

ENCOURAGING
WORDS
Book 11

TO REVIEW
FOR STRENGTHENING

By Joan Royer

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

A special thank you to my daughter, Beth,
for inviting me to stay in her lovely quiet home
during the months of writing this book,
for letting me use her computer and printer,
for putting this book on the internet,
and for being such encouraging company.
Thanks, Beth!

INTRODUCTION

This book contains bits and pieces of encouraging words I have received from the Lord directly to me personally (*which will be in blue italics*), from the Bible, and through the writings of others. There are times when I need to review these encouraging words to strengthen me. Therefore, I offer them to you, the reader, to strengthen you also. You may wish to begin your own book of encouraging words the Lord gives you personally, from the Bible, and from others, to keep for your own re-viewing and re-strengthening.

COME, YE THANKFUL PEOPLE, COME

(A song)

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

Text: Henry Alford, 1810-1871

Music: George J. Elvey, 1816-1893

Tune: ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR, Meter: 77.77 D

Come, ye thankful people, come,
raise the song of harvest home;
all is safely gathered in,
ere the winter storms begin.
God our Maker doth provide
for our wants to be supplied;
come to God's own temple, come,
raise the song of harvest home.

Meaning of Song: *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come* which is in my mind a lot lately:

Come, Ye thankful people, come, Raise the song of harvest home.

Thankful people are those who belong to God and are thankful to Him. They are to come up to Heaven and be with the Lord and sing the song about the harvest that is coming home with them.

All are safely gathered in,

All are safely gathered in means all who are to come to Him, who belong to Him, His Bride

Ere the winter storms begin.

Ere the winters storms begin may refer to the tribulation storms soon coming. His Bride gets to come home before those storms begin.

God, our Maker doth provide for our wants to be supplied.

God, our Maker, has provided for us. He has supplied those on earth and in heaven.

Come to God's own temple, come.

God's own temple may refer to Himself in heaven and to the temple He lives in on earth - his people

Raise the song of harvest home.

Song of harvest home says to sing about the harvest coming home. Raise up the song of harvesting.

~ 2 ~

THE KEY OF DAVID

B talked to me this morning about the significance of the number 22 in her life that the Lord revealed to her in the last day or two. One Scripture He quickens to her is Isaiah 22:22:

I will place on his shoulder the key to the house of David; what he opens no one can shut, and what he shuts no one can open. (Isaiah 22:22 NIV)

That idea in Scripture is also mentioned in Revelation 3:7-8 which the Lord highlighted in my life a long time ago when GH mentioned it in a prayer she was saying for me - about God opening a door that couldn't be shut and shutting a door which couldn't be opened.

I had not heard of, nor knew, the Scripture from Revelation, but He revealed it to me shortly after that while I was sitting under a hair dryer at a beauty shop reading the Bible. It has been meaningful in my life ever since then, and now it is in my daughter's life.

To the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: These are the words of him who is holy and true, who holds the key of David. What he opens no one can shut, and what he shuts no one can open. I know your deeds. See, I have placed before you an open door that no one can shut. (Revelation 3:7-8 NIV)

I believe the church in Philadelphia symbolizes the true church in the end times that is raptured from the earth.

~ 3 ~

HOUSE OF BETHANY

B told me that WM, JM's husband, gave her a prophecy sometime back in which he mentioned she was to be a "House of Bethany" and she was to look that up and see what that meant. She looked on Google and found this article at:

www.evanwiggs.com/revival/prepare/bethany.html

BETHANY: The House of Revival
Preparing A House For Christ's Manifest Presence
By David Smithers

A mere half hour walk east from the wall of Jerusalem, across the Kidron valley, past Gethsemane and over the ridge of Olivet, brings you to the humble town of Bethany. This obscure village nestled on the side of the Mount of Olives would have been long forgotten, if not for the fact that it became the nightly resting-place of Jesus Christ. Bethany will forever be honored and remembered through the coming ages, because one of its humble homes provided shelter and hospitality to Him who had no place to lay His head. Jesus was repeatedly honored in Bethany, whether it was at the home of Martha, Mary and Lazarus or in the house of Simon the leper. Therefore, Bethany naturally became the preferred dwelling place of our Lord and Savior!

The fact that Jesus consistently dwelt in Bethany, should be of special interest to all those who are looking for a mighty, end-time revival. For what is revival, but God Almighty finding a dwelling place on earth? True revival is ultimately nothing more or less than the abiding visitation of the manifest presence of Jesus Christ. Many today are eagerly expecting a revival visitation, however, it is my prayerful conviction that the Church as a whole is not nearly as far along in the revival-birthing process as some presently believe! Unquestionably a widespread revival is coming, nevertheless, there is still much more preparation required. We need to seriously ask ourselves, what still needs to be done to make our corporate meetings a place where Jesus can consistently and comfortably dwell? We are living in the season when the Holy Spirit is eagerly searching for places that are spiritually prepared for Christ's manifest presence. Bethany was such a place. There was a rare spiritual atmosphere in Bethany that made it comfortable and appealing to the heart and spiritual appetite of Jesus.

A House of Brokenness

The very name Bethany alludes to one reason why Jesus so frequently resided in this secluded and obscure village. One of the primary translations of the name Bethany is: house of mourning or poverty. Bethany is a picture of spiritual poverty, brokenness and humility. To the broken and needy, the Scriptures clearly promise the abiding presence of Christ's Kingdom on earth. "Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled" Matt. 5:3-6. Jesus ALWAYS resists and avoids the proud, but He cherishes the company of broken and humble hearts (James 4:6 & Isa. 57:15). Jesus never fails to pour out the refreshing rains of revival on those who are truly thirsty (Isa 44:3).

A House of Childlike Faith

Bethany was much more than just a place where a few hurting people recognized their spiritual need. There are many today that recognize their own neediness, and yet never

enter into the reviving presence of Jesus Christ! Bethany was not merely a place of abstract spiritual poverty; it was a nursery and haven for childlike faith. The hospitality and care given to Jesus at Bethany was the supernatural by-product of trusting and believing hearts. As Mary, Martha and Lazarus opened their hearts in faith toward Christ, they naturally opened their home and lives. This small congregation of needy and trusting hearts created a spiritual climate where Jesus could do some of His most remarkable miracles. It was while at Bethany that Jesus taught about the necessity of resurrection and reviving faith. -"Did I not say if you would believe you would see the glory of God?" John 11:40. Childlike faith empowers prayer and calls forth life out of death and darkness (John 11:41-44). Yes, it was at Bethany that Lazarus was miraculously raised from the dead, resulting in many other Jews believing unto salvation (John 12:9-11). Faith is contagious. God-given faith will always create an opportunity for faith to be nurtured in others. Childlike faith opens the windows of heaven and ushers in the glory of God. Without a steadfast faith in the promises of Jesus Christ, it will be impossible for us to encourage the Spirit of revival in our homes and local fellowships. A pessimistic and unbelieving spirit is the enemy of true revival! We must mix all our preparations for revival with grace-filled faith, lest we find ourselves chasing the winds of revival in the strength of the flesh! (Heb. 4:2).

A House Arranged For Jesus' Sake

A needy heart coupled with true faith will always lavish the person of Christ with extravagant love. Bethany was a place where the person of Jesus was needed, trusted and consequently appreciated and cherished. When Jesus came to Bethany, He was extravagantly anointed with fragrant and costly perfumes. It was at Bethany that He was bathed with tears and holy kisses of gratefulness. At no other time during our Lord's earthly ministry was Christ so completely worshiped and adored as in Bethany (Mk. 14:3-9, Lk. 7:36-50 & John 12:1-8).

In Bethany, Jesus took His rightful place as the sole object of everyone's devotion and affections. In Luke 10:38-42 we find Mary sitting at His feet, embracing every word, as it falls from His lips. Mary was totally content just to sit at Christ's feet and behold the glory and beauty of His face. She joyfully gave Jesus her undivided attention. Mary's encounter with Jesus demonstrates the fact that the highest privilege given to man, on earth or in heaven, is a deeper revelation of Jesus Christ. Mary's encounter with Christ reminds us that there is really only ONE thing needful, and that is JESUS! He alone is truly the better part (Luke 10:42). Bethany was the place where Jesus alone was exalted and made preeminent above all other human personalities, plans and programs.

The house of Bethany was a home carefully arranged for the pleasure and enjoyment of Jesus Christ. Every meal and every activity was planned in view of His preferences and comfort. Jesus was always the honored guest, and therefore His desires and needs naturally came first. Jesus often fed the hungry multitudes during His earthly ministry, but while at Bethany it was our Savior's hungry heart that was fed a carefully prepared meal of love and devotion. He was not hurriedly given some stale leftovers at the last minute, but the very best they had! "Jesus came to Bethany. There they made Him a supper; and

Martha served, but Lazarus was one of those who sat at the table with Him. Then Mary took a pound of very costly oil of spikenard, anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped His feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the oil" John 12:1-3. In the house of Bethany, everything revolved around Jesus, and as a result the whole house was filled with the sweet fragrance of His healing and reviving presence. Later, when some jealously attacked this outpouring of extravagant love, Jesus boldly prophesied that Mary's devotion at Bethany would never be forgotten: "Assuredly, I say to you, wherever this gospel is preached in the whole world, what this woman has done will also be told as a memorial to her" Matt. 26:13. The love and worship that Jesus received at Bethany is to be an everlasting witness to the life-changing power of the gospel. The House of Bethany gives us a beautiful picture of what Christ desires from all who would call themselves the Church.

A House of Repentance

The fact that the house of Bethany was carefully arranged to accommodate the desires of Jesus implies that it was also a place of genuine repentance. Repentance, simply defined, is a change of mind resulting in a change of heart and action. As we turn from a position of self-reliance and unbelief to a position of childlike faith in Christ, we begin to walk in repentance. Our lives and affections will ALWAYS revolve around the things or person in whom we trust. Therefore, it is impossible to separate true saving and reviving faith from genuine repentance. Revival can only be experienced to the extent that we are willing to entrust the control our lives and preferences to the control of Jesus Christ! Repentance is an ongoing process of realigning our hearts and lives with the kingdom of God. It is impossible to fully enjoy the Kingdom of Heaven upon earth (REVIVAL) while rebelling against the King of Kings. Knowing this, we must beware of accepting or entertaining any concept of revival that doesn't involve the clear message and ministry of repentance. In seasons of revival there will always be some variation in ministry methods and Spiritual manifestations. However, a deep work of repentance is one of the unchanging landmarks on the battlefield of revival (Prov. 22:28). Any efforts to promote the Spirit of revival apart from the ministry of repentance is destined to be shallow and superficial. Be assured of this, there has never been a revival without a deep work of repentance, and there never will be one! (2 Chron. 7:14).

A House In Contrast With the Temple

Jesus often ministered and taught in Jerusalem's beautiful temple, but as evening approached, He always made His way back to the quiet house of Bethany to rest and pray (Mt. 21:17, Mk. 11:11, Luke 21:37 & Luke 22:39). Though Jerusalem was called the city of David, it was no longer spiritually ordered after the heart and affections of God. Multitudes of devout Jews regularly traveled to the temple in Jerusalem in search of God's presence, while the One they sought, was a mere two miles away in the humble house of Bethany. Jesus passionately loved the people of Jerusalem, yet He could not dwell there, because so many opposed His kingdom principles of humility and childlike faith. Remember what Jesus said about this seemingly religious city: "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your

children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing! "See! Your HOUSE is left to you desolate and EMPTY" Matt 23:37-38.

Jerusalem's house of worship appeared to be the ideal place where a hungry, seeking heart could find God, but appearances can be deceiving. This so-called sanctuary was not spiritually arranged for God's pleasure and glory. Its daily activities no longer accurately represented the Father's heart and desires. It was not a true reflection of the Kingdom of Heaven upon earth, but a self-serving religious machine controlled by proud and ambitious hirelings. In Mt. 21:12-17 Jesus symbolically cleansed the temple, giving us a brief glimpse of how the house of God should look and function. He started by removing the spiritual obstacles and unnecessary religious structures. In Mt. 21:12, He jealously drove out all those who had defiled the court of the Gentiles with their religious manipulation and merchandizing. The temple in Jerusalem had become an unsafe place where self-absorbed ministers ignored and disregarded those whom Christ came to save. Jesus found His Father's house cluttered and out of order, and therefore He zealously rearranged the furniture, throwing out the unwanted tables and misbehaving guests with their idolatrous money worship. That which self-serving religion depends on the most, MONEY & HUMAN STRUCTURE, Jesus openly disregarded and cast on the ground.

This was not some random fit of anger, but a deliberate and very necessary step in the house-cleansing process. Mark 11:16 records that after this, Jesus then filled and occupied the very place where these religious men previously ministered. "He would not let anyone carry wares through the temple." After the house was cleansed and reoccupied by its rightful owner, Jesus then boldly proclaimed the purpose of His house, and suddenly it began to miraculously function as it was always intended. Mt. 21:13-15 describes these wonderful events: "And (JESUS) said to them, 'It is written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer,' but you have made it a den or dark cave of thieves. Then the blind and the lame came to Him in the temple, and He healed them. But when the chief priests and scribes saw the wonderful things that He did, and the children crying out in the temple and saying, 'Hosanna to the Son of David!' They were indignant." Once the house was cleansed of its manipulation and refocused on the person of Jesus Christ, it was quickly filled with prayer, healing power and childlike praise!

Can True Revival be Hindered?

After our Lord had cleansed and reestablished proper Spiritual order in the temple, the existing religious leaders indignantly refused to yield their control to the true Master of the house. Jesus then withdrew from them and went where He was welcome and wanted! "Then He left them and went out of the city to Bethany, and He lodged there" Matt 21:17. These scriptures explain why revivals are sometimes enjoyed at one church for an extended season, while at other churches they are very short-lived. Throughout the history of the Church, revivals have often spontaneously broken out, only to be later hindered and quenched by some man-made tradition, cowardly pastor or controlling deacon. Such spiritual hindrances have often been erroneously attributed to the precious truth of God's Sovereignty. This Biblical doctrine has been repeatedly used throughout the history of the Church to excuse and veil a lack of revival preparation and cooperation. Many have

falsely asserted that the Church can do nothing to contribute to, or hinder a true revival. This kind of gross error has left many a saint disqualified and shamefully unprepared in a season of revival and harvest. "He that gathers in summer is a son who acts wisely, but he who sleeps in the harvest is a son that causes shame" Prov. 10:5. A stubborn religious heart, if left unchecked, will ultimately seek to manipulate the Bible in order to shirk its own spiritual responsibility!

We must also beware of trying to create a revival in our own image. Many people cannot accept by faith what they have not already experienced, regardless of how Scriptural it may be. Sadly, there are those among us today, who belligerently refuse to tolerate anything except their own, narrow, predetermined interpretation of revival. If faced with a genuine revival manifestation of power, they would quickly curse it and run for the door. The religious leaders in Jesus' day claimed that they wanted a visitation of the Messiah, yet when Jesus Christ suddenly came to His house and turned their religious system upside-down, they violently rejected Him.

When some speak of seeking revival today, what they really mean is they want their existing religious system blessed, honored and multiplied. They merely want more of what they already have. How many of us would still continue to pray for revival if we were convinced that it would mean the reformation or even sacrifice of our favorite church doctrines and traditions. When lasting revival comes, many of our major denominations, out of necessity, will have to undergo radical reformation in order to accommodate the spontaneous nature of the Holy Spirit. If not, they will spiritually die and eventually crumble! (Mt. 9:16-17, Lk. 5:36-39). A true visitation of God will unquestionably require ALL of us to CHANGE, or we will be passed over just like the rigid and unyielding Judaism of Christ's day!

Self-Centered Religion Kills Revival

Jesus rejected the temple as His resting place, because in spite of its obvious physical beauty, it was not truly a Christ-centered and Christ focused house! How many of our local churches are run much of the same way. We enter the front foyer on Sunday morning and receive our weekly bulletin for worship. Yet, it is often more like arriving at our favorite restaurant where we are greeted and then handed a menu, listing all our favorite appetizers and entrees. Each item is expected to be neatly prepared and quickly served, all for our personal satisfaction. We love this place because they know how to make it OUR way. The so-called worship meeting starts and stops according to our personal preferences and schedule. If the Lord of Glory doesn't seem to show up and meet all our felt needs in a mere hour and a half, we will just have to find another church with better service! After all, we pay good money to eat here. Can we really expect a visitation of God in our churches with this kind of self-serving religious attitude?

To avoid any misunderstanding, let me say that there is nothing wrong with bulletins or scheduled services. Such things have a legitimate place in the Body of Christ, and certainly no one is denying the necessity of ministering to the needs of hurting people. However, we need to remember that like Aaron and his sons, we are called first to

minister to God, before attempting to bestow a blessing upon others (Exodus 28). We need to carefully reconsider what our primary purpose is as the House of God. Is it right that the preferences and feelings of MAN are being exalted above the feelings and affections of Jesus Christ? Have we forgotten that Christ is not just some cold and unfeeling piece of orthodox theology! He is a real person with real feelings and emotions! The Apostles did not turn the world upside down by handing out books on theology and church order. They introduced the world to the PERSON of Jesus Christ! They unveiled the living Lamb of God, which they had each personally seen, handled and experienced (1 John 1:1-4). They boldly called all men everywhere to die to themselves and worship and love Jesus. The early Apostolic Church was founded upon the preaching and pursuit of Christ above all else! (1 Cor. 2:2, 2 Cor. 4:5, Phil. 3:8 & Col. 1:28). Our EVERY NEED is only met as we seek first to meet the needs and desires of Christ's heart! (Mt. 6:33). Everything we do as the Church must be done first and foremost for the personal pleasure and glory of the LAMB. "All things were created by Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist" Col. 1:16-17.

Revival Preparation Demands Reformation

The preparations needed for the coming revival demand that we radically change the way we view Jesus Christ and His house. Our churches must rediscover the priority of adoring the Lamb of God before all others. God's honor, kingdom and pleasure must always come before ours! This was the strength of the Moravians who prepared the way for the First Great Awakening in the 18th century. The words of their leader Count Zinzendorf reflect their relentless passion for the person of Jesus. He writes, "Our method of proclaiming salvation is this: to point out to every heart the loving Lamb, who died for us; to never, either in discourse or in argument, to digress even for a quarter of an hour from the loving Lamb; to name no virtue except in Him, and from Him and on His account; to preach no commandment except faith in Him; no other justification but that He atoned for us; no other sanctification but the privilege to sin no more; no other happiness but to be near Him, to think of Him and do His pleasure; no other self denial but to be deprived of Him and His blessings; no other calamity but to displease Him; no other life but in Him." This is the heart cry of true Apostolic Christianity. This kind of fervent loyalty and jealousy for the honor of Jesus Christ is indispensable, if we are to be fashioned into the resting place of God and a house of REVIVAL!

From [A Revival Source Center](#)

~ 4 ~

GOD KEEPS GOOD BOOKS

Tonight as we listened to Paul Keith Davis on CD, he mentioned how he could "see" some intercessor(s) receiving revelation from God and praying it (and perhaps speaking it forth). This put the revelation "out there" and it might then be picked up by someone who told others about it, preached it, etc. But he emphasized that "God keeps good books" and that He says that the sower and the reaper both get the same reward.

It gave me the idea that perhaps my times in communication with the Lord when He downloads some revelation to me, sometimes revelation that I don't even write about in my journal, that my receiving it into the earth realm may still have some benefit for His Kingdom work. And, also, that what I write in my books might be some part of the "sowing" process too. It was encouraging to see this as a possibility.

~ 5 ~

A DREAM ABOUT GETTING DRESSED FOR GRADUATION DAY

In a dream I was at my home but in a hurry to get dressed and ready to go to work because it was graduation day for my students. Some child came to play and was given several items to play with including a package of straight pins. I took time to show her what they looked like and told her to be careful not to leave any of them in the carpet (she was sitting on) so no one would step on them. Then I was trying to get my clothes together to get dressed and found someone looking through my drawer where I had belts. He needed to borrow a belt and I said anyone in the family could borrow my belts, but be sure to return them. He took a black belt to use.

- Clothing: covering, righteousness, spirit, anointing, mantle, what going to be doing, clean covering of right standing in Christ, garment signifies various things the Lord is clothed in and thus provides for us
- Graduation day: day of finishing the course of learning
- Child: one's self or themselves, (self as child): God wants you to develop, mature, character or behavior reveals something about oneself (or about one's child), church members, something new birthing
- Pins: an item that fastens pieces together, something which can be helpful but prick
- Floor: that which we stand on and walk on
- Belts: belt of truth to put on
- Black belt: highest level of karate used for warfare and protection

So what does this dream mean, Lord? Is it from You?

You are like a child using (playing with) pins. These can be useful and helpful, but can also cause pain if not watched carefully. You are like a teacher who is eager to get to school and have the graduation day for all of your students. You are like a person getting

dressed who is looking for her clothes to put on. You are like a family member who needs a black belt of karate for the warfare that might come. These all describe pictures of you, Joan.

All these things are going on in your life right now, and you have a sense of urgency or needing to hurry because graduation day is here, today, now, and you want to go through it along with your students. Your students represent those you have taught and are currently teaching...as you are a teacher, anointed by Me to teach others what I teach you, especially via your writings. That's what this dream means. The time is short. Graduation is near, and it's exciting. Soon you will come up here and be with Me - what you yearn for more and more.

~ 6 ~

TEACHING AND STUDENTS AND CLEANSING

In a revelatory experience Paul Keith Davis saw a battle. So did Rick Joyner.

I see teaching and students and cleansing.

I give you vision for what I want you to do and be.

That's why I don't see battles, but I see lots regarding teaching and cleansing. That is what I am to do and be.

~ 7 ~

THE WORD

Look up the Word, what it is and what it does.

THE WORD - Word of God, a name of Christ

John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

John 1:14 The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

1 John 1:1-2 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched - this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us.

1 John 5:7 For there are three that testify: the Spirit, the water and the blood; and the three are in agreement.

Revelation 19:13 He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God.

THE WORD - of God, the Scriptures

Luke 5:1 One day as Jesus was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret, with the people crowding around him and listening to the word of God...

Acts 4:31 After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.

Acts 8:14 When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them.

Acts 13:7b The proconsul, an intelligent man, sent for Barnabas and Saul because he wanted to hear the word of God.

Acts 16:6 Paul and his companions traveled throughout the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been kept by the Holy Spirit from preaching the word in the province of Asia.

WORD - from concordance

Deut. 8:3 He humbled you, causing you to hunger and then feeding you with manna, which neither you nor your fathers had known, to teach you that man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

2 Samuel 22:31 As for God, his way is perfect; the word of the Lord is flawless

Psalms 119:9 How can a young man keep his way pure? By living according to your word.

Psalms 119:11 I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.

Psalms 119:105 Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.

Proverbs 30:5 Every word of God is flawless; he is a shield to those who take refuge in him.

Isaiah 55:11 So is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.

John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

John 1:14 The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

2 Cor. 2:17 Unlike so many, we do not peddle the word of God for profit. On the contrary, in Christ we speak before God with sincerity, like men sent from God.

2 Cor. 4:2 Rather, we have renounced secret and shameful ways; we do not use deception, nor do we distort the word of God. On the contrary, by setting forth the truth plainly we commend ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God.

Ephesians 6:17 Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

Philippians 2:14-16 Do everything without complaining or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe as you hold out the word of life.

Colossians 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God.

2 Timothy 2:15 Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.

Hebrews 4:12 For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

James 1:22 Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.

2 Peter 1:19 And we have the word of the prophets made more certain, and you will do well to pay attention to it, as to a light shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts.

* * *

What the Word does

1. Feeds us
2. Lights our pathway
3. Cheers us up
4. Keeps us from sinning

5. Keeps us pure
6. Achieves the purpose for which it was sent
7. Is a sword of the Spirit
8. Makes us shine like stars
9. Dwells in us
10. Divides soul and spirit
11. Divides joints and marrow
12. Judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart
13. Is a light shining in a dark place

~ 8 ~

GOD IS CONSTANTLY REMOVING THE OLD TO MAKE WAY FOR THE NEW

(Quotes from book called *If This Were A Dream, What Would It Mean?* by Murray Dueck)

(p. 197)

When God gives a sign, he usually does so in response to what is taking place behind the scenes, not in response to events that are already public knowledge.

(200)

But now that I had a possible interpretation of events, I needed to test it. The way to do that was to see if I could assemble the puzzle pieces into a prophetic timeline of confirmation that would produce what such prophetic timelines always produced in Scripture: humility and a new paradigm. Otherwise, I had to assume my reading of events was inaccurate.

It is at this point that many prophetic people get off track. Many times when we hear God speak or see something that we are certain is a sign, the excitement of discovery leads us to force an interpretation. We lean on our own feelings or understanding. But we need to remember that it is not our job to come up with the answers; it is our job to watch and listen to what the Holy Spirit is saying.

(243)

I had taught the class that paradigms are like eyeglasses or windows through which we view the world.

(245)

When things continue to go wrong, don't take it as a sign that doom is just around the corner. Instead, realize that such signs are God's way of speaking to us about things in our lives that need to change so we can become like Jesus...God is constantly removing the old to make way for the new.

