gon' do another one in fifteen minutes  
And we gon' do one mo' right after that

Yes, women, you lookin' so very beautiful here today  
Some of you with the same thang on from the club last night  
The Lord giveth and the Lord taketh away  
Oh, Lord, Jesus, I wish You'd taketh away Sister Mary's wig

Oh, you disrespectin' the House of God with that thing  
It don't even look real, aww, it's testimony time  
Oh, who is that? Young Chris Bridges  
Boy, I'm glad you finally grew into them ears, go on and testify

Lord, please forgive me for the mistakes I've made  
And thanks for keepin' my momma safe when she wrecked my Escalade  
See, I could replace a Cadillac but I can't replace my momma  
I'm sorry for the hip hop beefs, we sorry for the drama

But You gotta understand, us rappers ain't never had nothin'  
And one's loss is another's gain, so we gotta grab somethin'  
Lord, got so many questions I need the answers to  
And sorry for the thangs I put my baby's mama through

I feel that women are really the strongest human beings  
But why do You make 'em so emotional and other minor things  
I guess it's Your way of sayin' we gotta love 'em and gotta praise 'em  
'Cause without 'em we'd be nothin', plus our kids, they gotta raise 'em

While we out and about and seein' what life has to offer

But if you offer a new life, then what we need is better  
fathers  
Either I'm smarter 'cause of my daughter or I'm just too  
dense  
I'm 28 years old, it just now started makin' sense

And I've been searchin' so long, I was lost in the clouds  
I'm tryna stay strong and make You proud  
It took me some time but now I see  
That He resides in me

Lord, forgive me for anytime a fan said I was bein'  
rude  
I'm only human, I'm not always in the best of moods  
But thanks for givin' the gift of rap to write my feelings  
down  
And sorry for cursin' sometimes but feelings make me  
shout 'em out

Forgive the people that wanna blame everything on rap  
music  
If they didn't live it, they can't relate or even adapt to it  
Forgive those who don't think I'm great and wanna see  
me go  
Forgive Oprah for editin' most my comments off her  
show

Don't get me wrong, I know some people got a image  
to hold  
But those who criticize the youth might just be gettin'  
too old  
We still travellin' through life, findin' what's right or  
wrong  
I know some folks may not agree or even like this song

But I'm just speakin' my truth 'cause I heard it sets you  
free  
And my conversation's with God, even though He  
speaks through me  
I'm smarter 'cause of my daughter and I'm not too  
dense  
I'm 28 years old, it just now started makin' sense

And I've been searchin' so long, I was lost in the clouds  
I'm tryna stay strong and make You proud  
It took me some time, but now I see  
That He resides in me

Hallelujah, as the choir sings

Searchin' so long, lost in the clouds

Tryin' to stay strong and make You proud  
Took me some time, now I see  
He resides in me

Ladies and gentlemen  
We have a special guest in the house tonight  
Came with some words of encouragement  
Bishop Eddie Long

What you just heard is real life  
It's real life for you, it's real life for many  
It's about where you been, yet at the same time  
You, ay, you find yourself in the midst of conflict and  
turmoil

Yes, I'm talkin' to you, in the midst of conflict and  
turmoil  
Because you realize, hey, it's time to change right now  
And in the middle of that I wanna say this

The Bible says that when I was a child, I spoke as a  
child  
I understood as a child, I fought as a child  
Ay, but when I became a man  
I put away those childish things

Did you not know that your environment has shaped  
you?  
Where you were born, in the projects, in the ghettos  
In the upper downtown, wherever it was  
The people around you, the things around you  
Cause you to do strange things because you were  
seeking to learn  
But what you learned was on the streets and not in the  
Book

God called you a prophet  
When you open up your mouth, everything of God  
comes out  
And it commands attention, it commands change  
I'm talking about the power that's inside of you

And in the midst when you're starting to understand  
That I caught the wrong message and now it's time  
I'm hearing from God, what amazing experience  
As you hear from God

He said, "Is there forth any man be in Christ, He is a  
new creation"  
Old things are passed away, somebody needs to hear  
that and behold

Everything becomes new and when everything  
becomes new in you  
It's time to stop the killing

I said, it's time to stop the stealing  
It's time to stop disrespecting our women  
It's time for us to come home and raise our children  
It's time for us to really mold our communities

It's time for us not to get hooked up in religion  
But to get hooked up in relationship with God  
And the amazing thing about it  
Is wherever you find yourself right now, you can  
confess

And you can tell God, "I'm sorry  
I had the wrong cue, I was doing the wrong thing  
I was going after things that I thought were right  
But it wasn't right"Â

"And now that I'm getting it right, I'm asking You to  
forgive me  
And I may have done the things that they said I did  
But I'm not who they say I am, I am who You made me  
to be  
And I'm changing in that and it takes a few  
momentsÃ

ÃœBut every time I fall down, I'll get right back up  
And every time I make a wrong turn, I'll get myself back  
in line  
Because I recognize, I have been called for such a time  
as this"

You can't resist the change  
And you're not condemned by your yesterday  
If you can grab hold of your now and move in your  
destiny  
Move, change and be, now

Searchin' so long, lost in the clouds  
Tryin' to stay strong and make You proud  
Took me some time, now I see  
He resides in me

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