LOVE ME

When I asked the Lord what He wanted me to do, He said, "Love Me." Then He guided me to turn my full attention to Him and not let distractions take that attention away from Him. Then He said that when I give Him my full attention and listen to Him, that shows Him I love Him. He reminded me that when I listen to my children and give them my full attention, that shows them my love. So today I am being guided to do a Word study on (1) listening, and then (2) hearing.

Deuteronomy 6:4 (NLT)

Listen, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. And you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your strength. And you must commit yourselves wholeheartedly to these commands that I am giving you today.

Deuteronomy 18:15 (NLT)

Moses continued, "The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your fellow Israelites. You must listen to him.

Deuteronomy 30:19-20 (NIV)

This day I call heaven and earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live and that you may love the Lord your God, listen to his voice, and hold fast to him. For the Lord is your life, and he will give you many years in the land he swore to give to your fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

1 Samuel 3:10 (NIV)

The Lord came and stood there, calling as at the other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" Then Samuel said, "Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening."

Proverbs 1:5 (NIV)

Let the wise listen and add to their learning, and let the discerning get guidance.

Isaiah 6:9 (NLT)

Then I heard the Lord asking, "Whom should I send as a messenger to this people? Who will go for us?" I said, "Here I am. Send me." And he said, "Yes go and say to this people, 'Listen carefully, but do not understand. Watch closely, but learn nothing.

Isaiah 50:4

The Sovereign Lord has given me an instructed tongue, to know the word that sustains the weary. He wakens me morning by morning, wakens my ear to listen like one being taught.

Mark 9:7 (NLT)

Then a cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my dearly loved Son, listen to him."

John 10:27-30 (NIV)

My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. I and the Father are one.

James 1:19 (NIV)

Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, for man's anger does not bring about the righteous life that God desires.

James 1:22 (NIV)

Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.

1 John 4:6 (NLT)

But we belong to God, and those who know God listen to us. If they do not belong to God, they do not listen to us. That is how we know if someone has the Spirit of truth or the spirit of deception.

Revelation 1:3 (NLT)

God blesses the one who reads the words of this prophecy to the church, and he blesses all who listen to its message and obey what it says, for the time is near.

Revelation 2:7 (NLT)

Anyone with ears to hear must listen to the Spirit and understand what he is saying to the churches.

~ 10 ~

THANKSGIVING

This came today by email:

<http://www.elijahlist.com>

Steve Shultz:

I Asked the Lord If He had a Word for Thanksgiving. He Did!

I recently asked the Lord to give me *a heart of thanksgiving*. I wanted to ask for it during this season of time—the season many of us call THANKSGIVING. Of course, it should be a daily thing, and it's becoming more of that all the time I think for much of the worldwide Church.

This is what HE, the Lord said to me:

"Steve, that heart has been in you before you were born. And I see you working on *living it out*. That means something, not just to the Godhead but to ALL the angels and all heavenly creatures and beings in the spiritual realm. Whenever you work toward a heart of gratitude, HEAVEN sees it for what it is—the very thing I put inside of you as part of your identity before you were born. You are just now beginning to see its outworking. That's because true THANKSGIVING can only happen when there is something to be thankful for.

"You've gone through much more than most in the Church know, but so has everyone else who has or will come to Me. I never stop thinking about you or those whom I know will accept Me. I don't even stop thinking about those who will be lost. I still bear with them, with much patience. Don't try to make sense of it because it never will make sense to you...never, never, never and NEVER!"

* * *

Deuteronomy 30:19-20 (NIV)

This day I call heaven and earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live.

This morning when I read this verse from Deuteronomy 30:19 where it said "**I call heaven and earth as witnesses**" I wondered what that meant. I wondered who all were "witnesses" in heaven that Moses was calling upon. Then tonight as I read this message from the Lord to Steve Shultz, I noticed God said to Steve, "**not just to the Godhead but to ALL the angels and all heavenly creatures and beings in the spiritual realm.**" I think that answers my question. It seems these were the witnesses in heaven being called upon.

~ 11 ~

IT HELPS ME UNDERSTAND, BE PATIENT, AND PERSEVERE

If I had healed your ears and your eyes, and made you younger in your body health, then you wouldn't have set yourself apart unto Me and gotten to know Me more and developed the relationship of intimacy that you now have. This relationship with Me is much more

important! So be thankful that I haven't yet healed you. And be thankful that I gave these things to you that brought about so much good to you.

It's like Paul's "thorn in the flesh" that I gave him grace to live with and used to keep him doing and being what was better for him. AND - you have kept believing that I will sometime heal you, that the healing is already yours and will be manifested at the right time for you and for Me, for that will happen. But, for the present, I have a purpose for the way those health issues have helped shape you and mold you into the person you were born to be.

Note what Steve Shultz said about having the heart within you "before you were born" and you are living it out. You, Joan, were given a "heart for a close, intimate relationship with Me" before you were born and you are just "living it out." I am assisting you all along the pathway I've chosen for you.

Thank You, Lord, for telling me this. Now I understand why I haven't yet received the healing I've asked you for...and I have thought you wanted me to ask You for. You did. But you had and have a purpose for waiting to do that healing until the time is right - the "fullness of time" for me to receive that blessing. In the meantime, You are using these health issues, like You used the prison in Joseph's life, to mold me and shape me after Your will. Thank You for doing that, and thank You for telling me this today. It helps me understand and be patient and persevere!

~ 12 ~

MANY LEVELS OF UNDERSTANDING

The Lord is telling me today that He wants me to take one of the Scriptures about listening each day, and meditate on it, and write on it as He leads me. So I will begin that next week. Today I will copy the "listen" list into next week's journal so I can do that as He leads me.

I sense such a deeper level of grasping the understanding of the Word as I read it now. It's almost like reading it with new eyes and new understanding, new revelation. It's wonderful! I think this comes from many, many years of reading and meditating on the Bible, and with that the understanding and revelation grow. There are likely many levels of understanding much greater than the one I am at now, which I can eventually grow into.

~ 13 ~

YOU ARE MY ABUNDANT LIFE

Thank You, Lord, for everything! There are so many things to thank you for! You bless me so greatly! You ARE my abundant life! Thank You, my Abundant Life! I love You! You are my Joy. You are my Peace. You are my Hope. You are all the good things in me and in my life.

You certainly are my Protection! And you protect my children also! Day after day you are steadfast and faithful to watch over us and protect us and guide us. THANK YOU SO MUCH!!!

Today you can go and do your household things that you desire to do to prepare for Christmas. I will be with you and bless you as you do this, as you go. For I am with you forever. Forever!

~ 14 ~

I WILL GIVE YOU REST

(Moses is talking to God) You have said, "I know you by name and you have found favor with me." If you are pleased with me, teach me your ways so I may know you and continue to find favor with you.

The Lord replied, "My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest".

And the Lord said to Moses, "I will do the very thing you have asked, because I am pleased with you and I know you by name." (Exodus 33:12-17)

What does it mean: I will give you rest?

It means You will give me peace in relationship with You.

And I will give you rest, Joan. I know you by name and I will give you rest and peace with Me - no matter what comes today.

~ 15 ~

THE BEST IS YET TO COME

(5:55 a.m.)

Don't worry about tomorrow or where you will live, or what you shall eat, or what you shall wear. I have it all figured out and planned for you, and IT IS GOOD!

All your time of living on this earth until now has been preparation for now, Joan. This is the peak time in your life. I have words for you to think and write, like right now. I have books for you to read and learn from, like right now. I have teaching messages for you to hear and learn from, like right now. The best is yet to come for you! And for B! The best, My best for you, is yet to come!

I want you to know this so you can look forward to it. You DO have something to look forward to! You don't know what it is, but you KNOW it is good! Because I said so. And you believe in Me and trust in Me. So - the best is yet to come (of your time here on earth). Then you will graduate into My heavenly realm and be "safely home!" I know you are looking forward to that, and so am I.

Don't worry about the things that hurt in your body. Persevere through them and believe and know that I will use all of them to display My glory when My Spirit comes in FULLNESS to the earth and I heal all of those hurts. You WILL BE delighted! I know you will, because I know you, and I already see and know what is coming for you (in your earthly time zone).

This is good to keep the computer files ready to go in the early mornings, so you can write what I talk to you about then. This early morning time will be our special time and I will prepare you for each day during this time. I won't tell you ahead what will come unless it is important for you to know, but I will tell you of My love and My plans for us to work together, co-labor, during that coming day. 5:55 (grace, grace, grace) will be our special time.

Peace in the midst of this crazy, mixed-up civilization right now on the earth - that is like having a Noah's ark to live in, in the midst of the flood, with death and dying going on all around you. Remember 1000 may fall at your side, 10,000 at your right, but it will not come near you? (Psalm 91:7)

~ 16 ~

IN THE SHELTER (SECRET PLACE)

He who dwells in the shelter (secret place) of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. (Psalm 91:1)

That's what you are doing, Joan. You are dwelling in the shelter of Me. You are resting in My shadow. There is no better place to be while on earth than there. And you are doing that now daily, all day. It IS GOOD!

I will say of the Lord, "He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust." (Psalm 91:2)

~ 17 ~

LISTEN TO HIM

Moses continued, "The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your fellow Israelites. You must listen to him. (Deuteronomy 18:15)

Yes, Lord, I must listen to You. You are the prophet like Moses whom God raised up - One even greater than Moses. I choose to listen to You, Lord. Thank You for giving me Your Word in the Bible that I can read and listen to You speak to me through. I love Your Word, Lord. I treasure it in my heart. I treasure You in my heart. Father, thank You for sending Jesus to earth to teach us and save us!

~ 18 ~

EARS THAT HEAR AND EYES THAT SEE

Thank You, Lord, for this new day! I love You, Father God. I love You, Lord Jesus. I love You, blessed Friend, Holy Spirit. I rejoice in this new day because You live, and because You live in me! You are the treasure and delight of my life! You are my constant companion, friend, and helpmate. I wouldn't want to live on this earth without You. I worship You, God, and praise You with all my heart! Your love and Your joy is welling up within me today, and I want that!

In my regular Bible readings for today I read this verse which I want to record here.

Ears that hear and eyes that see - the Lord has made them both. (Proverbs 20:12 NIV)

Thank You, Lord, for giving me ears that hear and eyes that see.

I believe this refers to the natural ears and eyes, but also the spiritual ears and eyes if we belong to Him and He causes us to be born again spiritually. Having spiritual ears that hear Him speaking to me continuously and eyes that see what He shows me - that is a great, great blessing in my life.

~ 19 ~

SPEAK, FOR I AM LISTENING

The Lord came and stood there, calling as at the other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" Then Samuel said, "Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening." (1 Samuel 3:10)

That's what I want to say to You this morning, Lord. Speak, for I am listening. I will wait until I hear You speak, then I will write it down as You want me to.

OK, I am with you. Listen. I want to speak something and have you write it down. That's why I gave you that particular Bible verse this morning. Yes, I do work out all these tiny details so that certain verses fall on certain days for My use in your life. I care about you, and all the details of your life like this.

I'm coming soon, Joan. VERY soon. It is only a short time, as time goes, until I will return for you and the rest of My Bride, and I will take you away. Pursue My purposes until the very end. And you will know My purposes if you come to Me each morning, and seek Me, I WILL be found by you.

~ 20 ~

A DREAM ABOUT AN "APOSTLE TREE"

The setting or place where this dream takes place is a room which seems to have two twin beds in it, almost like a motel room, but smaller. I am in the room along with one other person, a woman, maybe B, but I'm not sure. I bring with me this unusual plant which was a bit wilted, so I gave it some water and put it in the refrigerator so it could get moist and crisp. The plant seemed to be in the shape of a ball, about softball size, and had very curly green leafy outgrowths all over it.

When I took it out of the refrigerator and showed my roommate it looked good and crisp and healthy. We discussed where to put it in the room. We seemed to realize that it would

grow quickly and spread out and take up space, which it seemed to automatically do as we talked about it. It grew to eventually be like a small tree. This tree had small blue packages (about 6 " long, cylinder shaped, 2" circumference) fastened onto its branches. Each package would eventually produce many offshoots from it. Someone called these blue packages "apostles" and they would grow out more plants like the one I brought home (ball shaped with curly green leafy outgrowths). We began to talk about the tree as the "apostle tree."

That small round plant - it's the seed of spiritual destiny which I planted in you before you were even born on earth. That seed has been multiplying and growing since the day you were born. At one point in time it became partly wilted, but due to My Spirit watering it and due to your taking this into your heart, it was refreshed and vibrant again.

Then you began to see a picture of My kingdom like a tree which grew many hidden gifts on its branches. These branches grew new plants, like yours, and multiplied. You are one of My beautiful healthy alive plants, Joan, and there are many, many others being grown also all around the world - wherever My Kingdom tree grows and prospers. You see it as a young tree, but it grew quickly, and is growing exponentially now as new gifts are extended on its branches.

Remember the Kingdom of God is like a mustard seed which multiplies and grows quickly. That is like this tree you saw with many gifts appearing on its branches. Through these spiritual gifts many come to Me and give their lives to Me and become ball-shaped plants like you are. They are all your brothers and sisters in Christ. Pray for them, all of them.

~ 21 ~

GOD IS PROTECTING

God is Protecting All that He has Promised Us
by Doug Addison
Dec 1, 2009

Over the past few months, I have received quite a bit of revelation about a new season coming to many people that was starting in September and October of 2009 and continuing through the New Year. I keep hearing over and over that "this is the time of new beginnings and new opportunities."

Similar to Being Pregnant

When God begins something new in our lives sometimes it can be similar to a baby taking nine months to birth. It takes time to grow and develop the new thing from God in our lives. I can look back in my life and see many examples of when I heard God speak to me clearly about a change in my life. Then when the change actually takes place, it is oftentimes close to a nine-month period.

In April of 2008 I was living in Moravian Falls, North Carolina, and I was speaking at several churches in the Central Coast of California. God spoke to me clearly that we would be moving to that area and be part of something new He was going to do. Through a series of events and without making it happen on my own, we relocated to Santa Maria, California, nine months later in January 2009. After arriving in Santa Maria, nothing really seemed to be happening. Then after nine months, in September, I had two major angelic visitations and God spoke to me more clearly about our next steps and plans for why we moved. Just as a baby is hidden during the nine month pregnancy period, quite often God will hide us for a season.

Satan Comes Before a New Move of God

A principle most people miss in the Bible is that when God is about to do something new in our lives, satan will come just before—to get us discouraged and to cause us to give up before the breakthrough. David gets anointed by Samuel to be king of Israel, and then he is pursued and nearly killed by Saul. Jesus receives the Holy Spirit to begin His ministry on earth, and immediately He is taken into the wilderness to be tempted by satan. Saul (Apostle Paul) has a dramatic conversion on the road to Damascus, and then he is greatly opposed to the point that he has to run for his life. These are just a few cases of a theme that runs throughout the entire Bible.

God will often call us to something new; then it seems that all hell breaks loose and it appears that the opposite of what we heard from God begins to happen. The fact is that the reason God spoke to us to begin with was to strengthen us to be able to walk through the storm and know that He is still with us no matter what it looks like.

God spoke to me that something radically new was coming to me and many people after September of this year. During the month of September I received some incredible revelation and visitations from God, then in October things began to look the complete opposite. I have been watching this pattern for some time now, so I was not thrown for a loop. The best way to handle this is to continue to move forward with the last thing that you heard from God and pay little attention to the distractions from satan.

New plans, strategies, ministries, gifts, anointing, miracles, businesses and relationships are on their way. The key is to not give up. Satan and the forces of darkness really don't want you to get what is coming. You will receive what you are looking for. If you are looking to God for the new things and you endure the storm, it will transpire in your life. If you begin to doubt and give up on what God has promised you, then there is a good chance that it will not come to you at the level that God had intended, or it may be delayed.

Jesus is Protecting Our Promises

I had a dream on November 17 that the enemy was coming to steal away the promises God had made to me and many others. I ran to the ocean and when I got there the ocean appeared to be dried up, even though there were still plant life and animals. As I stood wondering what to do, Jesus Himself, clothed in a purple and crimson robe, walked up to me. I told Him that the enemy was trying to steal away what had been promised to us.

Without saying a word, He used His right hand to take something from deep inside of me and placed it in what looked like an ancient iron cage in the shape of a sphere (the size of a basketball). He locked it, kept the key, and tossed it a few feet away onto the floor of the ocean. I was thinking to myself that He could have at least hidden it a little better. As I looked, there were many of these ball-shaped cages lying all over the place, and I knew they were the promises of others that Jesus was now protecting and placing them where they needed to be.

This dream is a confirmation that what God has promised to us will come. The fact that the ocean "appeared" to be dry but still had life is symbolic of a coming move from God that is nearing but not here yet. It was not like a wilderness that had no life.

Our promises from God are being placed in a safe place so that they will be picked up by the next wave of the Holy Spirit. It is similar to a chessboard; God is strategically placing us where we need to be for this next season.

(Isaiah 41:10 NIV) So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.

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~ 22 ~

A LIGHT DISPLAY

(JOURNAL 12-15-09) Around 9:30 in the morning the sun hits the mirrored squares ball ornament hanging between the living room and dining room. When this happens it sends a "light display" all around - on the floor, walls, ceiling - of little round circles of light.

As I watched it this morning, the words "light display" came into my mind, and I felt I was to write that in my journal. The thought is that Jesus is going to soon do a "light display" of His Light around the world for all to see. Yeah! Do it, Jesus!

I will, Joan. I wanted you to record this in your journal, with today's date, for others to see and read later. This will confirm to them that what they see really is Me doing it, and that I said it, as a prophecy, before it was done.

WATCH AND PRAY

Watch and Pray: Spiritual Fitness in the Midnight Hour

Maurice Sklar

Dec 1, 2009

Dear Friends,

We are living in the most challenging days that the Body of Messiah has ever been through. These are dangerous and perilous times for all believers. The undertow of the Babylonian anti-Messiah spirit is rising up as never before. The world is growing darker and darker, and the church is asleep, bound and lukewarm as a whole. Yeshua warned us over and over in the gospels to take heed that we are not overtaken by deception, fear, distractions, lusts of the flesh, and spiritual slumber as the end of the age of grace draws ever nearer, as it is written:

“Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many...And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many. And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold. But he that shall endure to the end shall be saved...And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect’s sake those days shall be shortened...Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come....therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh.” (Matthew 24:4b-5, 11-13, 22, 42, 44)

“Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is...Lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping.” (Mark 13:33,36)

*“Men’s hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken...And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares. For as a snare shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth. **Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.**” (Luke 21:26,34,36)*

The Lord spoke to me and said:

“I am the Lord of the harvest. Overcoming the world, the flesh and the devil is not an option. Bearing fruit is a command, not a suggestion. You must abide in Me and love Me more than anything else. There can be no substitute for the oil of true worship. It is the only oil that will keep your lamps lit. Many lamps are going out. Come and buy of Me this oil before it is too late – by watching and praying daily so that so that you may be ready

and full of light. I am bringing the church down to My threshing floor and beating the wheat of My final harvest. I am separating the wheat from the chaff. I am gathering the wheat into My barn and the bundles of fruitless branches together to be burned in the everlasting fire. Warn the lukewarm church to watch and pray, or they too will fall in this final midnight hour! Teach them how to be spiritually fit, so they can stand and overcome. It is My will that none perish, but all come into the joy of My wedding supper. All are invited, but most will not be ready. They will be left behind to suffer in the wrath to come. Without holiness, no one will see My Kingdom or taste of My wedding supper. I am at the doors ready to call My Bride home. Who is awake and will heed the voice of My Spirit?"

So we MUST watch and pray. Prayerlessness is the greatest sin of the Laodicean church of our generation. The reason we have so little power and we live in defeat is simply because we have let idols come in the place of God. There is one thing that is most precious that God has given you: and that is time. Time... How do you spend your time each day? Are you investing it in eternal things or in temporary things?

The word "watch" that Yeshua is using is a military type of word: it means that we must stand guard against sudden and perilous attacks of the enemy like an armed guard would protect the crown jewels of an earthly kingdom. The word "pray" incorporates within it an endurance; a tenacity; a persistence. Just like a bulldog will never let go of his bone even to death, we must "hold on" to what the Lord has given and promised us and never give it up.

Yeshua admonishes us as overcoming believers in Revelation 3:11:

"Behold I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown."

Sir Winston Churchill once said in his famous speech in October 29, 1941:

"Never give in. Never, never, never, never – in nothing, great or small, large or petty – never give in, except to convictions of honor and good sense. Never yield to force. Never yield to the apparently overwhelming might of the enemy."

So, that gives you a good idea what Yeshua is talking about spiritually when he says to tenaciously watch and pray. We are in a world at war spiritually. Good shall triumph over evil, but it won't happen without winning each day in the realms of enduring prayer and intercession over the powers of darkness arrayed against us.

Here is what is necessary to be spiritually fit and overcome. I beg you to make changes in your life priorities and the use of your time so that you too can develop these spiritual disciplines and have the strength to make it and to "never give in" to the evil in this hour:

1. Simplify your life. Stop wasting time doing things that are not what God has called you to do. Remove every weight such as doing things to please people, or to run after money, or to

pursue anything that has no eternal value. For me, God said to remove from my life everything except for five things that all begin with the letter “P”: God asked me to do these things: pray, practice (violin), preach, perform, and prophecy....that’s it. I also do my best to be a good husband and father, but these 5 “P” words are where you will find me investing my time. Of course, God has different callings for each of us, but, if you search your heart and seek the Lord, He will tell you what really matters for you individually.

2. Spend time with God. Give Him the first and the best of your time each day. Let Him have the time when you are the freshest and most alert – whenever that is. Start with a tithe of your time. We have all been given 24 hours each day. Give the Lord at least 2 ½ hours daily with absolutely no distractions. I now spend approximately half of my waking hours in prayer, the Word of God, worship (which includes my violin practice), and communion with the Holy Spirit. I have to block out everything and everybody else – even those closest to me in my family – so that this time is exclusively for the LORD only. Without spending lots of time daily with God, we will never fulfill our high calling in this life. If Yeshua had to go many times and pray all night, surely, we need to pray and seek God also.

3. There are seven primary habits of personal prayer/devotion that I orbit around. By God’s grace, I have done this for nearly 25 years. This is not because I am super-spiritual or anything like that. It is simply because I have battled with depression. It was desperation that drove me deeply into God. (Sometimes I think that our suffering has a way of MAKING us into prayer warriors. If everything had been easy for me, I doubt seriously that I would have done this. I do not believe that God sends it as such, but it certainly has been a great motivational tool. Desperation has been a blessing in disguise for me. After all, if there is a way out of my pain, misery, and defeat, and into victory, don’t you think I want to find that path and to take it at all costs?!)

Seven primary habits

1) Put the Bible in your mouth! I spend about an hour to an hour and a half SPEAKING the promises of God nearly every day. Usually this is when I awaken in the morning, but often at other times too. There are several wonderful books of faith and prayer confessions that I heartily recommend for this:

I have recently discovered three new books this year:

“Commanding Your Morning” by Cindy Trimm

“The Rules of Engagement” (Volume one) by Cindy Trimm

“Prayers that Rout Demons” by John Eckhart

In addition, for the past five years or so I have prayed through these books by James Riddle, which contain every promise in the Bible followed by a declaration of faith claiming them—

The Complete Personalized Promise Bible for Men (there is also one for women and teens)

The Complete Personalized Promise Bible for financial blessing

The Complete Personalized Promise Bible for health and healing (these are published through Harrison House)

Instead of saying just "I" or "me", I include others by using the pronouns "us", "we", and "our". After all, Yeshua began His prayer with OUR Father, not MY Father. Also, the important thing to remember is that the power of this lies in CONSISTENCY over time and also to watch all the words coming out of your mouth. Let them be words of blessing and not cursing at all times.

2) The Apostle Paul exhorts us to pray without ceasing. (1 Thessalonians 5:17) That means all the time. He also told us in Romans and I Corinthians that we don't know how to pray and we don't know what to pray for either so the Holy Spirit has moved in with His power and supernatural languages of tongues to help us in this area. (Romans 8:26-27, I Corinthians 2:7; 14:2, 4-5a, 14-15, 17, 18, 39b)

So, I spend hours and hours speaking in the supernatural languages of the Holy Spirit so God can pray for me and through me for others perfectly according to His divine will. I am in the habit of praying quietly in tongues at all times whenever I am not speaking to someone else. I have found that this practice causes me to average about 4-6 hours a day of praying in the Spirit as I just live my daily life.

(For a life changing book on this subject, PLEASE read the book, "The Walk of the Spirit, The Walk of Power" by Dave Roberson. It is available for free online to download at his web sight. I have the highest of respect for this great man of God, who also ordained me in 2000.)

3) Devotional prayer. I pray through the Lord's prayer in a cyclical way during each week as taught by Larry Lea in his book, "Could You Not Tarry One Hour?" It presents the Lord's Prayer in an outline form. Originally, this revelation came from Seoul, Korea from David Younggi Cho, and adapted for the west by Larry. This is the way they pray in South Korea. I don't know whether it is still available in print, but it is well worth the reading if you haven't read it.

(For a further explanation of this prayer and the outline, as well as another teaching on this subject, go to my website www.mauricesklar.com and click on Teachings. Then, click on "Victory through Prayer".)

4) Private worship. Spend some time worshiping God with vocal praise, proclamation, singing and instrumental music and/or dance. There is enormous blessing and benefit in just worshiping God by yourself. It will empower you and fill your life with His glorious anointing and Presence!

5) I also read through the Bible every 3-6 months. I have alternated for the past several years between reading it out loud and silently while praying in the Spirit. So, I read through the scriptures in their entirety about 2-4 times each year.

6) Meditation of the scriptures. I have read through all of the New Testament letters, the book of Proverbs, and the Sermon on the Mount each fifty times through silently while praying in tongues during the past 10 years. God breaks each book to me as bread of revelation and it gets down on

the inside of me in the form of images of faith. I am presently reading through the book of Revelation for the 24th time. This is done as the Spirit leads me to read over several weeks and sometimes several months. I keep track of where I am, and just continue until I have read each one fifty times. My next book after the book of Revelation, Lord willing, will be the Song of Solomon.

(For in depth teaching on this subject - go to Dave Roberson's website (www.daveroberson.org) and download – for free! – his teaching series “Meditation by Assimilation” and “How to Meditate”, and “Meditation, Imagery, and Delivery” – these and all of Pastor Dave's teachings are life changing! If you are hungry spiritually, he serves the finest pure revelation in these and many other vital subjects.)

7) Fasting. I have done some fasting, but because of health reasons I have to be careful. However, we can fast more than just food and drink. For example: television, leisure activities, sex, as well as food/drink can be abstained from temporarily for the purpose of putting our flesh under and keeping it there. I find daily exercise is also a powerful discipline of my flesh. Fasting does what nothing else will: It enforces the legal position that Yeshua paid for – we died with Him – our bodies are dead and sin shall have no dominion over us. I find what works best is to live a fasted life rather than go on long extended fasts from food. Don't eat everything you want to. Skip some meals. Keep your body in subjection to your inner spirit man. This is essential for us: especially in those areas of besetting sins, compulsive addictions, and overcoming tough strongholds that we all face.

Now, beloved, I am not writing this to condemn you or to put you under laws and obligations. I know that our salvation is free and I live by love, and celebrate the grace of God. Nevertheless, grace is activated by faith. Faith comes from a disciplined life in the Word of God and prayer when we plant and sow it into our hearts on a daily basis. Stay in the grace of God and let the Holy Spirit lead you in how to implement these prayer and devotional habits into your life.

This is my final point:

THERE WILL BE NO TRUE AND LASTING VICTORY IN OUR LIVES WITHOUT A DAILY VIOLENT, RADICAL, AND TOTAL PURSUIT OF GOD IN THESE AREAS.

Are you spiritually fit for these last days? If not, repent and seek Him like never before!

Yeshua our Messiah pleaded with the disciples in the garden of Gethsemane, as it is written:

*“And he cometh to the disciples, and findeth them asleep, and saith unto Peter,
“**What, could ye not watch with me one hour? Watch and pray, that ye enter
not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing but the flesh is weak.**”*

My love to you all in our Messiah,

Maurice Sklar

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PRAISE GOD FOR B AND HER NEW JOB

JOURNAL 12-17-09

B was born 38 years ago today! What a wonderful gift she has been in my life! Thank You, God for lending her to me for these 38 years. I know she belongs to You, and I am very thankful for that!

B is to have a job interview either today or tomorrow at A Co. They are located in Kansas City, MO in the SE corner of the downtown loop. They work with medical insurance companies with their pharmacy benefits management software. B has some friends formerly from Y Corp. who work there and are recommending her there. I think we both sense that this may be the job the Lord is bringing her, and she should have it before the end of December. She may actually need to start work there Dec. 28th.

We are praying that she has favor there to be offered the job and that she knows, and has peace, if this is the job for her. It is a short-term contract position, but she thinks it could eventually turn into a hired position if they like her.

Be with her, Lord, and guide her through this interview and transition process.

Isaiah 50:4

The Sovereign Lord has given me an instructed tongue, to know the word that sustains the weary. He wakens me morning by morning, wakens my ear to listen like one being taught.

The Sovereign Lord has given me an instructed tongue, and He has put this declaration on my tongue today to speak forth in His Name. The Lord led me to declare, in Jesus' Name, that B will be offered the job, and that she will accept it, knowing the peace of the Lord in this. I declared that the Lord is in charge of this transition, and that He gets the glory and praise for it.

JOURNAL 12-18-09

B's interview with A Company is today at 3:15. I pray for You, Lord, to be with her and bless her and give her Your great favor today as she goes through this.

I will, Joan, and she will get a job from this interview. Watch and see what I will do to bring this about.

JOURNAL 12-21-09

Praise the Lord! Today B was offered a job (which she accepted!) at A Co., which handles Pharmacy Benefits Management for medical insurers. She has friends inside the company who gave her good recommendations. They also talked with her and helped her know what to expect in her interview - and that was helpful. God is so good!

I believe this is the right place for her right now. It is not a long-term employment yet but is a 6-month contract job right now. Hopefully they will like her and offer her long-term employment if that is what God has for her. We are both exceedingly grateful for this job! Thank You, Lord!

JOURNAL 12-29-09

B had her first day yesterday working at Argus Co. It went very well for her. She saw at least 7 people she knew already. She arranged a parking place at a parking garage across the street from her building. It seems that A, and the parent company, have work spaces in about 11-12 different buildings in the downtown loop area near each other.

She seemed pleased with her day and therefore I was pleased. We are very thankful to the Lord for her new job.

~ 25 ~

IN CHRIST WE SEE THE PERFECTION OF A SURRENDERED HEART

This article came by email. I wanted to copy it into my journal as I liked it.

The Christ Pattern

By Francis Frangipane

The seeking heart habitually looks to God. Was not this the inner working of Christ's heart? Yes, consider the perfections of Christ. Though He was the embodiment of God in Heaven, He laid aside His privileges of equality with God. Instead, He "emptied Himself" taking the appearance of a man, and as such patterned for us the way of a perfect man with God (Phil 2:4). What we see in Christ is, in truth, not merely the perfection of one's talent or leadership abilities; in Christ we see the perfection of a surrendered heart. His life is the maturation of spiritual dependency. Christ's incomparable righteousness, His stunning virtue and unparalleled strength of character all had to be appropriated from God the Father.



Christ shows us how God, manifested as a Son, submits to God, ruling as the Father. In so doing, Jesus also reveals how man, made in the image of God, draws spiritual strength and substance in seeking God as his life source.

It staggers me that the Son of God said of Himself, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good except God alone" (Mark 10:18). Of course Jesus was good! He was perfect. He who gazed upon Christ, feasted upon God. Yet, even here, Jesus models the pattern we must follow if we would find true spiritual fulfillment.

Christian, let us grasp this one great truth: *attaining righteousness is the result of seeking God.* Jesus had no plan of action other than to mirror the things He saw His Father doing. Everything we see Jesus accomplish on earth was, in fact, the result of His times of seeking God. We see the boldness of Christ and assume He moved in great faith and authority - and He most certainly did. Jesus was bold, but He was never self-willed. His faith came from seeing and hearing the Father. Whether by intuition or by physical sight or by hearing God's voice, Jesus had an inner "radar" that kept Him continually tracking and following the Father's heart.

Jesus did nothing on His own initiative (John 5:30; 8:28). The pattern He set for us is not one of a man wielding unlimited power, but a man pure in heart, seeking God as both a Son and servant. In so doing, He perfectly demonstrates that, when we ask for power or virtue from God, we are, in fact, asking to be nearer still to God the Father. The pure in heart see God; the work of power is, in truth, an act of obedience to what God revealed beforehand.

Lord, walking close to You is my plan. Hearing Your voice is my strategy. Knowing Your heart is my confidence. Master, I pray the prayer patterned by Your Son: not my will but Thine be done!

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

This message was adapted from a chapter in Pastor Frangipane's newest book, ***And I Will Be Found By You.***

~ 26 ~

LISTEN EACH DAY, AND ALL DAY, AND ALL NIGHT

As I awoke and looked at the clock this morning, the Lord said:

(7:47)

Like a 747 plane: a big ministry, flying high in the sky ministry, holding lots of people in it, close to Me, powerful, flying above the rest of the world/earth - that's what I have planned for you, Joan, and all those who believe in Me and follow Me and trust Me in these days, at this time in history, in this "fullness of time." It will be HUGE! You cannot even conceive of how huge it will be! I am giving you glimpses of it through Paul Keith Davis and others who are also believing Me and listening to Me and following Me in these days.

We're starting a new phase in our life together now, Joan, in December 2009. Things will be different from now on, from this day forth. And you will have this computer on a lot, listening to Me, and writing what I tell you. Then you can put it in your next book - which you will put on the web in January 2010.

It's here!

Yes, it's here - that for which you have been waiting for many years of your life, that for which you have prayed and sought Me, that for which you have gotten excited, that for which you yearn for, bringing many other people to Me for salvation. It's here, now!

A heart alive unto Me - that's what you have. I love your heart, Joan, because it is ALIVE UNTO ME! You know Me; you believe Me; you trust Me. And now, that heart (which I have put in you) will produce My fruit on the earth as I stir you, lead you, counsel you, speak to you, encourage you. Just LISTEN. Listen each day and all day and all night. I will do all this as you listen, follow what I tell you, speak what I say to speak - whenever I tell you to speak and to whomever I say to speak.

I WILL BE FOUND BY YOU!

And I will lead others to find Me - by you. Many will come to Me through you, since you have waited patiently for Me to lead you and guide you and protect you (as you wrote about in your first book). For these 5 1/2 years (since May, 2004) you have stayed hidden away, drawing closer and closer to Me, and writing My thoughts for others to read also. Now you will become "unhidden" as I have prophesied over you by Mel back in 2004. But, don't be afraid because I will do this gradually and easily for you. It will come "naturally" as you walk with Me each day. It will be YOU, expressing yourself - the YOU that I have changed you into. You have given Me permission to change you, and have even asked Me to change you into what I want you to be. I AM doing that, and I WILL do that.

~ 27 ~

I KNOW MY SHEEP

John 10:27-30 (NIV)

My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. I and the Father are one.

I'm your sheep, Lord?

Yes.

And no one can snatch me out of your hand?

That's right.

And I follow You?

That's right. You don't even know it or recognize it often, but you do follow Me.

And You and the Father are One?

Yes, and you are now one with us in spirit. That's why you will fit in with us in heaven, and with all the others who go there. No one will be out of place there or not fit in, because we will all be part of the One that We are when you come here. It is something which you will understand later, but now only partially know.

~ 28 ~

THE NEARNESS OF OUR GOD IS OUR GOOD

This article came by email. I wanted to copy it into my journal as I liked it.

The Nearness of Our God

By Francis Frangipane

In the 73rd Psalm, the psalmist Asaph expressed a struggle we all might feel at times. He questioned why the wicked seem to prosper while the righteous are chastened. The whole idea was troublesome until he entered the sanctuary of God. Once in the presence of God, Asaph realized his error. As he compared himself to the unbeliever, he saw that, apart from the influence of God, he had nothing in which to boast. He said, "When my heart was embittered and I was pierced within, then I was senseless and ignorant; I was like a beast before You" (vv. 21-22).

Finally, his soul brightened as he considered that God alone was his salvation, and his relationship with God was his strength. He wrote, "Nevertheless I am continually with You ... You will guide me, and afterward receive me to glory. Whom have I in heaven but You? And besides You, I desire nothing on earth ... God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever" (vv. 23-26).

The summary thought of Asaph's revelation, and the point of this chapter, is in verse 28. He wrote, "But as for me, the nearness of God is my good."

Let's settle this truth once and for all: It is the nearness of God that produces our good. Christianity was never designed by God to be sustained by nice people trying to appear good. We're not that good. We're not

that clever. And we're not that nice. The only thing that can sustain true Christianity is true union with Jesus Christ. It is nearness to Him in all things that produces our spiritual fruit.

If we are honest, we will admit that, apart from the influence and work of God, there is nothing morally superior or remarkably virtuous about our lives. Our flesh has the same carnal passions as do people in the world; our soul carries within it the same insecurities and fears. Thus, apart from the influence of Christ in us, there's no difference between Christians and non-Christians (except that Christians, when living separate from God's presence, can be more obnoxious). It's only our relationship with the Lord that keeps us from fulfilling the lusts and desires of the flesh, for apart from Him we can do nothing (John 15:5).

Therefore, the strength of our walk does not originate from within ourselves; rather it comes from our relationship with Christ. Our virtue, if it can be defined as such, is that we have learned to prioritize seeking God; our character is the offspring of our oneness with Jesus. By this I mean, Jesus is not only first on our list of priorities; His influence rules over all our priorities. He inspires love in our relationships; His voice becomes the conviction in our integrity. God has made "Christ Jesus" to be to us "wisdom ... and righteousness and sanctification, and redemption" (1 Cor. 1:30).

Thus, the God-seeker desires to find the Lord's pleasure drawn to every aspect of his soul. He also knows that, should an area of his heart exist in isolation from God, he will remain vulnerable to manipulation by the enemy in that area. So let me underscore the psalmist's truth, and let us say with our own voice of conviction: it is the nearness of our God that is our good.

Oh God, You are the lover of my soul. Faithfully, have You extended Your hands toward me. Yet, I have been, at times, a drifter and distant. Master, this day I acknowledge my most wonderful times are those spent close to You. When my heart is near to You, I am partaking of the nectar of life.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Taken from Pastor Frangipane's newest book, ***And I Will Be Found By You***.



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THE BIRTHING OF THE GREAT HARVEST

A DREAM ABOUT SHOWING A PICTURE INSIDE A BODY THAT WAS PREGNANT

In this dream the setting seemed to be in a church. There was a man who showed a picture on a screen (using some kind of a projector machine) about what happens inside the person who is pregnant. The picture seemed to be showing a large round cavity inside a body and what it looked like.

In another scene I was meeting with Dr. N and she was discussing with me about being pregnant, and what things a person could do to help it.

In another scene I was talking with a man (who maybe was the pastor) standing at the office area. Near him some other man was setting up and using a large switchboard area to place many, many calls to people giving out information about this same topic, I think, but

it wasn't spoken. The man/pastor was talking about how important this was and what a big thing this was - calling many people to tell them.

The body refers to the Body of Christ on earth. The large round cavity refers to the spiritual space that has something preparing for birthing in it.

The man showing the picture to you is the Holy Spirit. He is "projecting" this picture to you by revelation through this dream.

I, Jesus, am the Doctor, and I am discussing with you what you can do to help this birthing process through this dream.

The Holy Spirit and I are those two men (pastor and switchboard operator) and we are sending out many, many calls on our communication apparatus to people giving them information about this new thing which is about to happen - which is the birthing of the Great Harvest.

It is very important. It is a BIG thing. I am calling many people to tell them. This dream is a prophetic picture of what I am doing now - NOW.

~ 30 ~

MANY DISTRACTIONS NOW, BUT THAT WILL SOON CHANGE

A DREAM ABOUT TRYING TO FACILITATE A SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION IN A NOISY ROOM

In this dream I was facilitating a group discussion around questions. These were planned to help us deal with spiritual needs in our lives. We were in a large room, and there were other people in the room and lots of noise. The noise kept us from being able to hear each other very well and focus on our discussion. Also, the people in the small group kept moving around which broke the concentration of the group. I kept trying to continue and to improve the ability of the group to seriously discuss the questions. I asked other people in the room to go to a different room for their talking. I thought the people in the small group might eventually want to study a discipleship book together like *Experiencing God* or *MasterLife*. I was trying to guide the discussion toward questions from those materials.

The noisy room is the earth realm. I just wanted you to see how difficult and frustrating it is for you to try to disciple people right now on earth. There are many distractions keeping this from happening. BUT THAT WILL SOON CHANGE. Then many will come for discipling and will WANT to learn from you and discuss things with you. Look for this to change soon...when that great harvest starts...soon. When Billy Graham dies, that will be

the sign of the beginning of the great harvest. Watch for it. I want you (and B) to be ready, and I will get you ready. That is My job and I will do it.

~ 31 ~

ORAL ROBERTS

Last night I watched "Praise the Lord" show on TBN. The first hour Paul Crouch, his sons, and Benny Hinn were talking about Oral Roberts (whose memorial service was today) and I took a few notes on things they said.

- Benny Hinn said that in 1989 the Lord told him that the passing of Oral Roberts and Billy Graham would mark the beginning of the greatest harvest the world has ever seen.
- Benny Hinn said that Katherine Kuhlman said two times that the day would come when all would be healed. I think that meant like all in a healing meeting who came for healing, but he didn't say that.
- Kim Clement sent Benny Hinn a message yesterday and said that Benny would get Oral Robert's anointing - I think on top of, or added to, the anointing he already has.
- Benny Hinn told of a dream he had perhaps 10 years ago where he saw Oral Roberts and Elijah. Elijah held a staff and was turning water into blood. Oral Roberts put his hand above Elijah's on the staff and turned young when he did. Oral also began to sing. Benny said that shortly before Oral died he began singing.

~ 32 ~

FEAR, STRESS, AND ANXIETY

Be Anxious for Nothing, Nothing...Nothing!

by Bobby Conner

Dec 22, 2009

American culture is a cauldron of fear, stress and anxiety. Nervousness and worry plague our business lives, home lives, social lives—and even our church lives. We live with silent murmurs in our souls: What if I lose my job? What if my child goes astray? What if he doesn't...she can't...we don't...?

We seem to work harder and longer every year—but find less and less peace. We face more and more unanswered questions—and find more and more reason to fear. We worry that war and terror attacks may occur at anytime and anywhere. We worry about whether our struggling economy can

recover. We worry about aging and health. We have stress at our job or stress about our lack of a job.

Our families can be a place of comfort—or a place of anxiety, especially concerning our children. Someone once said, "A mother is only as happy as her saddest child," which is true for fathers, also. We all carry loved ones in our hearts—their battles becoming ours, adding stress and anxiety to the load we already carry. Indeed, anxiety seems to be the American Way! And even the way of Believers. Fear, depression and worry are common in the daily lives of most Christians—but, according to the Word of God, none are welcome in the soul of the Believer!

The Bible commands us to be anxious for nothing. The Bible commands us to fear not. Survey the Bible and take note of the many times the Lord commands His people—indeed, even the great heroes of the faith—not to fear:

Genesis 15:1: "Fear not, Abram"
Numbers 21:34: "Moses, fear him not"
Joshua 8:1: "Joshua, fear not"
Daniel 10:12: "Fear not, Daniel"
Matthew 1:20: "Joseph, thou son of David, fear not"
Luke 1:13: "Fear not, Zacharias"
Luke 1:30: "Fear not, Mary"
Luke 5:10: "Simon, fear not"
Acts 27:24: "Fear not, Paul"

The Lord instructs all His people, the sheep of His pasture, not to fear:

Isaiah 41:14: "Fear not...ye men of Israel"
Joel 2:21: "Fear not, O land"
Zephaniah 3:16: "Jerusalem, fear thou not"
Luke 12:32: "Fear not, little flock"
John 12:15: "Fear not, daughter of Zion"

Note also the many times righteous men and women of faith encouraged God's people not to fear:

Genesis 50:19: And Joseph said unto them, "Fear not..."
Exodus 20:20: And Moses said unto the people, "Fear not..."
Joshua 10:25: And Joshua said unto them, "Fear not..."
1 Samuel 12:20: And Samuel said unto the people, "Fear not..."
2 Samuel 9:7: And David said unto him, "Fear not..."
1 Kings 17:13: And Elijah said unto her, "Fear not..."

We needn't come under condemnation if fear and anxiety are engrafted into our souls, but we do need to find the cure that will eradicate these besetting sins—once and for all.

Stress is Not a Sickness—but a Sin

We see commercials promising relief from stress and depression, and we can buy pills for almost any ill, mental or physical. Stress-related anxiety has become so familiar, so accepted, that it has become part of our everyday lives. Unfortunately, we no longer recognize fear and anxiety for what

they are: sin. We medicate stress but do not change the habits of fear that caused stress in the first place. Do not be deceived: fear and anxiety are sin. At its core, fear is a stubborn refusal to trust the goodness of God or rest in His power. Anxiety is a by-product of unbelief. It is a spiritual "terror attack" from Hell that is silently killing tens of thousands every day.

You will not find the cure for anxiety in a pill. A pill may numb uncomfortable feelings and adjust brain chemistry, but it won't address the spiritual root of the physical problem. Your serotonin may be depleted...but it is your faith in God that is also depleted. You will not overcome fear through a self-help book. Soulful teachings may adjust cognitive and behavioral patterns for a season, but the soul cannot cure itself, no matter how determined we are to change. The belief that we can exert our will-power to change or redeem ourselves is exactly what the Lord came to overturn at Calvary.

And, unfortunately, you will not conquer fear and worry through a divine impartation or anointing, or even by attending another glory conference! Some Believers develop a dependency on others' anointing, or even on godly counsel and prayer, when the Lord is asking each of us to learn to drink from His well within us, looking to the Holy Spirit as our Teacher and Comforter.

What is the lasting antidote for anxiety? How do we repent and be healed from this besetting sin of fear? How do we rise above stress and abide continuously in the divine peace that Christ won for us on the Cross? Where do we turn, then, to find the antidote for anxiety? Where do we find the lasting cure for fear?

The antidote for negative thoughts or emotions is simple: we must obey the Word of God. The only cure for fear and anxiety is abiding in the Word, the person of Christ Jesus. Paul declares in Philippians 4:6-7:

Do not fret or have any anxiety about anything, but in every circumstance and in everything, by prayer and petition (definite requests), with thanksgiving, continue to make your wants known to God. And God's peace (shall be yours, that tranquil state of a soul assured of its salvation through Christ, and so fearing nothing from God and being content with its earthly lot of whatever sort that is, that peace) which transcends all understanding shall garrison and mount guard over your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. (Amplified Bible)

Consider this passage in another translation, from The Message Bible:

Don't fret or worry. Instead of worrying, pray. Let petitions and praises shape your worries into prayers, letting God know your concerns. Before you know it, a sense of God's wholeness, everything coming together for good, will come and settle you down. It's wonderful what happens when Christ displaces worry at the center of your life.

The answer to stress and anxiety is not medication, but the Master! This is the pattern we need to learn: as we turn our inner focus, our will, to Christ and place our affections on Him, adjusting our thoughts to the Word, we will discover abiding peace. This is the Enoch walk of the overcomer! Christ's Presence within us is our assurance that we can live in peace, even in times of pressure and turmoil. The promise is much more than just merely getting through the tough times; He promises us perfect peace and constant contentment!

How can this be true? It is true because the Kingdom of God is within us. The Prince of Peace abides within us! We have a blood-bought right to walk in uninterrupted shalom, free from all anxiety and fear, because of the living, breathing presence of Christ in our temple.

Does this sound too good to be true? Despite how your mind or heart may argue, the Scriptures are always true, and are filled with examples of people living in peace in overwhelming situations. Abraham believed God, even as he raised the knife over Isaac. Caleb and Joshua believed God's promises after 40 years in the desert. Mary believed God's Word, having never known a man—and her soul rejoiced!

Christ Himself believed His Father even as He was crucified. When He overcame sin, fear and death at Calvary, we overcame them in Him. We were united with Him in death, then united with Him in His resurrection. The Cross stripped the power from fear and anxiety: they no longer have legal mastery over our souls—unless we let them rule.

We must repent from allowing fear and anxiety to rule in our lives. We can and must experience the peace of God that surpasses all human understanding. In our union with His resurrection, we have been given open access to perfect peace. How do we abide in this peace as a daily, lived experience? By keeping our mind, will and emotions fixed on Christ.

Whenever the *emotions* stray from peace, ask for forgiveness and return to the heart of your Beloved, found in His Word. Whenever the *mind* strays from peace, ask for forgiveness and return to the truths of your Beloved, found in His Word. Whenever the *will* strays from peace, ask for forgiveness and return to radical dependence on your Beloved's good will, found in His Word.

Ponder the promise in Isaiah 26:3-4, "You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You. Trust in the Lord forever, for in YAH, the Lord, is everlasting strength."

Never doubt that God is good and He does good (Nahum 1:7): **"The Lord is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble; and He knows those who trust in Him."** This is the Rock on which you can stand when the storms come your way—and they will indeed come (Matthew 7:24-27). Despite the storms, however, God's plans and purposes for you are **wonderful (Jeremiah 29:11): "For I know the thoughts that I think toward you,' says the Lord, 'thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.'"**

You must distinguish between the truths of God and the facts of your existence—and choose to trust the Lord, no matter what you perceive or feel. Look not at the facts of your life, think not about the facts of your life and do not place your emotions upon the facts of your life...but upon the truths of these marvelous Scriptures, and you will abide in peace.

Instead of worry and anxiety, recall this to mind: The Lord's compassion and mercies are overwhelming (Lamentations 3:20-24). When I recall this, I have hope. I am not consumed because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning. Great is His faithfulness!

Your battleground is not the circumstances of your life. Not at all. The true battlegrounds of the enemy are your mind, will and emotions. Keeping your thoughts and heart focused on good things will prevent darkness from overtaking your soul.

Philippians 4:8-9: Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things. The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you.

Paul wrote, "**Be anxious for nothing**" (Philippians 4:6). We must stay focused upon Christ and His unchangeable Kingdom if we are to have abiding peace during these days of chaos (Matthew 6:33-34): "**But seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.**"

There is no greater warfare than our abiding with the Prince of peace. The God of peace will crush our foe under our feet (Romans 16:20). The moment you feel the loss of peace, repent and ask for the Forgiver Himself to flood you with His peace. Have no doubt—He will bring peace because He always keeps His promises.

Media Madness

One of the most powerful avenues for confusion and chaos into our soul is the media—television, movies, newspapers and magazines. Much of the mainstream media has an agenda that is far removed from God's plans and purposes, with an agenda to mold the minds of the unsuspecting. Much of the media is motivated by political agendas: reporting the whole truth is no longer honored, no longer the highest aim of journalism.

Although the Scriptures admonish us to keep our mind on that which is holy, we are constantly bombarded with bad news, chaos, misinformation, censorship and conflicting reports. We have but one source of Truth, one that can bring stability and hope to every heart, and that Good News source is the Word of God. The Word of God is powerful and perfect.

Psalm 19:1-11: The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament shows His handiwork. Day unto day utters speech, and night unto night reveals knowledge. There is no speech nor language where their voice is not heard. Their line has gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them He has set a tabernacle for the sun, which is like a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, and rejoices like a strong man to run its race. Its rising is from one end of heaven, And its circuit to the other end; And there is nothing hidden from its heat.

The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple; the statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes; the fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever; the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb. Moreover by them Your servant is warned, and in keeping them there is great reward.

Now is the time to present the real Truth that will set the anxious heart free: Christ stated that we shall know the truth and the truth will set us free. Yet many are anything but free, living in panic, having watched too many news broadcasts that predict doom and gloom. This is not a time to run in fear, but rather, to stand firm in faith. We do not need to stumble in the dark but rather leap in the light (Psalm 119:130).

Choose to set your mind on the Good News—not on broadcasts of despair. Choose to let your emotions glory in the Cross—not the losses on Wall Street. Choose to turn your will to stand on His promises—not on the slippery slope of what if.

In a world shaken by financial, environmental and political upheavals, we must remain calm as followers of the Prince of Peace, constantly pointing men to the solid Rock of Christ. During this time of shaking, we must remain steadfast: nothing takes God by surprise. God is not sitting in Heaven, ringing His hands, saying, "I never saw that coming!" On the contrary, God has everything under His control. I've read the back of the book, and it's no surprise: we win! Christ has won! In Christ Jesus, you are more than victorious (Romans 8:37). You are called to live as more than conquerors, not as victims (1 John 4:4). The promise from Isaiah 54:17 states that no weapon that comes against you will work.

Choose this day to believe the Word and to turn from doubt, fear and unbelief. Choose this day to repent—for fear is sin. We are accusing God of a lack of faithfulness, of being unkind, of ignoring us, forgetting us, not loving us. Repent of fear and receive the lovingkindness of your Father, who will never forsake you. His perfect love—no matter the circumstance—casts out fear. Love is stronger than death itself.

These Days were Prophesied

I'm rather shocked to see how the Body of Christ has been shaken by the current economic and political situations—as if the Church has been caught off guard. Did we not read the Word of God? It should come as no surprise that we are facing the end-times. The Word of God informs us that in the last days, the world would face untold problems and perilous times. Why are we surprised by global disasters, wars, earthquakes and pandemic diseases? Over and over again, the Bible gives us clear warnings concerning the last days.

2 Timothy 3:1-5: But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!

These days were prophesied, but Jesus said, "Do not be terrified" (Luke 21:9). As followers of Christ, we must not panic. Christ also warned that, because of world conditions, men's hearts would fail them "from fear and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth" (Luke 21:26 NKJV). This, unfortunately, is taking place in our day. Not only will these events generate fear worldwide, but the expectation of difficulties will cause men's hearts to fail.

Indeed, doctors are reporting that heart failure is the number one cause of disease-related deaths in North America. Stress and strain resulting from the cares of this world are very real; however, God

invites us to come to Him and cast all our cares upon Him, reminding us that His yoke is easy and His burdens are light. We must slow down and focus on Christ. Psalm 46:10-11 admonishes us to "Be still and know...God."

I am not suggesting we become passive; however, we ought to abandon our fears and the stressful anxieties that come from not trusting in God. One title for the Messiah is "Immanuel," which means "God with us." Jesus promised to be with us "even to the end of the age" (Matthew 28:20). At some point, we must accept the wonder and power of Christ's promise. He is with us always! To mistrust this promise is to reject the very character of the divine nature. It is not a minor issue.

Jesus says, "Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light" (Matthew 11:28-30).

My friend, let us come to Him! Cast your burdens upon Him, for truly He cares for you!

Break your addiction to stress. Repent. Repent. Repent! God's Word promises that the God of peace will crush Satan beneath your feet (Romans 16:20). Believe that. Trust Him. Repent from fear and anxiety by admitting that all fear and anxiety is sin.

Break the bondage of fear and anxiety in order to walk as sons and daughters of God, who are anxious for nothing. You are not called to face these dark days with dark hearts. On the contrary, you are called to have hearts filled with divine light! Do not be afraid of the dark, little children: our God reigns.

You are not alone—you are not facing the future without the help of God (Joshua 1:9). You are a child of God, called and commissioned to live in the light (1 John 1:5-7). Never, never, never forget you are called to be the head and not the tail (Deuteronomy 28:13). The foe of your soul is attempting to get your focus on the problems and away from the promises of God.

Turn away from problems. Turn to the promises. Turn away from any thought, feeling or intention that does not bring peace. How do you turn away? Repent. Repent and the Forgiver Himself will flood you with His peace. Without fail.

The nightly news reports continue to paint a dark picture and it is easy to feel the gloom seeping into our culture right now. But we must set our mind on things above. We must think on good things. Arise, come out of the murkiness, shake yourself from the fog, focus on Christ. This turning of our soul to the Word of God will drive away the spirit of fear and cast out anxiety.

A Time of Great Potential and Possibility

Yes, times are rough, yet while these are hard times, God is still working all things for good. His Word and Promises do not change just because the stock market is down and your 401k is not what it used to be. "Hard" times do not mean "bad" times; it just means that we must apply faith, keep listening to God, and—for Heaven's sake—keep our joy, for the joy of the Lord is truly our strength!

Times of darkness are actually when the leaders of tomorrow are being forged. If you see light while others see gloom, your faith will inspire others to follow you into the future (Isaiah 50:4). These will not be easy times, but we must stand strong on the Word of God: "Do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward" (Hebrews 10:35). The reward will be great for those who trust God.

We are on the brink of many new breakthroughs in the natural realm and also in the Kingdom of God, especially in the next three to five years. Consider technology. The Spirit of God is releasing wisdom and insights! New sciences are developing energy sources that have zero emissions and are utilizing resources that are abundantly available. Oil will still be necessary—and the news reports stating that we are running out of oil are wrong. Huge oil fields offshore in Brazil and also in the upper Dakotas and Canada offer hope for lower energy costs.

New breakthroughs are also emerging in medical research. Health cures for many of mankind's most devastating diseases, including cancer and Alzheimer's Disease, are on the horizon. I was encouraged by a vivid vision recently; I watched as a formula slowly made its way in front of my eyes. I inquired, "What is this?" I was told this is the cure for AIDS. Expect to see a genuine breakthrough in this area. These discoveries have the potential to be as stunning as Jonas Salk's vaccine in eliminating polio.

Do you want to partake of these wonderful breakthroughs—not only in science but in the arts and media? Also in government and, indeed, in every part of culture? Contend with the Lord that you may prevail, even in the knowledge of "witty inventions" (Proverbs 8:12). As we obey the commandments of God, the blessing of God will overtake us (Deuteronomy 28:1-20)—but know this: you will not prosper in this time if you continue to abide in the sin of anxiety rather than the peace of God. It is as we seek first the Kingdom of God that all these other things are added to us (Matthew 6:33).

Pray this prayer with me, with all your heart: Lord, forgive me for my sin of anxiety. I renounce fear. Forgiver, come to and through those places of fear and anxiety in my emotions and thoughts. I turn my will to follow after You, to fix my heart and mind on You. I declare that my soul is Your property. I choose this day to believe Your Word, and trust that You have promised to care for me. I believe this promise. I come to You and entrust all I am into Your love and care. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

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HUMBLING US, FEEDING US, AND TEACHING US

As I went through my journal, I came to this Scripture. I feel there is a lot the Lord wants to reveal to me through it, so He led me to copy it into today's journal writing for further meditation.

(Deuteronomy 8:3) He humbled you, causing you to hunger and then feeding you with manna, which neither you nor your fathers had known, to teach you that man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

I believe THAT is something the Lord is going to be teaching us in this coming year...that we don't live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord. Through this process He will be humbling us, feeding us, and teaching us. Thank You, Lord!

~ 34 ~

EVEN SO, COME LORD JESUS

(New Year's Eve)

This is the last day of 2009. Amazing to me is that we Christians are still here, and the Lord still has more harvest to bring in. Praise the Lord for that!

I believe, from all I have heard through the prophets, that in this coming year, soon, the Great Harvest will begin (and perhaps has already begun!). Yeah! It will be the fulfillment of the growth of all the "good seed" the Lord has planted on the earth. Those good seed will mature and be harvested. This may last several years. But also the bad seed has been maturing and will be harvested soon, too, that Jesus told us about in Matthew 13:24-30.

Jesus told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared.

"The owner's servants came to him and said, 'Sir, didn't you sow good seed in your field? Where then did the weeds come from?'

"'An enemy did this,' he replied.

"The servants asked him, 'Do you want us to go and pull them up?'

""No,' he answered, 'because while you are pulling the weeds, you may root up the wheat with them. Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn.'"

This is what I expect to happen in 2010 - the harvest. It may come in the midst of many tribulations in the world. All this will be leading up to THE Tribulation of seven years after the Christians are taken off the earth in the Rapture.

Come, Lord Jesus, and reap your harvest! And then bring your Bride, Your Saints, home to be with You. Even so, Come, Lord Jesus! (Revelation 22:20)

That's my prayer at the end of this year and for the coming year: "Even so, come, Lord Jesus!"

~ 35 ~

AT MY CHURCH

As I talk with the Lord about what is going on at my church, I believe He wants to instruct me about that.

I am hearing you, Joan, and I am ready to instruct you, teach you, about things going on at your church. You have believed for a long time (maybe 1 year or so) that something isn't right there. You have seen that there is not power there anymore for change, and not power for receiving revelation and communicating it, and not power for healing (even though your pastor says there are healings at the monthly healing session). Actually this is not correct. There is not the power or authority for healing there anymore. It is gone, finished, done, not alive. There used to be such power and authority, but it has left. Why?

Because of sin. Sin against Me. Rebellion against Me. So I withdrew My power from there. You miss My Presence there. You want My Presence there, and I want My Presence there. But it cannot be now, due to sin. When the sin is corrected and cleansed and repented of, then I can return. Pray for that to happen. Pray for My miracles, signs, and wonders to return. That's why there are financial difficulties. I cannot bless that which isn't of Me. I'm keeping you there so you can pray for this and these.

You want me to stay there?

For now, I want you to stay there - for ministry, as I told you before. But it may not be forever. I will tell you if things change and get worse and harden against My way. If that happens, then I may have you leave there. Just keep communicating with Me about this.

You're judging our leadership?

Yes, and they have been found wanting by Me. I am shaking them to bring about change, but they get to choose if they will change. I will let you know.

~ 36 ~

ASK, SEEK, KNOCK

Last night I listened to a Benny Hinn teaching on CD about developing intimacy with God. It was excellent! I wanted to end the old year with that teaching, and I want to begin the New Year with that teaching. Therefore, I want to listen to it again today and take notes which I plan to put here. I believe in this New Year the Lord wants me to come closer to Him, and I want that too.

Benny compared steps in coming close to God to the three steps in the Temple: Outer court, Holy Place, and Holy of Holies. He also compared it to Jesus' teaching of asking, seeking, knocking.

The Lord says if I wait before Him, He will tell me of things to come in 2010 – things which I can set before me as goals to look toward and see a purpose for living during this New Year.

Yes, yes, yes. You can write that down.

Now cleanse yourself as in the Courtyard.

You already have My blood because you took communion this morning.

Now wash yourself. In the water of My Word.

Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on Thee, because he trusts in Thee. (Isaiah 26:3)

Keep my mind stayed on You.

Yes.

I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go. I will counsel you and watch over you. (Psalm 32:8)

That's all.

Now come into the Holy Place. What's in there?

The lighted candlestick (menorah), the showbread on a table, and the altar of incense.

What are they for?

You are the Light of the World and I am to be a light also. There are seven lights and they refer to the completion of Your light going forth in the world – through Your people. (Isaiah 11:2-3; John 8:12; Matt. 5:16)

You are the Bread of Life. I am to eat of the Bread of Your Presence. Your bread gives me sustenance and provision. And I did that when I took communion this morning.

The altar of incense is the place to offer up prayers as You put them into my heart and mind – Your prayers offered by Your people. It is to prepare the way for going in to the Holy of Holies. Larry Lea taught me how to spend one hour with the Father going through the Lord's prayer. I believe I am to do that now.

**Our Father, who art in heaven
Hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done,
On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power,
And the glory, forever. Amen.**

All right. Do all these things.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.

Don't ever take My Name in vain, Joan, just as I taught you at church camp when you were a child.

Your kingdom come and Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

This is where I especially want you to listen to Me, Joan, because as I show you what is to come in 2010, then you can pray for that and decree it for Me.

OK, Father.

Go on with the rest of the prayer.

Give us this day our daily bread.

Thank You for the daily bread which You give me each day, Lord. And thank you for today's daily bread. Thank you for all the bountiful provisions you have given B and me day after day after day. You have blessed us SO much!

You're welcome, My child. It is My delight to provide for you and for you to be grateful to Me for it. It will continue that way. Keep praying for your daily bread. It is one day at a time.

And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.

Have I forgiven all my debtors, Lord? If not, please bring them to my mind that I may do so.

You have forgiven them all, Joan, and you may continue on.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

I will keep you (plural) from temptation and evil.

For Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

* * *

And now you are ready to come into the Holy of Holies. And here I want you to just listen to Me, and worship Me, and love Me.

I worship You, Father, before the Ark of Your Presence.

Don't touch the Ark of My Presence, Joan, or you will die. It is so powerful, it will electrocute you with its power. But come close to Jesus, your Lord, for He is the Mediator between us – you and Me.

Jesus, I come before You.

I know you do, Joan, and I am waiting for you.

Each day, as you come into My Presence, I will do as I choose to do. Don't ask Me for anything. Just listen to Me, and write when I tell you to write.

Ok, Lord.

I put My blood on the Ark of the Covenant in heaven, and it cleanses you. Come to Me before that Ark of My Presence in heaven to hear from Me as you wait before Me – now.

Yes, Lord.

You are clean and pure before Me because of that blood which I put there – for you.

Now just wait.

Ask: to be cleansed and for My blood to cover your sins.

Seek: for My light, My body/bread, and My prayers to pray.

Knock: at the door of My Presence for permission to listen to Me and pray and decree prayers for Me.

And I say "yes" to you.

This is what I want you to pray for, for 2010. Don't write anything unless I say it. Don't put any of your own prayers or wishes or desires here – just Mine.

- 1. I want peace on earth in 2010 – but that peace will only come to those who follow Me and do what I instruct them to do. THEY will have My peace. "Peace on earth to men of good will." Good will means My will. Only My will is good.*
- 2. I want My harvest to come strongly and forcefully into the earth realm in 2010. This will happen through those who follow Me and do what I instruct them to do. But they must follow Me explicitly and exactly, without inserting their will into the situation. So, as My people do this, My harvest will come.*
- 3. Many people will say they are Mine who aren't. I will shake them and work with them to enable them to see that they don't belong to Me – yet. Those who are being shaken like this do have the opportunity to make a commitment to Me and become Mine. I will enable you to understand when this is happening so you can explain this to them and they can then choose whether to commit their lives to Me or not.*
- 4. I know you want your loved ones to come to Me, and I promise I will work mightily with them this year, including all your brothers and sisters and their families.*
- 5. For K and J –I will work mightily in their behalf so they can grow into a closer relationship with Me and with My Church, My Bride.*

That's all for today, Joan.

~ 37 ~

A DREAM ABOUT WHITEY, HIS BALL BAT, "REDUCTIONS" OF WORDS

In the beginning part of this dream I was at some sort of place, like a camp maybe. I seemed to be there with some other girls. While there we heard about some boy named Whitey who seemed to be known as a difficult person or was talked about for something. Whitey left camp before we did. He left his ball bat at camp. One of the leaders gave that ball bat to us.

That leader also gave us several things that were reductions of things, like maybe words or sentences, that were in a reduced-down state, but could later be enlarged. So I took those

"reductions", put them in a scrapbook, and wrote a description of what took place at that camp.

In the next scene of the dream I/we were someplace else together in our room. The leaders in this place were telling us about using the things from that first camp and putting them in this second area we were in. I showed them the bat, and told them about Whitey, and let them read my account about that. I also told them about the "reductions" I had from there.

I want you to know that I AM "Whitey" and some people will look at Me as notorious in a negative way, but I am not negative. I am the most positive person who ever lived on earth. I am the good that all people need. I am the answer to everyone's questions. I am the best friend, and the lover of mankind who will receive Me that way, as you do. AND I have the weapon needed for you to endure life on earth and be victorious.

My weapon is Myself as the Holy Spirit, AND My Words, when they are enlarged in your heart. My words are alive and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, remember? They are even better than a ball bat. But they must be stored and recorded in your scrapbook of thoughts and memories, and must be read and enlarged in your heart and mind to be useful to you.

I AM also very dangerous to those who don't receive Me. Remember that. Benny Hinn pointed that out in the teaching you heard last night. I am also very dangerous to those who are Christians who resist Me, refuse to obey Me, and then go their own way following their own will. I am dangerous to all who are against Me. Without Me, you have nothing of value, nothing of eternal life in you, nothing to bring you to heaven when you die.

That's all right (that I'm giving you so much to write today). I am going to give you much more to write now and from now on. I am going to reveal Myself more to you since you have asked to come closer to Me and know Me better. I say "yes" to that request. I heard your prayers last night while listening to Benny Hinn. I say "yes" to them. I felt your worship and prayers in My heart. Now I will share much more with you as you stay close to Me - all day, every day - in prayer and communication.

~ 38 ~

BEAR MUCH FRUIT

If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples..... As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love.

I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. (John 15:7-11 NIV)

What I ask for, Lord, is You.

I want to bear much fruit and thereby bring the Father glory.

This writing is your fruit, Joan. It does bring Me glory. You ARE a fruitful vine in My garden of delights. You WILL remain in My love as you follow Me and obey Me. I will not lead you in a bad place, a place not good for you. I will only lead you in a good place, so you don't need to be afraid of following Me, even though you don't know where you're going. It will be to a good place - because that's the kind of God I am.

~ 39 ~

WHO WILL WHOLLY SUBMIT THEMSELVES - SPIRIT, SOUL, AND BODY

(Quotes from *Angels That Gather* by Paul Keith Davis)

(192)

Our ultimate purpose is to experience union with Jesus and cooperate with His Spirit to see the wealth of His sacrifice recognized in this generation and His harvest realized.

This truth will form our cornerstone in the last-day outpouring. There is an escalation of release on earth to facilitate His Kingdom's revelation so that Jesus receives His complete reward. Highlighted revelatory truth is being set before us through words, not taught by human wisdom but by the Holy Spirit; consolidating spiritual truth with spiritual language through those possessing the Spirit of Understanding. There are corporate and personal messages proceeding from God's heart relative to our destiny and position in Heaven's economy. Paul said:

Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may know the things freely given to us by God, which things we also speak, not in words taught by human wisdom, but in those taught by the Spirit, combining spiritual thoughts with spiritual words. (1 Corinthians 2:12-13)

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Gaining the understanding that the Lord is grooming us for something significant transforms our mind-set and generates hope to displace hopelessness.

Our souls have been sifted - establishing contrition, humility, and meekness - so that we may carry greater levels of power and authority.

The Lord is granting the Spirit of Revelation to open "eyes and ears" to a place of fellowship with Him that displaces despair and depression. In its place, "first-love" affections are being re-ignited. Holy desperation is saturating the hearts of a bridal company who will not be satisfied merely hearing the testimony of others who have encountered the Lord Jesus - they must have their own experiential relationship.

(195)

Our purest service to Him is motivated from a place of friendship and the revelation of His desire we obtain by waiting admiringly upon Him. The Lord is more concerned about what we are *becoming* than what we are *doing*.

(196)

The Lord is presently speaking very pointedly about the Church's need to move into spiritual maturity. Many people living in this generation have a unique and holy attribute woven into their spiritual DNA. A predetermined virtue provokes us to move beyond the outer court and into the Holy Place and the expression of His Kingdom - it is divine destiny.

(197)

These blueprints for our lives are already recorded in Heaven's archives (Psalm 139:16). It remains up to each of us individually to cooperate with the Lord in their fulfillment.

Our ultimate personal destiny is to be conformed to the image of Jesus Christ.

One of the foremost aspects of identifying our destiny is to also understand the stewardship of spiritual provision essential for its fulfillment.

The Lord is drawing a "line in the sand" as a boundary or line of demarcation to determine who will cross over and wholly submit themselves - spirit, soul, and body. We are presently living at a crucial juncture in time that will be looked upon for years to come as a pivotal crossroad in human history. We must carefully make our choices and decisions through prayer and greater understanding of His Word.

~ 40 ~

IT HAS ALREADY STARTED

I watched as the Lamb opened the first of the seven seals. Then I heard one of the four living creatures say in a voice like thunder, "Come!" I looked, and there before me was a white horse! Its rider held a bow, and he was given a crown, and he rode out as a conqueror bent on conquest.

When the Lamb opened the second seal, I heard the second living creature say, "Come!" Then another horse came out, a fiery red one. Its rider was given power to take peace from the earth and to make men slay each other. To him was given a large sword.

When the Lamb opened the third seal, I heard the third living creature say, "Come!" I looked, and there before me was a black horse! Its rider was holding a pair of scales in his hand. Then I heard what sounded like a voice among the four living creatures, saying, "A quart of wheat for a day's wages, and three quarts of barley for a day's wages, and do not damage the oil and the wine!" (Revelation 6:1-6)

It has already started, Joan, the early stages of it. Certainly the first, second, third seals have begun. Those who are trying to conquer are going forth in much more strength now than you have ever seen before. The rider who takes peace from the earth has begun to do that. And the third rider has begun to take an economic toll on the earth's economy. You can see that. Therefore you know the Rapture is not far away, because it comes before these seals come into full force.

The "great earthquake" will come in its time - and you are right in thinking that could be a nuclear explosion(s). That will come, but not while you are here on earth.

(8:08 a.m.) New beginnings, new beginnings. You will soon have a brand new beginning, Joan, by coming up here in Heaven to be with Me. Then you will begin a new phase of your eternal life - a phase you have been looking forward to for a long time...a phase of being with Me ALL THE TIME. No more distractions of earthly things and earthly problems to live through and solve...as you solved the problem of L getting stuck on the snow and ice on your driveway last night. Your part of the solution came through prayer, while I sent help to B and L to help with removing the car. I did it.

Thank You, Lord!

(2:34 p.m.) As I look at the clock I see 2-3-4, and the Lord reminds me that "everything is in order" to carry out what He is doing on the earth right now. He reminds me of this when I see the clock with three numbers in order.

~ 41 ~

IT IS COMING

I am separating out My people unto Me, Joan, and forming the bundles of those who don't belong to Me. The separation is getting farther and farther apart and less able to relate to each other now. The time has come. The wheat and the tares are much more clearly identified now. You can see that too in what is happening in the world and in your country. I am in charge of it all. Don't be afraid of what you are going through. Just trust in Me to supply your needs and protect you at all times - including your children.

I saw a picture of jonquils blooming in the spring, so I said: "It is coming, isn't it, Lord."

Yes, it is coming, and the harvest will "break out" like the daffodils break forth from their wintry covering/grave. This will be the last harvest while you are still on earth, Joan, because, after that particular harvest, you will be taken away, raptured from the earth. Then another harvest will come, due to the rapture and its effects on mankind and on the

earth. To suddenly have millions less people on earth will affect it greatly, especially since those millions, through the Holy Spirit in them, held back evil from taking over. There will be nothing to keep it from taking charge then. You will see this from up here, not from down there where you are now.

~ 42 ~

The Blessed Hope: Rapture, Wrath and Revival

Maurice Sklar
Jan 2, 2010

Dear Friends,

As we enter into the second decade of the 21st century, we are in both the most exciting and also the most perilous times that have ever existed on planet earth. Right before our eyes, the Bible is coming to life! Bible prophecies are being fulfilled at an astonishing pace as we rush toward the Glorious Appearing of our Messiah Yeshua. There is no longer any doubt in my mind as to how late the hour is on God's prophetic time clock. The signs of the times are so clear and startling that it is staring us right in the face – if we are only awake and tuned in spiritually to what is going on all around us!

First of all, I am amazed at how patient and merciful God is. He has lovingly held back His hand of judgment upon this world. In December of 2005, I received a vision of some of the disasters that would have come upon us. But, because of the intercession of the Bride of Messiah – the overcoming remnant church – God has mercifully postponed much of what I saw coming upon America and the world. What amazing grace and mercy He has displayed! All glory and honor and praise be to the Most High God, King of the Universe, Our Heavenly Father forever and ever! Amen.

Here is what the Lord spoke to Me to give you, My beloved brothers and sisters:

We must not let the promise of the Blessed Hope slip away from us. It is vitally important for us to hold on to the hope of imminent appearing of our Lord in the air! There is NOTHING that is still waiting to be fulfilled prophetically in order for this to occur at any moment. I do believe that a great revival is coming to both America and the world, but, this will coincide with the final outpouring of the wrath of God during the last seven years of tribulation. As I have been praying, I have had numerous glimpses of this coming great revival. In fact, there is coming a third and final "Great Awakening" here in America. I once thought that it would come BEFORE the rapture of the Bride, but now I honestly believe that it will only come when the nations (especially America!) are shaken to their very core. Only then will God be able to reach them and save multitudes of souls from eternal damnation.

There has come a dividing of the church over when Yeshua will come. Just this week, I was watching as a great man of God was passionately defending his view that the church MUST go

through the tribulation and that the “pre-tribbers” are just putting their heads in the sand, so to speak. He said that the view of the catching away of the Bride of Messiah before the tribulation was a delusion and a false teaching that is deceiving us. But, I was so troubled by this! I knew that it wasn't right.

So, as always, when I don't know the answer, I go to the precious Holy Spirit and the Word of God and ask the Lord. I was actually very surprised at what He told me.

This is what He said:

*“Not all of My people will be ready when I sound the shofar of My appearing in the air. In fact, half of those that profess belief in Me will be left behind, as it is written in the parable of the wise and foolish virgins. I am coming for those that are prepared and awaiting My return. But, I am not leaving the earth without a strong witness of my grace, My presence, and My glory. In fact, I've allowed some to choose whether they want to stay to be a part of the greatest revival and harvest of all of history or to go on before to My Wedding Supper. **But, it is not my best for them.** I do not want to see them suffer. It will be the worst time in all of history. No one will escape the tribulations of the coming wrath. Remember, it is only by FAITH that you will escape these things coming upon the earth shortly. If you don't BELIEVE I am coming for you to take you out before the coming wrath is poured out upon the earth, I have no obligation to do so. But, remember, all those that will be left behind will be killed for their stand for Me. Many will not stand for Me in that hour and will lose their souls when the persecution heats up against them. That is because they were never really Mine in the first place. But also many champions for Me shall arise and not compromise during the time of Jacob's Trouble. I will arise and protect those that will stand for Me then until their works are finished and then they shall all give their lives for Me and the truth of My Gospel.*

*I have already separated My Bride from the Laodicean church. I have warned the church over and over. Time is running out fast! Get into the ark of safety! Flee from the love of sin, the flesh, and the world before it is too late! Do not look back upon Sodom like Lot's wife. Flee the city of destruction! Flee from the wrath to come! Come into My secret place! The doors are closing soon. Embrace the truth of My promise that I have not appointed you for wrath, but to obtain My salvation and to be a part of My Bride. Blessed and holy are those that obtain this first resurrection. Amen. I am coming for those who love Me; My soon Appearing in the sky; My Wedding and My Glorious Supper; I am coming for those that love heaven and the coming Kingdom more than they love the passing pleasures of sin upon this present earth. **DO NOT BE DECEIVED BY FALSE TEACHING THAT ROBS YOU OF THE BLESSED HOPE OF MY COMING! I am the Great King and Bridegroom! Keep your lamps burning brightly! The midnight hour is here!”***

This is what the Holy Spirit is saying. We must heed it. There is not much more time, beloved!

May the Grace and Peace of our Lord Yeshua the Messiah rest upon you in greater and greater measure as we enter into the coming New Year!

Love in our Messiah,

Maurice Sklar

~ 43 ~

THEY ARE PRECIOUS IN MY SIGHT

In the message from Maurice Sklar that I got by email, I really identified with what he said and the message he received from God. I believe the Lord has taught me that the great revival would come after the tribulation begins and after the Bride has been raptured. But I don't remember anyone else saying that until this message from Maurice Sklar.

In regard to what will happen to people who become Christians after the Bride is raptured, I believe that is the group of believers who will find and use my writings. They will be new to how to find and develop a personal friendship/relationship with the Lord, no matter how long they may have attended church. God will use my writings to show them what it was like for someone who developed such a personal relationship with Him, and the writings will be a blessing to them. That is a main reason I am to continue preparing these writings and putting them on my web site: www.doveministry.net.

Thank You, God, for doing this! And thank You, God, for sending this message from Maurice Sklar.

Those who are left will need your writings to help them to QUICKLY develop a personal friendship/relationship with Me. This is the relationship which will sustain them through the difficulties they will encounter in the tribulation. And the difficulties will be many.

Remember, I knew all about this before the world was even created. I knew who would be raptured and who would be left behind to develop this close relationship with Me during the tribulation. They are PRECIOUS in My sight -and very important and precious to Me too, just as you are who are raptured. They need to hear this, so I am having you put it in your book.

~ 44 ~

ARE YOU READY?

A DREAM ABOUT NEEDING TO PACK MY SUITCASE TO CATCH A FLIGHT

In this dream I was planning to take an airplane flight. Some other woman was going with me. We had very little time to get ready. We were sitting on a bench waiting for the bus. The bus was coming to take us to the airport and I still hadn't had time to pack my bag. I

asked the other woman if she would ask the bus driver if we could catch a later bus and flight because I wasn't ready. She asked and it was ok.

That's an interesting dream because yesterday I was listening to Paul McGuire on PTL show and he mentioned a book he wrote titled *Are You Ready?* And when we listened to Paul Keith Davis last night on CD, he used the term, "Are you ready?" So I am not surprised that theme came into my dream. And my dream seemed to show that I wasn't quite ready. I had not yet "packed my bag." So what does that mean?

- Suitcase: personal, heart, travel, move, private things, hidden things of the heart, time for moving on, transition, carries the anointing
- Other woman: Holy Spirit
- Airplane on ground: ministry not ready to take off yet or grounded by something
- Airplane: person or work, church, travel, ministry flowing in spiritual or heavenly places, ministry on the move, high powered
- Airport: waiting, preparing, being made ready, the Church, preparing to fly in the Spirit
- Bus: Church, sojourners, Christians, sight-seers, large group ministry, transport of groups of ministry for the church or the City of God
- Sitting: power, throne of authority, rulership, rest, position, concentration, receiving, place of authority, mercy seat
- Bus driver: control, self, Christ, pastor, teacher

I am the bus driver, Joan, and I give you permission to have a bit more time to prepare by packing your bag. Packing your bag refers to putting everything together in one place that you want to take with you. What do you want to take with you when you are raptured? What do you want to have finished by then? Are you ready?

~ 45 ~

VALLEY OF DECISION

You have been having rather negative thoughts and feelings about your church. I want to change that now because I have a purpose for you there. But first you must walk together with them through this valley of decision, this valley of unsureness of what to do. I will show you what to do if you will seek Me for this.

I seek You for this, Lord. Please show us the way to walk through this valley of decision where we are unsure of what to do and whether to stay at CTC or find a different church group.

Then I WILL show you what to do. First of all, don't make any changes until you are sure you have heard it from Me and have peace about it.

Second, trust Me to know what is best for you and the best church group for you to participate in.

Third, seek My way and My will for the staff and people of CTC regularly.

~ 46 ~

TRUE WORSHIP

Ascribe to the Lord, O families of nations, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength, ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name. Bring an offering and come before him; worship the Lord in the splendor of his holiness. (1 Chronicles 16:28-29)

Worship the Lord in the splendor of his holiness. (Psalm 96:9)

How do I minister to You, God, in the beauty of holiness?

I will tell you. Talk to Me from a clean heart and a clean mind, and a clean spirit. You become clean in heart, mind, and spirit by My blood given for you, for this. Do this each day in the morning, as you now do, by taking communion with Me. At that time I cleanse you and set you apart unto Me, sanctify you. Then you will minister to Me by listening to Me, by praying as I lead you, by reading My Word and letting Me teach you from it, and by praising Me. All of these constitute "worship," Joan.

You have been wondering what true worship is. It is doing all of this. Worship is spending time with Me and doing this. So you can see that what you do on Sunday morning at church is worship when it combines praise, thanksgiving, cleansing, prayer, listening to Me, and hearing My Word. All of these are parts of worship of Me. So you DO worship Me when you do these. And that's how you minister to Me - you worship Me in the beauty of holiness. Holiness means setting apart unto Me. That's what you do on Sunday morning, you set yourself apart unto Me. It combines all these things just for Me, to honor Me and worship Me. That's what the Patriarchs did when they build an altar and worshipped Me.

Paul Keith Davis says in his book *Angels That Gather* that we are now living in the time of the revelatory realm being unfolded in the Church. He says: "The Spirit of Wisdom and Revelation is granting God's people access to the treasures of wisdom and knowledge hidden in Christ...The revelatory endowments represented by the flying eagle will allow us to soar in the spirit and access divine mysteries preserved for this generation. God's mystery will be made complete in this generation, and that mystery is the revelation of Jesus Christ." (p. 212-213).

You live in My revelatory realm, Joan. That is why you can "hear" Me inside you, in your spirit where I live, and can write what I give you to write.

~ 47 ~

AT THE RIGHT TIME

I am with you. I love you, Joan, and I like the way you declared and prayed just now. Keep doing that each morning, and I will come faster and with greater power.

Little do you know how much I have planned for My creation this day and this week, and during this time period. Little do you know how exciting it will be for you when I fulfill My promise to bring K/ J closer to Me and set them apart unto Me. But I know and I rejoice, for I know how much you have prayed for them and exactly how I am working in them. Even today, I am working in them. You will soon see and hear the results of My work, and you will praise Me mightily. So you can do that even now, because it is true; it is happening.

You will not know how very much I will accomplish in this world during this coming harvest until you see it come into being. But you know that I am doing it, and that it is great. I will be found by you, Joan, and I will be found by multitudes who are also part of My Bride, My heavenly family. I WILL be found by them also.

You remember all those dreams you have had about seeing words and letters scrolling down and being written? That's what this is now - what you transcribe as you listen to Me. It is now being fulfilled. It is good, and it is part of your destiny to do this.

My words are powerful and will work My mighty works in those who read them and believe them. I was right when I said that My words are alive and active, are spirit and truth. They carry something with them which activates this in certain people who read them. As Paul Keith said, My words activate that seed of destiny that I have planted in certain people even before they are born. Then, at the right time for each one, I come and activate that seed of destiny and turn it on to Me, towards Me. At the right time. Now is the right time for K/J, just as there was a right time for you and for B.

OK, let's read My Scriptures now, and then we may write some more. Just keep listening to Me as we go through this time/day.

I AM WATCHING TO SEE THAT MY WORD IS FULFILLED

A DREAM ABOUT WATCHING A CHILDREN'S MUSICAL AT A CHURCH

In this dream I seemed to be in a large church. It seemed like a compilation of several churches I've known in the past. Parts of it seemed familiar and parts weren't familiar. While there I found myself watching a musical production given by children who had been taught by young women. This production was being seen on a stage. Then each child would go to the seats in the sanctuary and sit there. I saw the women bringing plates of food for the children to eat. One of the plates somehow ended up in my hands, but I put it on a seat/pew because I wasn't part of the musical production, only watching. A man came over to me and said words that were not understandable to me, like he was from some foreign country that expressed things differently. He seemed to be asking why I was there. I told him I came to watch the children, that I had been a teacher, and that I likely would teach again.

Do You want to teach me from this dream, Lord?

Yes, that's why I guided you to write this part of it down. Not all of the dream is significant, but this part is. There is something in it that I want to reveal to you. It comes from the Spirit of Revelation... the Revelatory Spirit.

It shows the larger church, larger than just one church, but many united together and working together, and eating together, even though separately. This church is made up of various churches you have been part of since all of those churches have influenced you and been a part of who you now are. The children represent those now being taught and the young women training them represent those who are training and teaching new believers now. The trainers give food to the new believers, the young ones. The children would partake of this food while in My sanctuary, My presence.

You didn't see yourself as part of the trainers or the learners, just as a watcher. And in a very real sense that is your position right now. You are watching and writing for Me almost daily now. It is like the Scripture I gave you many years ago from Jeremiah 1:11-12

The word of the Lord came to me: "What do you see, Jeremiah?" "I see the branch of an almond tree," I replied. The Lord said to me. "You have seen correctly, for I am watching to see that my word is fulfilled." (Jeremiah 1:11-12)

Remember what you read about yesterday from the Israel prayer update? It said the almond trees are in bloom all over Israel right now. Remember what you heard from Grant Jeffrey last night? That the times I set are set with relation to Israel and they are specific dates in regard to them. So this "sign" of the almond trees blooming right now in

Israel means to you that RIGHT NOW I am "watching to see that My Word is fulfilled" in the whole world, but the exact timing is tied to what is going on in Israel.

What those children were feeding on after singing/worshiping Me was My Word and Me. I am the Bread of Life. My Word IS being fulfilled right now. So proclaim My Word as I lead you, and I will fulfill it. That is the message of that dream and the two things I showed you yesterday (Israel prayer update and Grant Jeffrey).

When I want you to say it, I will say to you "Proclaim My Word" and you can then speak out loud and declare and proclaim the Word I just gave you to proclaim.

~ 49 ~

ABOUT THE MILLENNIUM

Those who have experienced the good things of heaven and shared in the Holy Spirit, who have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the power of the age to come. (Hebrews 6:4-5)

This morning the Holy Spirit began to teach me about the millennium and the power we will have there, what we can do, what we will look like, etc. He basically said:

- We will be like Jesus was after His resurrection
- We will be able to appear and disappear
- We will shine with the glory He has given us, like stars
- We will have the authority and power He has
- We will be people

"Who have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the powers of the age to come." (Hebrews 6:5)

What is "the goodness of the Word of God?"

Is it not that all His Word is true and we will see it fulfilled? Is it not the power that comes from standing on His Word?

What are "the powers of the age to come?"

That is what I was meditating on when He started teaching me the above ideas about the millennium. Add to that:

- We will live in spiritual bodies, which do not have to eat or drink or do the other things our current physical bodies do.
- We will never get sick, or depleted, or age, or decay.

And you will speak with My words and My thoughts because we all (My Bride and Me) will share words and ideas. You will each have an area or territory that you will be responsible for. However, we will all rule and reign together over all the earth and share together this responsibility. So, you won't be left alone but will be part of a whole Body with Me as the Head. This will be the greatest union you can imagine - and more than you can imagine.

I will pour out a degree of that "power of the coming age" upon My people, My Bride, My Body here on earth, during the coming days. This will start small and gradually increase in power so you can get used to it, be slowly introduced to it. But there is not much time left, so it must also be done quickly according to earth time.

I have been preparing you, Joan, and My people for this all during their lives. You did not know that until recently, and I have told you through Paul Keith Davis and his teachings. That is one thing he is called to - tell My Bride what I am planning to do and help get her prepared for this.

Ask for it, Joan.

I ask for it, Lord Jesus. I ask for the "goodness of the Word of God and the powers of the coming age" according to Hebrews 6:5. (Six for man and five for grace) This is Your grace toward men who believe You and follow You. I ask for it in Your name, Jesus. And I ask for it for B, and when it is the right time, I ask for it for K and J. Is that ok?

Yes, that is not only ok, it is good. I want you to want what I desire to give you. And I tell you what I desire to give you in Hebrews 6:5...the goodness of the Word of God and the powers of the coming age.

And I ask for the ability to know Scriptures and their references, those you want me to know and stand on, like you did for Roland Buck. And I ask for that for my children too.

And I ask for all the revelatory experiences You want us four to have, each at the right time in Your plan.

Yes, Joan, I say 'yes' to these two requests for you and your children. You do have the authority to request this for yourself AND for them.

FULLNESS OF POWER

The people all tried to touch him, because power was coming from him and healing them all. (Luke 6:19)

That's what it will be like for you too, Joan, and all My Bride, My people, during the millenium - and some of that power will be given to all of you before the end of this age too...but much more during the millenium. During this age that power will come and go, but during the millenium it will be in you and with you all the time. It will not decrease, as it didn't decrease in Me. Some people might not believe it (like in My hometown of Nazareth) and therefore not receive it, but I still had the power in Me.

That's part of what is meant by the "fullness" of the Spirit. Full power, full revelation, full understanding, full wisdom, full counsel and might, full knowledge and the fear of the Lord. Full everything that I am. I will always have the most of this fullness, but you, My people, will have your own fullness too.

And see, that is why I am having you write this now - because during the tribulation, after you and My people are gone from the earth, the new crop of My people, which I will harvest during that time, will need to know this. They will have access to this kind of power during that period of time. And that fullness of power will help enable them to live during the time they can't buy or sell because of not having the mark of the beast.

You see, I could have lived on earth without anyone giving Me food or water because I had the power to create it (like turning the water into wine and multiplying the bread and fish when I fed the 5000). With that kind of supernatural power those who belong to Me during the tribulation will be able to live.

Remember that Satan knew this when he said that if I was the Son of God then I should turn that stone into bread. He knew I had the power to do that. But I didn't have to prove Myself to him. What I have, My people will have in those final days of this age...you included.

That's what it means by "eating from the tree of life." I am Life, and he who eats My body and drinks My blood is "eating from the tree of Life." That's why I have you take communion every day - to build up this fullness of Life/power in you. (Tree of life see Genesis 2:8-9; Revelation 22:14; John 6:32-58)

That will be wonderful in the millenium, Lord, without evil spirits.

Yes, it will, but they won't have as much to overcome as you do. They will have the world and the flesh to overcome, but not the devil. In this age you are all overcomers when you are true to Me because you overcome not only the world and the flesh, but also the devil and his evil spirits.

Remember I have great rewards for the overcomer. I told about those who overcome before I told John to "Come up here" in Revelation 4:1. The greater overcomers are those who live in this current age - the church age - who live for Me.

~ 51 ~

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO "SEE" GOD

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. (Matt. 5:8)

What does it mean to "see God," Lord?

It means that they will come close to Me. Only those who are pure in heart can come close to Me. Remember the Scripture - "who can ascend to the mountain of the Lord? He who has clean hands and a pure heart." (Psalm 24:4) Those who are "clean" because of My blood are the only ones who are truly pure in heart and clean. They are the ones who can come close to Me, and therefore "see" Me.

It means friendship with Me. Only friends come close to Me and therefore truly "see" Me. You are one of those friends, Joan. You "see" Me in your spirit and in your heart, but not with your physical eyes. Seeing Me does not refer to the physical eyes seeing something, but it refers to getting close to Me and knowing Me.

Who may ascend the hill of the Lord? Who may stand in his holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to an idol or swear by what is false. He will receive blessing from the Lord and vindication from God his Savior. Such is the generation of those who seek him, who seek your face, O God of Jacob. (Psalm 24:3-6)

~ 52 ~

MY STARS

A DREAM ABOUT A PORTHOLE-LIKE CIRCLE WHERE I SAW STARS COMING DOWN

Just before I awoke, I saw a scene with a round container (reminds me of a porthole) that I saw in two dimensions or divisions. I could see inside it like it was made of glass. It was contained or outlined by a silver metal edge of the circle. There was something (like maybe a liquid) which caused it to divide inside in the middle into two parts. The top part

I couldn't see through and see anything in it. The bottom part was clear and I could see whatever appeared there. I saw stars come slowly down from the top part (where I couldn't see them) into the bottom part (where I saw them bright and clear and perhaps shining a bit).

This dream is to give me a revelatory picture (seeing through a window of glass). Since it was circular that symbolizes it is something spiritual. The silver colored edge could refer to this being something of knowledge, the knowledge of God, redemption, understanding, purity, or cleansed and ready to use and very precious to God. The water in the bottom half symbolizes the Holy Spirit, flowing in the Holy Spirit, or eternal life in Jesus - and water can symbolize the Word. A star can refer to a person, i.e. a Christian, apostle, saint, preacher, minister or leader. This scene depicts those stars as coming from "above" (where I can't see them right now) into the water of the Word and the Holy Spirit where they are highly visible and shine. An interesting revelation! Tell me what it means, Lord!

I can see that you are intrigued by this picture.

Yes, it seems very much like it is from You, Lord, and has meaning, perhaps even great meaning, and I want to understand it.

First tell Me what you think it might mean, Joan.

Ok. I think it is a picture to show me that Your stars (those whom You indwell and who follow You) will shine on this earth (the globe shape?). They are coming out from being unseen to the place where they can be seen clearly as shining stars for You - showing Your glory on earth, filled with and led by the Holy Spirit.

Yes, that's good, Joan. My stars are gradually becoming visible on the earth. They have always been known to Me, but not to other people on earth. Now they are becoming visible. They are those filled with Me, in My fullness, filled with My glory and able to do what I did.

I was a shining star that came down from heaven to earth and shone for awhile. Now those just like Me, although not yet perfect, are coming out to shine like I did. I shone by performing miracles and doing all the things My Father showed Me to do - and saying all the things My Father gave Me to say.

Now My stars, those like Me in this way, will do all the things I show them to do, and they will say all the things I will tell them to say. They are MY STARS. They look and act and speak a lot like Me. I am pleased with them and they are pleased with Me. They are becoming visible in the world now. You are one of them and so is B. Consider yourselves My stars.

Strategic Word for 2010: What Did You Do Next Summer?

by Jeremy Caris
Jan 16, 2010

For several months now, I have been sensing that God was wanting me to release a strategic word concerning 2010. Of course, to write such a thing means that He must first speak to you and you must look to see what He will say to you (Habakkuk 2:1). It's amazing to find that as much as I want to hear, I still occasionally find myself disregarding what He is saying to me. The phrase that I had been repeatedly hearing and brushing off through the last months of 2009 was, "What did you do next summer?" I am sure you notice the apparent contradiction in that question which implies doing the future in the past.

"...the Son can do nothing of His own accord, but only what He sees the Father doing. For whatever the Father does, that the Son does likewise." John 5:19 ESV

God has never intended for us to wander through life without direction and purpose. In John 5:19, Jesus revealed that His direction and purpose were defined by our Father. We can know what we are to do because He created us to imitate Him as His representatives in the earth. We need to see what the Father is doing and do likewise. He is already prepared to act, and He is laying out individual plans for us to act on. We simply need to study them and resolve now to act on them. That doesn't mean passively agreeing to cooperate, but rather it means counting the cost and running the race inwardly before you even begin to move forward in the flesh.

You will know what you did next summer because you will have already seen what the Father is doing, and you will have already acted in agreement with His plans in your heart. Then all that remains is to carry it out in the flesh.

Prepare NOW!

I saw a scene from an old World War II movie where strategic plans were being reviewed and studied with great care. There was a sense of the weight of responsibility involved in knowing each one's individual purpose and carrying it out to the best of their ability. Each would play a critical part in the successful execution of a larger battle. I see the summer of 2010 with the significance of the heat of a great battle.

It is critical for you to prepare and position yourself appropriately now, to be located where God directs you and to resolve to imitate what you see Him doing. When you are in the middle of battle it is not the ideal time to discover that you need to make major adjustments. Now is the time to study and resolve so that when it matters most you will show yourself approved (2 Timothy 2:15).

A Time of Testing

2010 will be a time of testing, but if you allow God to work in you, it will result in a revelation of Christ to the world around you for His praise, glory and honor (1 Peter 1:6-7). Any trial that God allows into our lives is an opportunity for you to put His life and nature on display. Remember: Your life is not your own, for you were bought with a price. You were crucified with Christ and buried into the baptism of death with Him. Now you have been raised back to life from the dead as a new creation, alive again for God's own glory.

Facing a trial should be considered a great honor because God has found you mature enough to face it and succeed. God never sets you up for failure, but He will never allow you to remain where you are either (Philippians 1:6). If He allowed His firstborn Son, Jesus Christ, to encounter trials, then we will surely follow in His footsteps. Jesus embraced that process and succeeded in His purpose only by going through those times of testing. It is not avoiding testing and trials that produces change toward maturity, but in going through it (Romans 12:2). Therefore, every trial is an opportunity for great joy (James 1:2).

"Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love Him." James 1:12 ESV

A Time of Fiery Opportunity

I saw four men in fire, as in Daniel, chapter 3. Fire often speaks of trials (1 Peter 4:12), cleansing (Isaiah 4:4), and purging (Malachi 3:2-3). In Daniel 3, King Nebuchadnezzar had ordered the furnace to be heated seven times more than usual and ordered Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego to be tied up and thrown into the fiery furnace. As they were thrown in the fire, the very men who carried out the intended punishment were killed because of the great heat.

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego answered and said to the king, "O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to answer you in this matter. If this be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and He will deliver us out of your hand, O king. But if not, be it known to you, O king, that we will not serve your gods or worship the golden image that you have set up." Daniel 3:16-18 ESV

The things that the enemy plans to use to destroy you in this season will be the very things that bring the goodness of God to the forefront in your life. Do not fear what the enemy may do, but be steadfast and rejoice in what the Lord has already done.

Then King Nebuchadnezzar was astonished and rose up in haste. He declared to his counselors, "Did we not cast three men bound into the fire?" They answered and said to the king, "True, O king." He answered and said, "But I see four men unbound, walking in the midst of the fire, and they are not hurt; and the appearance of the fourth is like a son of the gods."

Then Nebuchadnezzar came near to the door of the burning fiery furnace; he declared, "Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, servants of the Most High God, come out, and come here!" Then Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego came out from the fire. And the satraps, the prefects, the governors, and the king's counselors gathered together and saw that the fire had not had any power over the bodies of those men. The hair of their heads was not singed, their cloaks were not harmed, and no smell of fire had come upon them.

Nebuchadnezzar answered and said, "Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who has sent His angel and delivered His servants, who trusted in Him, and set aside the king's command, and yielded up their bodies rather than serve and worship any god except their own God. Therefore I make a decree: Any people, nation, or language that speaks anything against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego shall be torn limb from limb, and their houses laid in ruins, for there is no other god who is able to rescue in this way." Then the king promoted Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego in the province of Babylon." Daniel 3:24-30 ESV

Not only will God deliver you through fiery trials, but He will also bring glory to His own name as we lay down our very lives in obedience to Him. Those who boldly embrace the testing in this season will give God opportunity to reveal His mighty power through their lives which will open doors of opportunity and prosperity.

A Time for Becoming a Friend of God

"As I was in my prime, when the friendship of God was upon my tent," Job 29:4 ESV

True friends are going to be extremely important in this season, but friendship with God is going to be of utmost importance. Job said that he was in his prime when his life was one of friendship with God. There has been much emphasis in recent years on becoming the Bride of Christ, which I absolutely love and embrace in my own life. But I find the Holy Spirit speaking to me lately about being a friend of God. A primary result of remaining steadfast under trial is that it pulls you in to that deeper place of absolute dependence on Him.

Beyond having more of God, fulfilling your purpose, ministering to others, or even doing the Father's will, your greatest purpose is to be a minister to God. That may just sound like the correct thing to say, but it becomes a reality in times of testing. God will allow trials to remove everything you depend on more than Him. He will bring you to the place where you realize that nothing matters more than Him having all of you. This is the place where you begin to understand that every bit of your life is meant to be an act of worship. It will take your entire lifetime to fulfill, but those who have come to the personal understanding of this revelation are the ones that I perceive to be friends of God.

A Time for Increasing in Favor with God and Man

2010 will be a year for increasing in favor with God and man. I have been seeing "6", which is the number of man (Genesis 1:26-31), and then "1", which is significant of God, who is the beginning of all things (Genesis 1:1). As I meditated on this, the Holy Spirit led me to Isaiah 61, which speaks of the year that the Lord's favor brings not only justice, freedom, and effectiveness, but also prosperity and the favor of man.

"Strangers shall stand and tend your flocks; foreigners shall be your plowmen and vinedressers; but you shall be called the priests of the Lord; they shall speak of you as the ministers of our God; you shall eat the wealth of the nations, and in their glory you shall boast. Instead of your shame there shall be a double portion; instead of dishonor they shall rejoice in their lot; therefore in their land they shall possess a double portion; they shall have everlasting joy." Isaiah 61:5-7 ESV

In the original Hebrew text for Isaiah 61:7, it basically says "therefore possess double." Doubling is exponential increase, which is multiplication. The Lord is restoring an anointing for multiplication. He has been reminding me of when Elisha asked that a double portion of Elijah's spirit be upon him. After Elijah went up to Heaven in a whirlwind, the sons of the prophets noticed that the spirit of Elijah did indeed rest on Elisha. As the spirit on Elisha exponentially increased, it quickly became evident that he had grown in favor with both God and man. This is a season for the increasing favor on your life to be made evident as you rise up as priests of the Lord and ministers of our God (1 Peter 2:9, Revelation 1:6; Revelation 5:10).

Summary

- It is critical for you to prepare and position yourself appropriately now, to be located where God directs you and to resolve to imitate what you see Him doing.
- 2010 will be a time of testing, but if you allow God to work in you it will result in a revelation of Christ to the world around you for His praise, glory, and honor.
- The things that the enemy plans to use to destroy you in this season will be the very things that bring the goodness of God to the forefront in your life.
- Those who boldly embrace the testing in this season will give God opportunity to reveal His mighty power through their lives, which will open doors of opportunity and prosperity.
- True friends are going to be extremely important in this season, but friendship with God is going to be of utmost importance.
- 2010 will be a year for increasing in favor with God and man.
- This is a season for the increasing favor on your life to be made evident as you rise up as priests of the Lord and ministers of our God.

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Jeremy Caris serves as the Media Director for Abiding Glory Ministries and as an Associate Pastor on the Pastoral Leadership Team at The Habitation. Jeremy longs to see the Body of Christ demonstrating both the character and power of Jesus which flows from the surrendered life. Jeremy typically teaches on the deep things of the Spirit in such a way that empowers Believers to shift into a lifestyle which releases "on Earth as it is in Heaven." As he ministers, he demonstrates the Kingdom through prophetic ministry, healing, and miracles. He also equips Believers to minister prophetically and live in a deep awareness of the spiritual realm through his two schools, "Prophetic Ministry Boot Camp," and "Advanced Prophetic Training." Jeremy and his wife Mandy live in Knoxville, Tennessee, along with their two sons.

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HOPE - MY FIRST VISIT TO OCF

On Saturday evening B and I were discussing our desire for something more than we were experiencing at CTC. B seemed especially discouraged and said she had lost some hope. She wanted to find hope again. We then both thought of visiting church at OCF on Sunday morning and both were excited about doing that.

We went to OCF Sunday morning and both were quite pleased with what we experienced there. I especially enjoyed the worship, the expounding on the Word by JP, the prayer time with Pastor L, and the sermon by a First Nations Man who talked about the Hebrew words in Genesis 1 and what the Holy Spirit did over the waters (shaking) that brought forth light. And I saw it as a prophetic sign that BC moved across in front of the group carrying a banner with the word **HOPE** on it. We were warmly welcomed by friends whom we knew there, and by people we didn't know. We think we are to now begin attending Sunday morning worship there. This seems to be the place the Lord is leading us to now and where there is hope for us.

BC was there and the Lord told him to stay in his seat after church was over because someone would come and talk to him. He waited a long time and kept asking the Lord about this because no one came to do that. Then that someone turned out to be us when we went over and started talking to him. He asked us how it was going at CTC and we hesitated to speak of our dissatisfaction.

However BC had also gone through such a disillusionment there and eventually changed to OCF. He talked with both of us for a long time encouraging us to make the break with CTC and find out where God wanted us to go, and then go there. He spoke to me about loyalty (as if he was listening to the Lord and He gave that word to him) and that I should give loyalty to the Lord, but not necessarily to a church body. He mentioned that he saw a "mothering spirit" very strong in me that touched people around me even if I didn't say a word to them - and that I could be in ministry even without saying a word. He mentioned to B that she had lots of gifts that the Lord will use.

BC told us the story of his struggle to leave CTC and how he searched for a new church. He told us how he asked the Lord to show him which church to go to. The Lord told him to get out the phone book and open it. It opened to the church section. Then the Lord told him to look down the rows. When he came to OCF, he said it was as if the name was highlighted and as if it was the only name on the whole page, the rest disappeared. He had been given the letters OCF previously but didn't know what it meant and did not know about OCF. So he visited there and found that was truly the right place for him. He said he had revealed to him some of the things that were coming to OCF and wanted to be there and participate in them, but he didn't tell us what those things were.

So B and I left OCF encouraged and went to lunch at China Star and talked about the decision. During the church time I felt the Lord was impressing in my mind that we could go to OCF all the Sundays a month but one and visit CTC during that one. So we might do that. We plan to start in the direction of attending OCF and see how God leads.

Yes, I want you to go to OCF now. I will tell you if you are to go back to CTC anymore. Trust Me in this and follow Me. I will show you the way.

~ 55 ~

HE DIDN'T KNOW HOW TO EXPRESS LOVE

This morning in my meditation time the Lord brought to mind my Mom and Dad and again indicated that they are both in heaven. He told me that my earthly Dad loved me, but didn't know how to express that love in a way that I understood it. He expressed it in the way he, a man, thought was being loving - by providing for me - like picking me up at the train station in Ft. Wayne when I returned from Japan, and letting me live free in his home, and providing a car for me and taking care of it. God said that the house we lived in was Dad's house, he had bought it, and he provided for us in it as well as by his daily work. (I'm adding, He also provided for our spiritual needs by taking us to church and to church camp.) In heaven we will have great freedom to hug each other and express our love without the restrictions taught us on earth through our families and circumstances.

PRIDE

I'm reading John Bevere's book *The Voice of One Crying*. In a chapter he deals with the area of pride, what it is, how it manifests, etc. I want to write in my journal some quotes from that book about pride:

(p. 32) It was when Uzziah was strong, not weak, that his heart was lifted up in pride. It was when he saw prosperity and success come upon everything he undertook that his heart ceased seeking the Lord! God spoke to me one day and said, "John, most who have fallen have fallen in the abundant times not the dry times." This is a trap that many Christians fall into."

(p. 33) This is the case in America with so much teaching available to us. 1 Corinthians 8:1 says, "**We know that we all have knowledge. Knowledge puffs up [pride], but love edifies**" (emphasis added, parenthetical added). Love seeks not its own! Pride seeks its own, often masked in religion! God says knowledge gained without love results in pride.

As King Uzziah became more proud, he became more religious! His heart was lifted up and he entered the temple to "worship." Pride and a religious spirit go hand in hand. A religious spirit causes a person to think he is humble through his appearance of "spirituality," when the truth is he is proud. On the other hand, pride keeps a person in bondage to a religious spirit because he is too proud to admit it! This is one reason why pride in the Church is so well camouflaged. It hides behind a religious mask.

Religious pride could be defined as "viewing yourself with the ability to be like God, apart from God." It is seeing oneself as having the ability to do, know, or have anything your way (even if it seems spiritual), apart from God's way. This causes you to be the source and center of everything in your life.

(p. 34) Uzziah became furious. Pride always justifies itself. This self-defense will be coupled with anger. A proud person will blame everyone else while he excuses himself. Uzziah's anger was directed at the priests, but the problem did not lie in them but with him. Pride had blinded his eyes!...Leprosy was an outward manifestation of an inward condition! So leprosy is what appeared, but the root of it was *pride*. The same is true today. We have seen many ministers falling into sin, especially sexual sins. The Lord spoke to me about all the sexual sins among ministers: He said, "John, the root is not sexual, the root is pride; the sexual sin is a result of the seed of pride already grounded in their hearts."

(p. 35) Isaiah 6:1 says: "**In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple.**" The train of His robe is a type of His glory! God spoke to me and said, "John, Isaiah did not see the glory of the Lord until Uzziah died." This message translates to us today as, "*The Church will not see God's glory until pride dies!*"

(Isaiah 40:4) Every valley shall be exalted...Valleys speak of humility. Those who have humbled themselves will be exalted. This is a good opportunity to say that the wilderness will help us humble ourselves!

(p. 36) As we choose to humble ourselves, just as with Jonah, God will anoint us as a people and church to proclaim His word to this world. Then we will see the great harvest of souls. God is preparing His church to manifest His glory as never before. Whole cities and towns will come to the Lord. Nations will come to the feet of the Master with great joy. Every one in the true church will be involved in this great harvest. However, no flesh will glory in His sight! Men will not be able to market this great move of God nor take credit for it. Flesh will not share the glory with God!...Ezekiel saw very dry bones; all the flesh had been removed!

(p. 37-38) God has allowed the true, not the harlot church, to come to the place that she almost seems powerless (compared to the book of Acts). He has done this to bring us to humility so that when we are filled with His power and glory, we won't fall into the same condemnation of the devil (1 Timothy 3:6), which was pride...

There are many in the church who will be forerunners as Joseph was. They will go through a severe wilderness while others in the church will not experience what these men in training have to endure. Then, when these leaders are ready, God will bring the rest into a wilderness of a draught. They will no longer be able to live as they once had. They will come to these forerunners, as Joseph's brothers did, and leadership will change hands! Leaders who formerly ruled by domination will now come to those they once dominated and serve under their leadership! However, the character of God will have been developed in their lives due to their valley of humility, and they will not seek to be served, but rather to serve! God will now be able to exalt them, for He can trust them to be humble in heart, turning to the children and not to themselves.....

Listen carefully, all who call on the name of the Lord. You will either humble yourself in the valley of humility, or you will be brought low on the day His glory is revealed! Every valley will be exalted, and every mountain and hill will be brought low!

~ 57 ~

YOUR DAILY FOCUS ON ME

I am with you, Joan. The stories of people who experienced personally heaven and hell are on the web as you found last night at www.insightofgod.com. You may go there each evening when B isn't here and listen to those testimonies, as well as read the updates of what I am telling and showing various ministries (i.e. MorningStar.com for Rick Joyner, etc.). When B IS here in the evening you may listen together to the many teaching materials you both have to hear teachings I've given various men/women (like PK Davis,

etc.) This will help keep you filled with My Spirit and focusing your life and thoughts on Me.

Do you see a big change in that focus recently? (Yes) That's because you have been listening to these teachings in the evening as well as spending your mornings with Me in Quiet Time, praying and studying My Word, and I am working in you much more strongly now than I was previously. You allow it by your daily focus on Me.

These heavenly encounters you will hear on that web site will be individual ones, each one suited to the uniqueness of the person who had it...just like My relationship with each of My children who belong to Me is unique to that person. I made it that way. I like variety. There are no cookie-cutter relationships in My kingdom. Each one is personal and unique, as you have been thinking lately. Yours included.

~ 58 ~

A SCRIBE ANOINTING

Yesterday I read an email article written by Matt Sorger with things the Lord has shown him for 2010. I copied and pasted here this one thing he mentioned which caught my attention since I am a writer for the Lord:

There will be an Anointing for Writing in 2010
Those called to write and publish will come under a fresh scribe anointing by the Holy Spirit, enabling them to write and publish the heart and mind of God.

Matt Sorger
Matt Sorger Ministries
Email: info@mattsorger.com
From ElijahList.com

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THE WAY TO HOLINESS IS BY HUMBLING OURSELVES IN REPENTANCE

(Quotes from John Bevere's book *The Voice of One Crying*)

(p. 64) As long as you like your sin, you will not be free from it. You must learn to hate sin as God does.

(p. 65) Repentance is not a one-time prayer of relief but a way of life! It is a decision from your heart to change. The work of repentance is not complete until the fruit of righteousness appears. The prayer of repentance is only the beginning.

(p. 66) Notice he [Paul] lists seven fruits of repentance. (2 Cor. 7:10-11) These are characteristics of a believer who is on fire, not lukewarm.

1. Diligence
2. Clearing of yourselves
3. Indignation
4. Fear
5. Vehement desire
6. Zeal
7. Vindication

(p. 68) Many have tried to live holy lifestyles in their own strength and ended up in the bondage of legalism. The way to holiness is by humbling ourselves in repentance. For He gives grace to the humble, and grace is what enables us to walk in what truth requires.

(70) The result of this "come to Jesus and get..." gospel are converts who merely desire an improved lifestyle and who don't want to go to hell. They receive Him as the Savior who blesses - but not as Lord.

(72-3) If you truly love, you are truthful, even if you know it means rejection...It is much better to tell the truth than to compromise truth and have someone believe a lie. It is far better they hear it now than to believe they can keep sin in their lives and one day hear the Master say, "Depart; I never knew you. You were deceived!"

(p. 74) Decisions are great as long as they are based on truth...We must realize God never called us to broaden the gospel, making it easier for people with idols to get "saved." Idols must be forsaken. Jesus must be received as Lord, not just Savior!...An idol is anything you love, trust in, or give your attention to before God! ...You are the one who makes it an idol, by loving or trusting it before God!

(p. 75) Notice also Jesus did not say, "Didn't I tell you if you obey the word the Father just gave Me for you, and give up this money, He will give you a hundredfold return!" Yet, we have done this. Ministers promise a hundredfold return from God in order to get people to respond to the word of the Lord. So the motive becomes, "Give in order to get!"...He [Jesus] did not try to entice this man [the rich young ruler] into the kingdom by the blessings of the kingdom....They [disciples] were not aware of the hundredfold return promise. This was the first they heard it. They knew Jesus had the words of life and so left all - money was not an idol in their lives.

(p. 75) God has never demanded a person to be perfect in order to follow Jesus. He has only asked for obedience to Him! This young ruler probably possessed characteristics much more polished than Peter. However, Peter was willing to do anything the Lord asked of him. That is what Jesus means when He calls us to forsake all to follow Him.

(p. 77) The Lord said to me one day, "Those who come to Me without repenting first are those who merely join themselves to Me." Conversion without repentance does not result in sins being blotted out! It just leads to more deception.

(p. 78-79) You may ask, "Why did this man and his wife fall over dead! [Ananias and Sapphira] ... The glory of the Lord was manifesting so strong on Peter that just getting near him would drive out any manner of sickness or darkness. Ananias and Sapphira lied in the presence of the glory of the Lord. When you bring sin in contact with God's glory, there will be a reaction. Sin and anything that willfully bears it will be destroyed.

The reason God has not yet manifested His glory in the church as strongly as He did in the book of Acts is because there would be many falling over dead, like this couple. So before the Lord comes in His glory to His temple (the church), He will first send his messenger Elijah the prophet to call the people back to the heart of God (Malachi 3:1).

(p. 85) If your desire is anything other than to know God intimately, it will show up in dry or trying times. The core of idolatry is self-seeking. The New Testament refers to it as "covetousness." (Col. 3:5)...To covet means to *desire intensely*. This comes from a self-willed directed person, not from a person who has counted the costs and forsaken all to follow Jesus. God wants us to be blessed and enjoy the good things He has placed on this earth. However, if these things become more dear than Him, they become idols.

(p. 87) Once, while I was out praying in the woods, preparing for a service, the Lord said, "John, ask My people if they would want Me to serve them as they have served Me? If they would want My faithfulness to be like theirs?" I melted with sorrow thinking how we have served Him. He has given Himself totally for us.

(p. 93) **"If you love Me, keep My commandments." (John 14:15)**

The way I saw it was God saying, "John, if you love Me, you will prove it by keeping My commandments."...He said, "John, I wasn't saying if you keep My commandments, you will prove you love Me. I already know whether you love Me or not! What I was saying was, if a man falls head over heels in love with Me, he will be enabled to keep My commandments."

~ 60 ~

JUST STAY CLOSE TO ME AND FOLLOW ME

I love you, Joan, and I will do My best for you. You already have a place reserved for you in My heaven, a place you will grow into in your time yet on this earth, but I already know what that place is and what you will do. I will bring it about in due time, in due time. It will be lived out one step at a time as you live each day and each hour. Just stay close to Me and follow Me - that is your part of the equation.

It is all planned out, and it is good. Good for you and good for Me, and good for others that you will minister to. That ministry will primarily be through this writing you do

almost daily for Me. And, yes, I will place on you a "fresh scribe anointing" by My Holy Spirit, and you WILL write and publish "the heart and mind of God." That message was for you, among others. I have many who write for Me and I will complete the work of My Father in each one who does this, including you. I will complete it.

~ 61 ~

LOOKING AT SOME DIFFICULTIES

During the night the Lord guided me to look again at some difficulties I had to deal with when I worked at FUMC. He helped me see my sin in several different situations, and confess those to Him, and receive forgiveness - and then to again forgive and bless those various people...so I could "pray for those who mistreat you." (Luke 6:28)

The Lord seems to like to let me sleep until around 3-4:00 in the morning and then bring things to my mind that I am to deal with, or situations He wants me to pray for, or something He wants to teach me. It is a good time with Him.

~ 62 ~

WORSHIP - MY SECOND VISIT TO OCF

We visited OCF again today and really liked their worship and the whole service, but I especially liked the worship. It was so special and meaningful that I told B that I wanted to continue to go there for the worship. They had it for about 1 1/4 hours and then the announcements and sermon. Then they had the children pray for adults.

M and D went with us since they wanted to experience church there. D participated but M seemed to not engage in what was going on. I doubt if either one will want to go again as they didn't seem excited about it. But they are looking for the right place for them for now.

After church the four of us went to the restaurant called "Sweet Tomatoes." It was a buffet type restaurant at one basic set price. For that you got a very nice salad buffet, a pasta bar, baked goods bar, and dessert bar. It was very nice.

HEAVEN AND HELL

I am really enjoying reading sections on the web site: www.insightsofgod.com where there are lots of audio and written testimonies from people who have encountered Heaven, and a few who have encountered Hell.

In the book (*While Out of My Body, I Saw God, Hell and The Living Dead*) by Dr. Rogelio Mills he writes what he was taught about the various sections of Hell. It includes information (pp. 25-28) about the four sections of Hell:

1. Sheol
 - World of the dead or the grave
 - Centuries ago was world of ungodly and godly dead
2. Hades
 - Place of departed souls and spirits
 - Before Jesus' resurrection it is where sinners went
 - Before resurrection it had 2 sections with impassable gulf
 - Right upper part: Abraham's bosom/Paradise for believers in God in OT times (Now it is room of the Cursed)
 - Abraham's bosom/Paradise in Hades is where Jesus preached for 3 days to spirits there and took them to the New Paradise in 3rd Heaven (and resurrected them - they are the ones who are mentioned in the Bible as those who came out of their graves and walked around at the resurrection)
 - Left lower part: fiery pits of Hades for OT period people who didn't believe in God
3. Tartaros
 - For those who disobey God's Holy Word
 - Called the outer darkness of hell
 - Many jail cells there
 - Contains the angels who sexually sinned with women of earth before Noah's flood (2 Peter 2:4; Jude 1:6)
 - Bound in chains
 - Zophos and Choshek: darkness, blackness, gloomy surrounding mist, misery, destruction, death, sorrow, wickedness (Matt 8:12)
4. Gehenna
 - Those who completely reject Jesus
 - Fire not quenched (Matt 5:22; 29-30; Mark 9:43-47)
 - Jerusalem's public garbage dumping site and dead criminals burned there
 - Unbearable stench
 - In Valley of Hinnom
 - For Devil and his angels (Matt 25:41)

Outer darkness of Hell is located in 2nd heaven for those who willfully reject Jesus.

Heaven is in the 3rd heaven for believers.

Great White Throne Judgement Day - all the world will witness

~ 64 ~

LANDMINES

I've started reading a book by Charles Stanley called *Landmines in the Path of the Believer*. So far I have found it very good reading. He deals with the landmines of pride, jealousy and envy, insecurity, compromise, unforgiveness, disappointment, fear, immorality and slothfulness. I am looking forward to reading more in it.

~ 65 ~

WORSHIP IN THE SECRET PLACE

A DREAM ABOUT SEEING BLUE PARAGRAPHS ON A PAGE

(2:30-3:00 a.m.) I felt a ball in my throat and swallowed it. This woke me up. In the dream I was having at that time, it seemed as if the ball was a piece of a written article which I saw as a blue paragraph. Then I kept seeing other blue paragraphs highlighted. The paragraphs were in two columns on a page. I tried to keep from swallowing more paragraphs, as I would see them one-at-a-time and see where they fit on the page. The sections/paragraphs were highlighted by being blue.

I wrote down the dream, left the light on, and dozed/rested. But the Lord kept talking to me, so every so often I wrote again what He was saying:

The overcomers are the obedient ones. The obedient ones are the overcomers.

(3:21 a.m.)

All is in order.

The song going through my head is "Here I am to worship"

Here I am to worship
Here I am to bow down,
Here I am to say that You're my God.
You're altogether lovely,
Altogether worthy,
Altogether wonderful to me.

I'll never know how much it cost,
To see my sin upon that cross.

(3:33 a.m.)

That's the way to worship: SAY here I am to worship, bow down, and say who I am to you.

That's the way You want me to worship You?

Yes. Proclaim who I am and that you are worshiping Me and bowing down before Me. I'll hear you and know what you are doing and receive your worship.

The idea comes that I tell Him by faith, not by sight.

Bowing down is an attitude of the heart. We'll do this more and more - waking around 3:00 and writing together. This is about Me, not about you and/or your sleep. You just be obedient and write what I say.

It might be through a dream or some other way I wake you up. Then write - like now. I'll see that you get enough rest.

Handwriting is better than computer writing at this time (early morning). While you're in your prayer closet, listen to Me - as I have much to say to you.

And this is my prayer closet?

Yes, when you're talking to Me.

I was resting between writing things and I put my hands in the pockets of the sweat jacket I was wearing for warmth. Then I said: "Putting my hands in my pockets gives me a feeling of being "covered" by You.

You ARE covered by Me, day and night, all the time.

I like being "covered" by You, Lord.

It is My pleasure to do so.

Thank You!

You're welcome, My child. It is because I love you. And I will ALWAYS protect you and cover you with My Presence. That's why you have peace and quiet, Joan, because of My covering.

* * *

Another day while reading this dream the Lord revealed to me that "swallowing" that ball was like the Prophet being told to "eat the scroll" given him. Then he was to proclaim what it said. Similarly, I was given a ball to "swallow" which contained words which I was to write out for others to see. They were "blue paragraphs" which means they were spiritual words.

~ 66 ~

A HARMONY OF THE FOUR GOSPELS

I am reading through the book *A Harmony of the Four Gospels, Second edition, The New International Version* by Orville E. Daniel. I found it at the Good Will Store and bought it. I like reading from it because it places beside each other all four of the Gospels in chronological order so I can read it that way. It also places in bold print the most inclusive part of each section so, if you read the bold parts, you get all of what was written by the four. I am thankful I have it.

~ 67 ~

SPIRIT - MY THIRD SUNDAY AT OCF

Today we went to OCF. Captain Bob was the speaker and he carries the presence of the Lord with him. A couple of the men in the congregation were touched with laughing and laughed so hard and long they clutched their sides.

After Bob spoke to us a while he had the children line up in the front to receive the Spirit's touch through him. He took with him Noel Alexander's son and trained him in doing this. He had the son put his hand on top of his father's hand and then touch the person/child. Many of the children fell under the power of the Spirit. Then Bob had them get up and taught them to minister to others.

The service lasted from 10:30 to ~1.30. Then B and I left and went to China Star to eat.

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PERFECT LOVE CASTS OUT FEAR

Article by Chuck Missler in the K-House newsletter for January 26, 2010

PERFECT LOVE CASTS OUT FEAR

"Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." John 14:27

Tragedy is a reality in this world. We lose things; houses, cars, savings. We lose people we love, sometimes very suddenly. We get that phone call, that knock on the door, that diagnosis, the one that shoots cold pain into the centers of our stomachs. We remember those gut-twisting moments for the rest of our lives. The worst thing about them is not just the loss we've experienced, but the perpetual fear of future losses. Anticipation of "the worst" can taint every day of our lives for years. Yet, God tells us to not fear, but to trust wholly in Him. How does that work when the fear is there and very real? How can it work?

Fear is natural, and it is a normal response to uncertainty and danger. Yet, fear is not a virtue like caution or prudence. Fear simply robs our lives of joy. The question is therefore, how do we face joblessness or drive on bad tires we can't afford to replace? How do we remember the loss of a child and not cling desperately to the children we have left? How do we live in peace and victory?

Certainly trusting God and putting Him first is the answer. But, while it is easy to say we need to trust God, it is often much harder to do. Simon Peter knew Jesus personally and had watched him perform many miracles, and yet as he walked out to Jesus on the water, he was still frightened by the wind and waves, and he began to sink. We understand Peter; we're just like him.

So, how can we stop being afraid of the wind and waves when they are loud and crashing into our faces?

We learn about God.

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness." -2 Timothy 3:16

"Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come. He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you." -John 16:13-14

It's difficult to trust a stranger. If we want to conquer fear, we need to start by truly getting to know who God is by prayerfully reading through His Word. We also need to ask God for the guidance of His Spirit. God is glad to give us His Spirit to help us (Luke 11:11-13).

We believe God loves us.

"There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment." -1 John 4:18

When God says He loves us, we believe Him. It's not humble to say, "Oh, I'm not important to God." God knows the number of hairs on our heads (Matthew 10:29-31). We are extremely valuable to Him. No matter what we feel (feelings come and go with hormones and food), we need to just start taking God at His word. He said He loves us; we should believe Him.

[He does love us. He lavishes us with value. He loves us so much that He allowed His precious Son to be mocked and beaten and slaughtered in order to buy us back from death. It wasn't a whim. It was the amazing, deep, true love of a mighty God. We need to choose to believe that.]

We also need to remember that He doesn't love us because of how good we are. He loves us because of how good He is. That means that when we've had a really rotten day and we've messed up, we don't have to run and hide from Him. We can run to Him and seek His healing and cleansing right away.

We love God back.

"We love him, because he first loved us." - 1 John 4:19

How do we love God? We obey Him (John 14:15). And when we fail, we quickly confess and repent from sin. We listen to Him. We trust Him. We worship Him. He gave His Son for us, which alone is worth all the rejoicing in the world.

Praise and worship bring amazing results. We can say, "I believe you love me," but turning that into, "Thank you for loving me," makes all the difference. We can praise God for His protection, thank Him for His love, delight ourselves in Him. It is safe in His arms. It is safe living in the center of His will, no matter where His will leads us. And as we praise Him and worship Him and enjoy Him, the fear cannot remain.

We remember that our lives are not our own.

"What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's." 1 Corinthians 6:19-20

One song's lyrics say: "Thank you, Jesus, for the life you've given me. Thank you, Jesus, for the things I cannot see. I will worship you, the great and mighty Prince of Peace. I will honor you, Lord of Love, King of Kings. Here's my life a sacrifice to you. Here's my life a sacrifice to you."

When our lives truly belong to Christ and we are wholly given over to His purposes, then we know that every thing – even tragedy – will be used for excellent, wonderful things. He can use it all. As Paul said:

"For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day. For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory; While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal." -2 Corinthians 4:16-18

Fear sometimes seems unbeatable. To us, our fears are very real, and the salt water up our sinuses can be painful each time we crash under the ocean waves. But, in God's power, in God's eyes, they are nothing. To God, the terrible monsters that rise up above us to destroy us are merely origami tigers. They look fierce, but in God's hands they are no real danger. God does not need a good economy to provide for us and pay our bills. If He sees fit to give us a broken down car to drive, then He is capable of holding that broken down car together for us. He can protect our children and our loved ones. He alone can heal our hearts, and He is never worried.

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INSIGHTS OF GOD WEBSITE

Further information about the web site "Insights of God"

Sunday, January 24, 2010

I sent this email to my brothers, sisters, and children

I spent some more time browsing through the web site called www.insightsofgod.com about which I sent information to you recently. I thought I would mention this information to you so you can get an overview of what is available in it. Then you could more easily select the information that might interest you. I know I plan to listen to and read quite a number of items available there.

The TITLE is: Insights of God: Experiences and Visions of Eternity

Click on the HOME PAGE for individuals who experienced heaven or hell and write or tell about that experience. I plan to listen to many of these. Several of these people have been guest speakers at my church (i.e. Ian McCormack, Bob Jones, Mahesh Chavda). There is a description with each testimony telling what it is about on that home page.

Click on BIOGRAPHIES OF OVERCOMERS and read about such people as John Wesley, David Brainerd, Madame Guyon, etc.

Click on PURITAN AND MYSTIC TEACHINGS and read about such people as Jonathan Edwards and Kierkegaard.

Click on ANCIENT TESTS and read texts like The Apocrypha of Paul, The Book of Enoch, etc.

Click on SPIRITUAL WARFARE and read of various men and their teachings on that subject.

Click on OTHER RESOURCES and find places where you can get Evangelism Resources (i.e. Mark Cahill), Teaching Resources (i.e. Sid Roth shows), and Prophetic Resources (i.e. Patricia King who has spoken at our church).

I hope listening to these testimonies and reading of the experiences of these people will help us understand that we each have a VERY IMPORTANT DECISION to make that will affect what will happen to us when we leave this earth. After that our future is set and there is no second chance to change our minds. What we do now while on earth will determine that eternal future, so it is

exceedingly important that we all understand what our choices are now, before it is too late. I desire that all of us go to heaven and be together there. That is why I am sending you this information.

~ 70 ~

DANCING WITH ANGELS

Today I am reading the new book by Kevin Basconi called *Dancing With Angels* which he sent to B. It is absolutely fascinating! He tells of many encounters he has had with angels, how they interact with him, and how we can co-labor with them.

~ 71 ~

AN 8 YEAR OLD GIRL WHOM THE LORD TOOK TO HEAVEN FOR A VISIT

Testimony by Jannet B. Canela

From website: www.InsightsOfGod.com

An 8 yr. old girl from Puerto Rico whom the Lord took to heaven for a visit

-VISION OF THE RAPTURE-

After that the Lord said, "Servant I will show you the rapture, I will show you how My coming will be." So I said, "Lord I have already seen many things, why are you going to show me more?" Then we arrive at the Throne of God, and I saw thousands and thousands of angels gathered together there. Then we started to go down, and the Lord and I stopped in a very white beautiful cloud. The Lord gave orders to the angels to come and receive the church, and the Lord told me, "Servant watch carefully, because this is the way it will be when I come back, this will be My coming."

I saw people raised from the four corners of the Earth, praising the Name of the Lord. All those people were covered with the power of God. They were dressed in white robes rising up and up. They began to sing a very beautiful song, "Holy, Holy, Holy are thee oh Lord! Thank You Father! For you have raised us! Thank you, Lord, for you have raised us!"

I saw many different people, tall, short, dark, white. All the people, and all those angels went up to the cloud where the Lord and I were. All the people and angels were full of thanksgiving to the Lord, and we all said, "Holy! Holy! Holy are thee oh Lord!" It was such a tremendous thing, I saw so many people that I thought I knew them. They all were covered with the glory of God.

WHY DO I WRITE?

(I appreciate what Pastor John Piper wrote in this letter to his church regarding taking leave time to write. Therefore, I wanted to include it in my own journal, as I identify with many of his thoughts.)

My 2010 Writing Leave: What? and Why?
From Desiring God e-newsletter

January 27, 2010
By John Piper

From February 4 through March 17, I will be on my annual writing leave (with a couple speaking trips thrown in). Thank you for supporting me in these focused times away. They are not vacation. I usually work longer hours during writing leave than during regular ministry seasons.

Why do I pursue writing in this way? There are other very important things to do. Here are the reasons that I am aware of, moving from general to specific.

1. I exist to spread a passion for the supremacy of God in all things for the joy of all peoples through Jesus Christ. Writing is one way of spreading this passion. God says I exist for his glory (Isaiah 43:7). Therefore, I write to make him look great.

2. I write to serve the church. Speaking the truth about important things is a good thing for the health of the church. You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free (John 8:32). Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth (John 17:17). I pray that the church will be helped by what I write.

3. I learn most when I am writing. So, since God commands me to grow in the knowledge and the grace of the Lord (2 Peter 3:18), it seems like a good method for me.

4. I find a good deal of pleasure in the craft of writing. Some people delight to paint. Others to sculpt. Others to remodel old furniture. Others to crochet and cross-stitch. I delight to make words effective in awakening passion for the sake of Christ-exalting truth.

5. I have been profoundly changed by reading books. So, I know that God uses books to change people for his glory. I would like to see others experience some of the things I have experienced in seeing God through the eyes of others.

6. Finally, there is an inner impulse that I cannot explain that drives me to write. I would write if there were no possibility of publication. I have hundreds of pages that no one has ever seen but me, and it would not matter ultimately if they were destroyed. I wrote them not to be published but because there is an impulse from within.

Thank you for praying for me in these weeks.

Pastor John

~ 73 ~

I WILL MEET YOUR NEEDS THERE FOR NOW

I wanted you at CTC while K and K were there, Joan. Since they left things have deteriorated and you sense it and know it. So, it is ok for you to go somewhere else for awhile. I have put it in your hearts to go to OCF for awhile. I know you want better and more meaningful worship and teaching times, and I will meet your needs there for now. I may have you return to CTC at some time in the future, and I may not. Just remain open to My guidance for now, every day, and I will show you the way.

~ 74 ~

MAYBE IT WAS AN ANGEL

Last night as I read from the book by Kevin Basconi (*Dancing With Angels; How You Can Work With Angels In Your Life*) to B, she shared that perhaps an angel came and helped recently when LK's car got stuck on the snow/ice buildup at the end of our driveway (put there by snowplows). Several people were helping B and LK to try to free her car, which was stuck on that snow. B said then a car drove up, a man got out without gloves or a coat fastened up, and proceeded to help shovel her car out. She wondered if that was an angel. Maybe it was.

~ 75 ~

GOD MOVED ON MY BEHALF

THE FATHER'S GOOD PLEASURE

January 10, 2010

by John Paul Jackson

www.streamsministry.com

". . . Just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will . . ."

— Ephesians 1:4–5

If you have children, then you probably know what it is like to find pleasure in small giggly faces, tiny hands that tug on your fingers and little arms that hang around your neck, or your leg, or reach for you in the dark after a bad dream.

Sometimes, as parents, it becomes necessary to do certain things in a certain way for the sole purpose of hearing the giggles again. We can guess how our children will respond to our actions, so we take those actions because we want the smiles. We want the delight, and we want our kids to know they are loved.

This, I believe, is a reflection of our daily relationship with God. We are His children. He takes pleasure in us the way we take pleasure in our kids, only it is far deeper and broader for Him, because He is not limited to finite experience.

Some of you may have heard me tell this story before, but I tell it again now because it displays this concept. In this story, God acted on my behalf. There were a hundred different ways He could have done it, but instead, He chose to do it in a way that still blows my mind.

Several years ago, I flew to Europe for a month of conferences. When I left the Los Angeles airport, I was feeling sick but figured it was simply the 24-hour flu. However, a few days and two conferences later, I still wasn't feeling any better, and after the third conference, I felt even worse.

By the time I arrived at the sixth conference, I was in really bad shape. I had intense, stabbing pain under my ribcage, and my whole body was swollen. At 2:30 in the morning, I started complaining to the Lord about my situation.

"God, I'm really sick. This is not a cold; this is not the flu. I know You know that, but I just want to remind You that I know that. If You don't heal me, I'm going to check in to the hospital in the morning. Lord, You make the choice. It's up to You — the conference or the hospital?"

After my little heart-to-heart with God, I became aware of someone standing beside the bed. I looked over and saw an old man who appeared to be in his 80s. He had thin white hair slicked back on his head, and his wrinkled, weathered complexion was very tan. He was staring at me.

O Lord, I thought, I told You I was sick! Now I'm hallucinating! I think there's a man standing next to my bed.

Then something occurred to me. Wait a minute. This could be an angel from the Lord. But no, that couldn't be it. He was too old to be an angel. I had seen a few middle-aged angels but no elderly ones.

Okay, Lord, I finally told Him, if this old man is really here, I want him to reach out his hand and place it on my hand so I can feel the weight and heat from his hand. None of this spirit stuff where he puts his hand through me — I want to feel him here!

The old man reached out his hands, placed them on my hands and said, "I've come to pray for you so that you might get well."

As he began to pray, I felt heat pass from his hands through my hands and into my body, slowly rolling up my chest and down my legs, as if a scroll were being unrolled from my torso. In front of the scroll was intense pain; behind the scroll was no pain. As it moved through my body, it felt thick, like liquid honey. Instantly, I was healed.

As I stared at the old man, he began to smile. Then, in the blink of an eye, he disappeared right in front of me. One second he was there — the next he was gone.

I jumped out of bed, exclaiming, "O God, thank You! This is so great! You're so wonderful! Thank You for sending Your angel to heal me!"

But then God clearly replied, "I didn't."

I was stunned. "O God, if that wasn't an angel — it wasn't the devil, was it? I'm going to die. He healed me to kill me! Lord, I didn't mean to complain so hard."

But the Lord responded, "It wasn't him."

Well, if it wasn't an angel, I thought, and it wasn't the devil, who was it?

The Lord answered my question with a vision. He showed me that the old man was from Mexico and lived outside a small, obscure village. I saw the man in his prayer time, on his knees in his little sod hut, beseeching the Lord, "O God, I'm an old man. There's very little that I can do, and I love You so much. Do You even know I exist? I'm nothing. I live outside this little village, and no one even knows I'm here. Do You even know I'm here? Do You know I exist? Is there any way You could use me? What can I do for You? How can You use me here?"

I saw the Lord transport the man to Geneva, where I was, and God told me, "I took him and I used him to heal you, then I sent him back."

I was awestruck. God moved on my behalf, and He chose to do it like that — in a way that I never would have thought of.

Our Father takes pleasure in His kids. This is one of the foundations of our faith. Without this understanding, it would be difficult to have an accurate picture of who He is. Just as we would not want our own children to miss the pleasure we take in them, so He does not want us to miss His heart.

CHANGE - MY FOURTH SUNDAY AT OCF

Yesterday B and I went to church at OCF. This was the fourth Sunday we attended there during 2010. We both knew that was where we were supposed to attend now, so we talked to Pastor LF and told him that. BC introduced us to Pastor Larry. He welcomed us to OCF and said he would put us on their mailing list. He also encouraged us to tell the CTC pastor about the change. We had been talking about doing that but hadn't done it yet. So yesterday afternoon B wrote out this message to the CTC staff and sent it.

Subject: Transition

Sunday, February 7, 2010 6:48 PM

From: "BR"

To: "A & CK"

Cc: "J & RG"

Pastor A,

For many months, my Mom and I have felt like we were in some kind of huge transition, but we didn't know what our destination would look like. When I lost my job in July, I realized that even my job was going to change during this transition and I sensed the Lord's hand in it. We wondered if God might even lead us to move to a new house or a different church at some point, like He did during the last major transition in our lives, when He led us both to move to LS and start attending CTC.

Well, now we know the answer to one part of that question. The Lord is leading us both to begin attending OCF church. We believe He is positioning us where He wants us to be for this next season. We have given this decision a great deal of prayer and both feel God's assurance that this is what He wants us to do. We look to the future with anticipation for what God will do in us and through us during this new season.

We want to thank you, C, J, R, and all the CTC leadership for ministering to us for the past 6 years. We have grown a great deal under your leadership and will always consider the people of CTC to be "family". When we see any of you in the future--and we might pop into CTC from time to time--we will greet you with joy in our hearts and blessings on our lips. You have truly been instrumental in nurturing us in the things of the Spirit.

We ask that you keep us both on the CTC email list, because we would like to be aware of what's happening and keep CTC in our prayers. As I said, we might attend certain events at CTC, as the

Lord leads. We aren't leaving out of offense or conflict of any kind. We're simply going where God is leading us to be for this new season.

Again, we thank you for your ministry and love and support. We pray for God's blessings in every area of your lives.

Sincerely,
B & JR

After sending that B wrote another email to our many friends at CTC to tell them about our change. She copied the above email message and said we wanted them to know about this and that we miss them.

On the drive to OCF we listen to teaching CDs since we have close to 1 hour to drive each way. Yesterday we listened to Paul Keith Davis teaching about the Bridal revival coming. A couple of ideas which I wanted to record from that:

1. Follow your hunger. This is deep calling unto deep.
2. Authority in heaven depends on how much you become like Jesus.

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PRAYER - MY FIFTH SUNDAY AT OCF

This morning in church I went forward for prayer for healing for pain in my left jaw area. The pain started a few days ago and got worse by Saturday when I started aspirin for it. I was prayed for by T at OCF. He anointed me with oil and he prayed for my ear to be healed, and then prayed for my heart. At one point he looked at me and said, "There it is!" I felt something that brought me to tears - which often happened to me previously when I felt the Spirit. Something happened, but I don't know what.

Anyway, the pain I went forward to have healed is still there, but perhaps something else took place (in my heart?) He was so kind to me as he prayed and talked with me. I am amazed that Christians have that kindness and caring for others - someone he didn't even know.

The worship this morning was extraordinary! I delight to get to participate in it with them.

~ 78 ~

KEEP WATCHING AND WAITING

Good Morning, Lord! I love You, Lord! Thank you for the wonderful worship time at OCF yesterday!

You're welcome, My child. I will be with you both each time you go to OCF for worship and other gatherings too. I am there. I am magnified and glorified in their worship services and other gatherings. That's why I sent you and B there. That is My best for you right now, at this time. I love you both and want you connected with others who love Me likewise as you two do.

Thank You, Lord!

You're welcome, My child. It is My pleasure to do this for you two. You are Mine and I love you!

It won't be long until your eyes are fixed, Joan. Your cup of prayers for healing is almost totally full. Keep praying for them. IT WILL COME! Healing will come even while on this earth in this earthly body. And keep praying for B's total healing too, Joan, as her cup of healing prayers is almost full. I want you to know this. You don't know on which day and which hour that your cups will overflow down to you in absolute and total healing.

It won't be long until the Rapture takes you, along with the rest of My Bride, from this earth up here to Heaven to be with Me. That will be a great day and a great celebration all over My Heaven. All here will rejoice along with all My Bride together. Keep watching and waiting for it. It WILL be soon. And soon is soon!

~ 79 ~

ANGEL EXPERIENCES

This was copied from the web site www.InsightsOfGod.com in a section written by Jim Bramlett

Other Angel Experiences

Also in the past few years I have investigated and documented several actual cases of angels

appearing as humans and bringing a message of the soon return of Jesus Christ.

Angels who appear as humans are not without biblical precedent. For example, two angels came to Sodom to warn Lot before they destroyed the city (Genesis 19). They visited Lot's home, ate with him, and even spent the night! They appeared as such "real people" that Sodom's homosexuals tried to accost them and have sex with them, but the angels struck them blind. The next day, because of its blatant wickedness, God destroyed the city by fire.

Angels are real, the Bible tells us. Hebrews 1:14 says they are ministering spirits sent to (not everyone, but) those who are to inherit salvation. We are also told that "some people have entertained angels without knowing it" (Hebrews 13:2), and therefore "we should not forget to entertain strangers." The one caution the Bible gives is that we are not to worship them.

Recognizing and acknowledging their work is okay as long as we do not worship them. Worship is reserved only for God.

It is important to stress that any mystical experience, even messages from angels, must be carefully judged against God's Holy Word, the Bible. New Agers and other non-Christians claim angelic revelations while rejecting the cross of Christ which paid the price for our spiritual blessings and access to heavenly things. They are deceived and usually involved with demonic spirits. A pertinent fact about the experiences I describe in the special report mentioned is that they came to me after I had already concluded their general message from the Scriptures. Therefore, they were confirming messages. Nevertheless, judge them for yourselves.

Angels appear as humans
-- then vanish --
after making startling announcement
that Jesus is coming "very, very soon"!!!
And other supernatural confirmations
of Christ's soon return!
by Jim Bramlett

Introduction. Numerous reputable people have told me, most unsolicited, of experiences with angels they either had personally or knew about. In most cases, the angels appeared to provide help in some distressful situation. However, several of the incidents, including the ones below, are particularly interesting for two reasons: (1) they contain a message (literally, the word "angel" means "messenger") and, (2) the incidents were brought to my personal attention under unusual circumstances, making me think God sent them my way. In each case, the angel delivered basically the same startling announcement of the soon return of the Lord Jesus Christ. Why me? Why did these stories come to me? My only guess is because I have the inclination to pursue them, to write about them, and to tell you about them. In God's great love, it may all be just for you.

Caution. It is important to stress that any mystical experience, even messages from angels, must be carefully judged against God's Holy Word, the Bible. New Agers and other non-Christians claim angelic revelations while rejecting the cross of Christ which paid the price for our spiritual blessings and access to heavenly things. They are deceived and usually involved with demonic spirits. A pertinent fact about the experiences below is that they came to me after I had already

concluded their general message from the Scriptures. Therefore, they were confirming messages. Nevertheless, judge them for yourselves. (Note: I was not able to confirm # 1.)

Encounter # 1 (Not confirmed)

This is one of the incidents reported to me that I was never able to actually confirm after hours of frustrating attempts and many long-distance telephone calls. It reportedly happened in the Atlanta, Georgia area, on I-285 near "Spaghetti Junction." I traced the incident from a friend in California to a United Airlines pilot in Chicago, then to at least 15 others in Atlanta, including a medical doctor. Each person with whom I have talked has seemed highly credible, although I could never trace it to the source.

A lady passed a hitchhiker on the expressway, giving no thought to stopping. But she heard a voice say, "Pick him up." She did not stop, but continued on. But she again heard the voice: "I told you to pick him up." She now felt compelled to go back. She turned off the expressway, then got back on via an access road. She thought it would be unlikely that the person would still be there, but if he was, she would pick him up. To her surprise, the man was still there, so she stopped. He got into the car. They chatted for a few moments, then after a brief pause, the stranger said, "Do you know the Lord Jesus Christ is coming soon?" On hearing that, the woman glanced toward the stranger -- but he was not there. He had suddenly and unexplainably vanished!

She was so shaken that she had to pull off the expressway. After sitting there a few minutes trying to regain her composure, a policeman pulled up behind her, got out of his car, went up to her window and said, "Ma'am, is there a problem?" She replied, "Officer, if I told you what just happened to me, you wouldn't believe it."

The policeman urged her to tell him anyhow. She described what had just happened. He responded, "Ma'am, normally I would think that you were one of the craziest people I have ever seen, but you are the seventh person today to give me this same report."

Encounter # 2 (Confirmed)

While in the process of investigating the above incident, I learned of this next amazing one from another person in California, although it took place in Tennessee. It happened just past midnight on March 26, 1993, to Vincent Tan, an analytical chemist who works in Chattanooga. I spent weeks personally tracing this incident and have confirmed it with two reputable Christian leaders, his pastor and, finally, even Vincent himself. The following is a precisely recorded account: Vincent was born Tan Ban Soon in Singapore of Chinese, Buddhist parents. A few years ago as a young boy in Singapore, he was in the library reading a book on nuclear physics and discovered an offer for a Bible course stuck between some pages. He ordered the course and later became a Christian. He came to the U.S. to attend a Christian college, then gave himself the western name of Vincent. After four years, he graduated with a major in science. He has been very active in his church and in sharing his faith.

On the night of Thursday, March 25, 1993, Vincent was working late in his laboratory to complete tests due on Friday. During the evening he moved his car close to the front door of the building, since there had recently been criminal activity in the area. From time to time he looked out the

window into the almost empty parking lot to check on his car. At 1:30 a.m. he finished working in his lab. As he was preparing to lock the door, he saw a person standing by the passenger side of his car. Vincent assumed the man was trying to steal his car. He noted that the stranger was of medium build with clean-cut, straight hair and had on a T-shirt, blue jeans and white tennis shoes.

Unsure what to do, he went back into the lab and prayed, "Lord, help me to do what I have to do. Do I have to use chi-sao?" Chi-sao (pronounced "chee'-sow-o") is a form of martial art in which Vincent is proficient. To be extra safe, he looked around the lab and picked up an 18-inch metal rod, held it behind him and stuck his head out the door. He said, "Hi, can I help you?"

The stranger answered, "Hi, Vincent."

Startled, Vincent asked, "Do I know you?"

The stranger replied, "Not really."

"What is your name? Who are you?" Vincent probed.

The stranger said, "I have the name of your primary and secondary school." He added, "I'm a friend. You don't have to use chi-sao or the rod on me." His voice had unusual authority, and it seemed he knew the question before it was asked.

Now Vincent was really startled. No one, not even his best friend in this country, was familiar with chi-sao, nor did anyone even know that he knew it. Also, there was no way the stranger could have seen the rod behind his back. Vincent later reflected that the stranger had used terminology ("primary and secondary school") of Singapore and not the U.S., and that name of his school back in Singapore was St. Gabriel. The stranger was saying that his name was Gabriel!

"How do you know that?" Vincent asked.

"I know," the stranger replied. "By the way, Mum is fine." Vincent was startled again. Just the week before, his sister had called from Singapore saying that his mother had heart complications, and Vincent had been quite worried about her.

Gabriel continued, "You love the Lord very much, don't you?"

"That's right," Vincent replied.

"He loves you very much, too," Gabriel said. Then he added, "He is coming very, very soon." He seemed to emphasize the "very soon."

Vincent answered, "That's great!"

Gabriel then asked, "Can I have a cup of water?"

Vincent said, "Sure," and turned momentarily to get him the water. Then he decided to invite the stranger inside to drink from the water fountain. He turned back to invite him inside -- but Gabriel was not there. He had suddenly and unexplainably vanished! Vincent had not turned his head for more than three seconds. There was no place for the stranger to have gone.

Puzzled, and not wanting to go back into the lab, Vincent laid the metal rod down by the front door and headed to his home outside of Chattanooga. When he came back to work later that morning, he wondered if he had dreamed the whole experience. As a scientist, he wanted to prove whether it had really happened. When he got to the building, he found the metal rod lying by the door just where he had left it. He knew he had not been dreaming. Upon entering the lab, the first thing he did was to lock himself in the rest room and kneel in prayer. "Show me what to do, Lord. I know what I remember. If I'm supposed to share it, I must believe it myself," Vincent pleaded. He then sat down at his computer and recorded every word said and everything that had happened.

That night, March 26, 1993, in a dream Vincent relived the whole experience, seeing himself, and word for word hearing the whole conversation. He awoke at about 3:30 a.m. and wrote down every word in the dream and the description of the stranger. What he wrote from the dream confirmed every detail he had written earlier. Also, a week after the experience, he learned that his mother had received needed surgery and was recuperating nicely -- and that the medical decision about her improved condition came a week earlier at about the very same hour as he was talking with Gabriel!

On July 29, 1993 I asked Vincent what effect this experience has had on him. He said he believes more strongly now that we should be ready every day for the Lord's coming, and not worry about which day He will come. He said the experience has intensified his dedication, causing him to spend more devotional time than before, wanting to know more about God and be closer to Him. For some time, even before that experience, Vincent said he had been asking God, "Am I ready, right now?" Now, more meaningfully than ever, this writer is asking that same question.

Encounter # 3: Vincent's second (confirmed)

I recently confirmed personally with Vincent that he has had another encounter, this time with an unnamed angel, on Thursday, December 23, 1993. Like the above, the following is an accurate record of exactly what happened and words exchanged.

Two Significant Prior Events. There are two events that have a bearing on this one. First, in July, 1993, Vincent had a dream. He saw himself standing at the door of a big room. He saw many candles, but not all of them were lit. He asked himself in the dream why the unlit candles. Then he heard a sad voice behind him saying, "If only all of them were lit." He turned around but didn't see anyone. A week later he had the exact same dream. Vincent shared the dreams in his Bible study and said he hoped someday the Lord would show him the meaning of the dreams.

Second, three months later in October, 1993 a stranded motorist waved Vincent down and asked him to jump start his car. Vincent stopped but did not have a cable. However, Vincent asked the man if he believed in God. The man asked what could God do. Vincent told him he believed that God could help in any situation such as this if we ask Him. So Vincent prayed out loud for God's help. After he prayed Vincent noticed a coat hanger on the road.

Somehow, he figured out a way to break the coat hanger in two and use one part to connect the positive terminals and the other part to touch the two auto bodies together as ground. The man's car started. He looked at Vincent and said, "You sure have a powerful God!" Vincent said, "I sure do. All we have to do is believe in Him." The man said, "I'll have to think about that," and left. Two days later, Vincent got a jumper cable for his truck.

The December 23, 1993 Experience. Shortly after 11 p.m.,

December 23, 1993, Vincent was in his truck returning home from visiting a friend near Chattanooga. About four miles away from the friend's home, he saw a truck alongside the road with its hood up and with an old man, estimated at about age 75, standing in front of it. Vincent was always wary of stopping for strangers, and believed one must really be led of the Lord in order to do so. He felt he should stop. He walked up to the man and asked if anything was wrong, to which the man replied that he had a dead battery. Vincent asked if he could help in any way. The man asked that Vincent go get his jumper cable out of the truck.

Vincent was surprised that he said this, as if knowing that Vincent had a jumper cable, especially since he had only recently obtained one. Vincent himself had forgotten that he had the cable, but when the old man told him about it he remembered. It was very dark and Vincent had to use his flashlight to see to connect his end of the cable. Then he turned around to discover that the man had already connected his end, even in the dark and with no flashlight. That seemed impossible, and startled Vincent.

Vincent said, "I need to do something first." The man looked at him and said, "I did it already." Vincent said, "Did what?" The man said, "I placed the bricks by your tires. That's what you want, isn't it?" The man had no way of knowing that Vincent had two bricks in his truck or that he wanted to block his tires with them because he didn't trust his hand brake and because the gear would have to be in neutral to start the other truck. Vincent checked and discovered that the man had placed the bricks behind the exact same tires that Vincent wanted. At this point, Vincent was convinced that this was not a natural person. And after the experience in March, Vincent had decided that if the Lord ever gave him the privilege of another encounter with an angel, he had many questions he wanted to ask. But he had a sudden feeling come over him and some force caused his mouth to be kept shut. He was not able to say anything except to respond to whatever the old man wanted or said.

Vincent was now ready to start the truck, and the old man said, "Can we wait in your truck and have my truck charged up?"

Vincent agreed and they sat in his truck. The old man spoke first and said, "Can we pray? God can work miracles -- even start a car with a coat hanger." (The previous incident with the coat

hanger job was a car and not a truck!) At this, Vincent said to himself that this stranger must be an angel!

The old man prayed: "Oh most holy and powerful God in heaven, we know you are coming very, very soon. Help us now in your own time and way. In Jesus' Name. Amen." Vincent said the man's voice was so powerful and assuring that it sent chills through him. After the prayer the man asked Vincent, "Do you believe the Lord is coming soon?" Vincent said yes. Then the man said, "He is coming very, very soon, and we need to be ready now and always." Then he said, "Can I use your Bible?" Vincent agreed, then without any word from Vincent the man reached into the glove compartment for the Bible, already knowing where it was located.

The man asked Vincent, "Do you read your Bible.?" Vincent replied that he tried to read it every day. The man said, "That's very good. It's unfortunate that many do not do that. Having Bible studies is like being in a big room with many candles that are lit." Vincent knew he had God's answer about his dreams six months earlier. The unlit candles meant many people were not spending time studying God's Word! Now Vincent had absolutely no doubt that this was an angel.

It was very dark, but the man took Vincent's King James Bible and, without searching, flipped immediately to the exact page, to Matthew, chapter 24. Then Vincent shined the flashlight on the page as the man read verse 36: "But of that day and hour knoweth no man, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only." He then jumped down to verse 42: "Watch therefore, for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come."

Then again, as if knowing exactly where the page was, without searching he flipped to John, chapter 14, and read verses 1-3: "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also."

Then again, he amazingly flipped directly to Revelation 3, verse 11, and read: "Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown." With that, the man put the Bible back in the glove compartment. Vincent reflected that all three passages, and everything the man said, was about the Lord's return.

After reading, the man put the Bible back and said, "The truck is ready." He started the truck and Vincent said he would follow him for awhile to make sure everything was okay. The man said, "Thank you very much for your help. By the way, I left a small token for you. It will be enough to fill up your car tomorrow."

That was strange, because there was no way for the man to know that Vincent had a car in addition to his truck. Vincent followed him about a mile with the man's tail lights clearly in view, then as they were going around a curve, he suddenly vanished from view. He and his truck just disappeared. Thinking his vision may have been obstructed by trees or something, Vincent even went back the next day during the daylight and retraced everything. There were no trees or anything obstructing his view. There was no human explanation. Also the next day, as he always does on Friday, Vincent took his car to the service station to fill up the tank with gasoline, so it would be full for the weekend. He had forgotten what the man had said about leaving a token "to fill up your car tomorrow." Vincent put \$2.32 worth of gas in his car, then tried to round it off to \$2.35 or \$2.40. But he could only get it up to \$2.34 and it stopped. It just would not take more than

exactly \$2.34.

Vincent then left to visit a friend's house, but remembered that he had left the friend's Christmas gift in his truck, so he went back home. When home, Vincent decided to clean his truck a bit before leaving. While doing so, he found some money on the front seat, passenger's side, underneath his glove. The money consisted of two one-dollar bills, a quarter, a nickel, and four pennies -- exactly \$2.34!"

Encounter # 4: Vincent's third (confirmed)

Vincent had another amazing experience in the early morning hours of Sunday, September 13th 1998. He had been working late in his chemist job again to finish some urgent jobs. He left work at about 1 a.m. When he got outside, he suddenly realized that he had left his keys on his desk, but was not able to get back inside because of the automatic lock on the door. So now he could neither get back inside, nor drive his truck. He prayed that the Lord would unlock his truck, but nothing happened.

He walked across the street to a pay phone but discovered it had been vandalized. He remembered his cellular phone in his backpack and took it out. Vincent then realized he had left the battery at home to be recharged (an old model), and it could not work, of course, without a battery. Nevertheless, he prayed and asked the Lord to allow him to make one call. As soon as he prayed, he noticed the phone miraculously lighting up, and he called a friend to pick him up. The friend agreed to do so.

Vincent then sat down by a doorstep of the lab and waited. A little while later a police car drove up and stopped. The policeman asked, "What are you doing?" "I'm waiting for a friend," Vincent replied. He told the policeman his situation, about the prayer to open his truck, and the call to his friend.

The policeman replied, "Your friend isn't coming." He noticed Vincent's Bible, and added, "That's a good book to read." Some conversation ensued in which Vincent disclosed his faith and his belief that the Lord is coming "very, very soon."

The policeman replied, "I believe the Lord's coming is very, very near too." At that very moment, a call came in over the policeman's radio and he said he had to leave. Before he left, the policeman remarked to Vincent, "Why don't you pray and ask the Lord to open the door to your lab?" Vincent said he watched him leave, while praying silently.

Vincent said, "I had barely finished praying when the lab door miraculously opened. I immediately stood up and turned around towards the door and noticed that someone had pushed the lock bar and opened it from the inside. I held on to the door and turned to look at the police car and noticed he was not to be seen, even though I had taken my eye off him for only a few seconds."

Vincent got his keys and drove away in his truck. He drove by his friend's home and noticed both their vehicles in their driveway. He assumed that they must have gone back to sleep, forgetting

him.

Vincent said that he decided to go on home, "believing I may have actually spoken with an angel," he said. The next day he checked with his friend whom he had called and who had promised to pick him up. The friend did not remember anything about the call!

Here we have: (1) a cell phone that miraculously works without a battery, (2) a mysteriously appearing and disappearing policeman who said "I believe the Lord's coming is very, very near," (3) the policeman knew in advance that the friend would not pick Vincent up, (4) after the policeman told him to pray, a door that miraculously opened from the inside even though no one was inside, (5) a friend promised to pick him up but neither he nor his wife remember the telephone call. The whole episode is no doubt supernatural.

Comments

Incident # 2 above about "Gabriel" motivated me to review references in the Bible to the angel Gabriel. By name, Gabriel appeared to three people. The first was to the prophet Daniel in about 550 B.C. He gave Daniel a vision of the future, including the timing of Christ's first coming. And similar to the message to Vincent, he said to Daniel, "You are greatly beloved." Later, as recorded in Luke, he appeared to Zechariah, saying these awesome words, "I am Gabriel, who stands in the presence of God," as he announced the birth of John the Baptist; then shortly thereafter he appeared to the virgin Mary to announce the birth of Christ. Gabriel's main function in both Old and New Testaments seems to be in connection with announcing the coming of the Son of God to the world.

Angels who appear as humans are not without biblical precedent. For example, two angels came to Sodom to warn Lot before they destroyed the city (Genesis 19). They visited Lot's home, ate with him, and even spent the night! They appeared as such "real people" that Sodom's homosexuals tried to accost them and have sex with them, but the angels struck them blind. The next day, because of its blatant wickedness, God destroyed the city by fire.

Encounter # 5: Vincent's fourth (confirmed):

God makes a telephone call -- literally!

This may or may not have involved an angel. What is described below could have been either the sovereign hand of God Himself or an angel. However, we do know that God does use angels to carry out His work so my guess is that an angel was involved. Also, the below incident does not involve prophecy but I am including it because the supernatural nature of it affirms the other prophetic experiences had by Vincent Tan described above.

On Saturday, April 6, 1996, Vincent was awakened at 4:30 a.m. with a burden to pray. He slipped to his knees beside his bed for a few moments, after which he returned to bed and to sleep. He arose later, and at 7 a.m. began his morning prayer time. At 7:30, as he was still praying, the telephone rang. So as not to be disturbed, he decided to let the answering machine take the call. For some strange reason, the answering machine refused to take the call. The telephone kept ringing, as though demanding to be picked up! Vincent discovered that the answering machine was, indeed, on, but that it was not taking the call. He decided to go ahead and answer it. He also noted that, oddly, his Caller I.D. failed to show the number of the caller.

"Hello," Vincent said. Surprisingly, the other party also said, "Hello." Again, Vincent said, "Hello." Again, the lady on the other end said, "Hello." Vincent asked, "Do you want to speak to me?"
The lady said, "No."
Vincent then asked, "Then why did you call me?" The lady said, "I didn't call you."

Vincent explained that his phone rang and he had answered it. The lady said the same thing happened to her-that her phone rang and she had answered it. Vincent told her his name, and she said her name was Doris, and that she was in Iowa. They both concluded that somehow their lines must have become crossed, causing this freak mishap.

(God had caused two distant telephones-one in Tennessee, and one in Iowa-to ring each other simultaneously, and for the loving and Divine purpose explained below.)

But in another surprise, Doris asked, "Are you the same Vincent who had an experience with an angel?" Vincent said yes. She explained that she and her mother had read about Vincent's story about a year ago in an article I had written. Doris went on to say that six months ago, her mother was diagnosed with cancer and only given six months to live. She said that every day for the past six months her mother had prayed that she would be able to meet or speak with Vincent before she died. In her prayers about this, she had claimed the promises of Jeremiah 32:27, which says, "Behold, I am the LORD, the God of all flesh: is there any thing too hard for me?" and Jeremiah 33:3: "Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not." A few years ago, Vincent had also claimed these same promises.

Doris explained that her mother was near death, and how that very morning, at 3:30 a.m., Iowa time (the exact same as Vincent's prayer at 4:30 a.m., Eastern Time) she was awake and felt led to seek the Lord and remind Him of her mother's request. She asked if Vincent would speak with her mother, to which Vincent agreed.

(As an answer to this dying mother's fervent, daily prayers, God had miraculously allowed her to speak with Vincent!)

Her mother was bed-ridden, so Doris decided to put Vincent on the speaker-phone, which took a few moments to set up. Finally, after waiting, Vincent heard the mother's weak but audible voice. The mother thanked Vincent for talking with her, and then asked if he would please personally repeat for her his angel experiences. Vincent patiently took about the next 45 minutes describing to her the incidents in detail. At the end of his description, Vincent heard the mother say weakly, "Praise the Lord. Amen."

This was followed by silence. All was strangely quiet. Vincent waited, thinking that Doris was taking him off the speaker. After a few moments, Doris broke the silence and came back on the regular telephone. "Praise the Lord," she said. "My mother just died."

Vincent now says, "I was so overwhelmed with mixed emotions. I did not know whether to be happy or sad." He says he decided to say goodbye so that Doris could be with her mother. In the

shock and emotion of the moment, Vincent didn't think to get Doris' telephone number for follow up. But he says, "I know that the Lord has His reasons for us not getting each other's numbers. Why He would not let her number flash on my (Caller I.D.) screen is still a mystery. Yet I am amazed at His miraculous action in ringing both our phones at the same time. As I ponder over the event, I am grateful to the Lord for His loving kindness. It just encouraged my faith to trust Him even more, knowing that in the fullness of His time, He will answer our prayers."

Vincent added the following, a message I believe not just for me, but for all who read this:

"I hope that this will be an encouragement to you as it has been to me. I know that we will see Doris' mother in heaven when we all will be able to know the answers to our questions. The Lord is coming very, very soon. As we near the final hours, I know that His presence is even evermore with us now....May the Lord continue to bless you....Let us be ready now, for His coming is very, very near."

Encounter # 6: Mother hears voice -- same message (confirmed)

More recently, while perhaps not involving angel, on December 30, 1999, a mother in Maryland, Beth, told me an amazing and confirming testimony. She said, "I would like to share with you an occurrence that happened on December 10, 1999 in the a.m. My 8-year-old was at school and my husband was at work.... I had my 6-month-old son in his swing in front of the television watching Sesame Street. What caught my attention was that the television made the 'shhhh' sound. I turned to look and the screen was snowy as expected with that noise. It's what happened next. The television completely cut off. My child was asleep. No sooner did I think, 'Oh, the cable must have cut off,' did I hear a voice. It said, 'The lord is coming very, very soon.' I was dumfounded, and then the TV came back to normal and Sesame Street continued."

She went on to describe her reactions and adds that it was three days later on December 13th that she came across my article about Vincent's angel encounters with the exact same message.

"Needless to say," she concludes, "the messages that your witnesses received were exactly as my message was. I was very shaken.... I wonder why He chose me to relay this message."

Conclusion

While we may never know the day or hour of the return of the Lord Jesus Christ, Scriptures do clearly indicate that seekers will at least know approximately. And there is overwhelming evidence that the return of the Lord will be soon. According to the four of the encounters and testimonies above, it will be "very, very soon."

Readers are permitted and encouraged to copy and share this article freely with others. May the special presence and peace of the Holy Spirit rest upon each person who reads this article, and may God's angels be with you and watch over you at all times according to Psalms 34:7 and 91:11.

Someone has asked how do we know these are angels and not demons. Easy answer. Praising

Jesus, the Son of God, is not in the job description of demons! They cannot stand to be around when praise to Him is going on, because that reminds them of their defeat on the cross.

Jim Bramlett

<http://www.choicesforliving.com/spirit/angels/angels.htm>

Jim's Article recently was published on the front page of the WorldNetDaily website:
<http://www.worldnetdaily.com/staticarticles/article54271.html>

~ 80 ~

THY KINGDOM COME

Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed by Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, On earth as it is in heaven. (Matthew 6:9-10)

It IS being done, Joan, and it is coming very fast and very quickly and soon. You will see it arrive, Joan. You will be with Me as this age ends, all My enemies are defeated, and I set up My kingdom on earth "as it is in heaven!" That's why I had you pray for that.

You will see it. You will be a part of it - as all My Bride will. We are at the very end of the church age, Joan, and it will be taken out of the way, off the earth. Then My very end plan will begin - the plan/part I tell about in Revelation chapter 4 on. That will be a short time of great upheaval. But it will soon be over and then I will set up My kingdom as the absolute Ruler. Satan will be gone then. No one will be against Me. All who were against Me will be killed (Isaiah 1:28) and judged. Only those who are for Me will remain.

Then we'll begin the new plan for the new earth-time of the millenium - My 1000-year reign. You and your children will get to reign with Me.

~ 81 ~

CALL UPON ME AS THE LIGHT

Happy birthday, My Child! I'm giving you the gift of healing and health for your birthday! What a great gift I give unto you! In Me is no darkness at all and I am living inside of you - so I can and will dispel any darkness that tries to invade your body or your mind. I am the Light of the world, and you are also light. Whenever disease tries to invade your body or mind, call upon Me, as the Light, to come inside you as the Light and dispel all

darkness. Then you can take My light out into the world and share that healing, ministering light with others as I lead you.

I just spent about an hour praying for healing from pain in my lower abdomen. I asked the Lord to teach me how to pray for this, and He did! He had me intersperse praying in tongues with speaking forth His Word on healing and who He is. He had me plead His blood covenant over my body, over every molecule in my body, and plead his blood, and His name. These are some of the words I prayed:

By his stripes I am healed (See 1 Peter 2:24)

He sent forth his word and healed them (See Psalm 107:20)

Submit to God, resist the devil, and he will flee from you (See James 4:7)

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits - who heals all your diseases (See Psalm 103:2-3)

I am the Light of the world; in me there is no darkness at all. (See John 8:12; 1 John 1:5)

In my heart, Lord, be glorified, be glorified; in my heart, Lord, be glorified today. (song)

I am a blood-bought child of God. I have a blood covenant with Jesus. I plead this covenant over every molecule in my body.

You are Jehovah Rophe, the God who heals me (See Exodus 15:26)

Teach me your ways so that I may know you and continue to find favor with you. (See Exodus 33:13)

And now the pain is almost completely gone!!! Praise God! He has healed me!!!

~ 82 ~

THE BLOOD OF JESUS

(Quotes from book by Mary K. Baxter and T. L. Lowery called *The Power of the Blood*)

(p. 122 ff) I want to conclude this chapter with an explanation of what it means to "plead the blood." God has shown me the importance of the cross and the blood covenant with its accompanying protection. "Pleading the blood of Jesus" is more than just a catch-phrase. It is, in a sense, a legal term. It means to invoke what Christ has done on the cross over a particular situation or person. A blood covering is provided through faith in God, prayer, and belief in the covenant of God. I have learned that when we are praying for people, and God impresses upon us to cover people with the blood, we should say, "I cover you with the blood of Jesus, the covenant of God!"

We should never be ashamed of the blood of the Lamb. When we say that we cover others with the precious blood of Jesus Christ, this means that we claim the blood that He shed, which enabled us to enter into the new covenant with God. It means that Almighty God will look down from heaven and watch over us and protect us. It means that we can pray over our children and

cover them with the covenant blood of Jesus Christ. Demons tremble at the name of Jesus, and they flee at the blood of the Lamb.

Pleading the blood gives us bold and confident access to God's power and providence. As the Scripture says, we can have "*boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way, which He consecrated for us, through...His flesh*" (Hebrews 10:19-20).

For example, we can plead the blood for ourselves when the devil tries to torment us with the memory of past sins that have already been forgiven. Doing this reminds us and the devil that God has forgotten our sins because of Christ's sacrifice and His blood. The Word of God says, "*They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony*" (Revelation 12:11). I believe that "*the word of [our] testimony*" simply means believing in the efficacy of the blood.

A believer who pleads the blood in a time of dire circumstance or attack by the enemy is calling on the power and authority of Christ's blood. When we plead the blood, we acknowledge and testify to the overcoming power of the sacrifice of Jesus on our behalf. To defeat the devil, you need to stand on the blood and proclaim its power!

~ 83 ~

IT WAS LIKE A PROTECTIVE SHIELD

I have been reading a book called *The Power of the Blood* by Mary K. Baxter and T. L. Lowery. It was an excellent book! I especially liked these chapters: The Meaning of the Blood, Salvation through the Blood, Peace through the Blood, Transformation through the Blood, Healing through the Blood, and Deliverance through the Blood. I think this book would be good to read at least once a year. Here is one story from page 179-180 that I wanted to put in my journal:

One night, I awoke and everything seemed to be covered in red - the walls, the floors, even what was outside. I looked out the window, and there was a hedge built around my home. The peace of God came, and His voice said, "I will be a wall of fire about you, daughter, and I will overshadow you, protect you, and watch over you. I will do this for all My children who love Me and keep My commandments."

I went back to sleep in the presence of God. I began to see fire, glory, and power, as the Word of God became alive. I could see what seemed to be the blood of Jesus covering things I didn't even know He was covering. It was like a protective shield.

~ 84 ~

A DREAM ABOUT PURPLE WORDS APPEARING ON THE FLOOR WHERE I WALKED

In this dream I saw this: Wherever I walked words were printed on the floor in purple color.

- Purple: royalty, rule, majestic, noble, authority, prosperity
- Words: (pen/pencil - tongue) indelible words, covenant, agreement, vow, publish, record

I think this means that, because of what the Lord is leading me to write and do, I take that covenant with me wherever I go and it comes out as speech producing spiritual fruit, which is royal and with authority.

~ 85 ~

ONE TRUE GOD

A DREAM OF SEEING THE WORDS "ONE TRUE GOD"

"One true God" was in my dream. Those words were in a line among many other letters.

This may be a reminder to me that, although there are many "other letters and words" that we see day after day, there is only *One True God* - and no other.