

NOTES
AND
QUOTES

5

Compiled by Joan Royer

FORWARD

*Write down the revelation
and make it plain on tablets
so that a herald may run with it.*

HABAKKUK 2:2

FOR YEARS AND YEARS I HAVE COPIED INTO MY JOURNALS FAVORITE QUOTES FROM BOOKS and messages as I have read them. I collected them in a computer file called *Wonderful Writings from Various Christian Authors*. Also as I've listened to conferences on the internet, I have often taken notes on what the speakers were saying.

I thought these were just for my private use. But one day the Lord told me to share these wonderful writings with others in a book He called *Notes and Quotes*. So I gathered many of these into this series of books to share with you.

It is my desire that these notes and quotes are a blessing to you as they have been to me. I have put the author or speaker's name at the beginning of each article.

CHURCH GOVERNMENT

(Rick Joyner, *MorningStar Ministries*, bulletin "The White Stone Promise-The Book of Revelation)

In the New Testament, the church had been given the simplest but most effective form of government for its administration. One church in every city would have multiple meeting locations. There was a council of elders for the church in the city, often made up of the leaders of the different congregations. Deacons that served the church at the direction of the elders were often elevated to the position of an elder when there was an opening or need. One would usually be a presiding elder in a city, as we see James presiding over the apostles and elders in Jerusalem in the Book of Acts. These positions of authority were for service, not for controlling or lording it over the saints.

Apostles were over the elders of the local churches. The apostles traveled about to help set things in order in the churches, mostly through teaching and helping to build the churches. Christ was over the apostles and presided personally over His church universal. He directed His church through His apostles and prophets, but the life of every church was in their relationship to Christ, not just to an authority structure or organization. This made the church the most dynamic and unique entity the world had ever seen. Multitudes were drawn to it as they were born again by powerful personal encounters with Christ through His Holy Spirit.

HIS DAILY GRACE IN OUR LIVES

(Quotes from the book FRESH FAITH by Jim Cymbala)

True Christianity is, rather, to know Jesus and trust in him, to rely on him, to admit that all of our strength comes from him. That kind of faith is not only what pleases God, but is also the only channel through which the power of God flows into our lives so we *can* live victoriously for him.
(p 44)

The greatest Christian is not the one who has *achieved* the most but rather the one who has *received* the most. God's grace, love, and mercy flow through him abundantly because he walks in total dependence.
(p 45)

The truth is that God never works with our "flesh," or old nature - that's how depraved it is. That is why we never stop needing the power of the Holy Spirit during our whole pilgrimage here on earth. We never reach a place where we can live victoriously apart from his daily grace in our lives. Only

the Spirit can produce *his* fruit, in and through us, that makes us the people God wants us to be. And God has to show us regularly how needy we are. (p 46-7)

He (Paul) has found the secret that we were created to be receiving vessels only - not having any strength in ourselves but merely depending on God to fill us hourly with all we need. Paul also knew that God uses trouble and trials of all kinds to heighten that sensitivity so that by faith we can use divine resources. (p. 47)

Christians become strong only by seeing and understanding the grace of God, which is received by faith. That is the very thing that delights the heart of God. When we run to him and throw ourselves upon him in believing prayer, he rejoices. He does not want me out on my own, trying to earn merit stars from him. He wants us, rather, to lean into him, walking with him as closely as possible. He is not so much interested in our *doing* as in our *receiving* from him. After all what can we do or say or conquer without first receiving grace at God's throne to help us in our time of need (Hebrews 4:16)? And all that receiving happens through faith. (p. 48-49)

Face the obvious fact that the problem or need is far too big for you to handle. Use the very fact of your inadequacy as a springboard to a new, wholehearted trust in God's unfailing promises. (p. 49)

Unbelief often clothes itself in "being smart." We use cleverness to cover the tracks of our lack of faith. But who can be wiser than God? (p 91)

In the church today, we are still busy inventing new forms of religion as Jeroboam did. The new models are just as logical and "user-friendly." We must make it *easier on the people*, we say. After all, we need to make church convenient for the busy, modern lifestyle. No one can be expected to sacrifice precious time and energy for the Savior. Subtly, our comfort level becomes the center of the action rather than God. If a weeknight prayer meeting isn't to your particular liking...well, hey, God's everywhere, you know? Stay home and do your own thing. In fact, why even have a prayer meeting? That was only for those old Bible days anyway. At the heart of "Jeroboam religion" is doing *anything* to keep the crowd. Even as Jeroboam's tragic plan altered God's plan for his people, we have church-growth consultants who know how to slickly play the numbers game. They are experts on what will "work." But sadly, they are blind to the fact that only God "works." (p 92)

Many of our struggles with faith have to do with timing. We believe, at least in theory, that God will keep his promises--but when? If the answer does not come as soon as we expect, fear begins to assault us, and then soon we are tempted to "throw away (our) confidence," ignoring the fact that "it will be richly rewarded" (Hebrews 10:35). It would be a good idea if we all just admitted that we need to learn about God's way of doing things. (p 97)

David also knew that if God did lead him into a situation, God's provision would follow. Wherever God leads us, there is an umbrella of protection and supply that stays over our heads. Under that umbrella are the divine resources of wisdom, grace, finance, and all the other things we need to do what God has asked. That does not mean there won't be problems and difficulties. But wherever the Lord leads, he must then by necessity help us. (p 72-3)

This incident reminds us that one of the first rules of spiritual guidance is to assume that we could be wrong. David was humble enough to say to himself, “Possibly I misheard God. I’d better check again.” He didn’t pretend that he was in constant twenty-four-hour communication with God and above all chance of making a mistake. (p 74)

It is not a sign of weakness to look for confirmation. It is often a good idea, in fact, to get a prayer partner, or call a pastor, who can validate your sense of God’s will as you inquire of the Lord. (Psalm 25:9) “He guides the humble in what is right and teaches them his way.” (p. 75)

-3-

THE JUDGMENTS OF GOD

(Week 38, 2011 by Rick Joyner, MorningStar Ministries)

One of the six basic doctrines of Christianity listed in **Hebrews 6:1-2** is “**eternal judgment.**” One very revealing factor that was illuminated by the responses from our West Coast prophecies were the teachings and comments some made about God’s judgment. It is hard not to question if some of these Christians, especially those in ministry, had actually ever studied the Scriptures on this important subject. This compelled me to start asking believers when was the last time they heard a sermon on God’s judgment, and to date I have not found a single one who remembers hearing even one sermon on this important and basic Christian doctrine.

I cannot remember the last time that I taught on this subject either. I did study it in some depth for about two years when I was a new believer. I have taught on it some in the past, but with the exception of a few references, I have not taught on this important subject in depth for more than twenty-five years. So I am not pointing fingers at others in this any more than I am considering myself guilty of overlooking this important matter too. However, I do have enough of a foundation to recognize how much, if not most, of what is being taught about God’s judgment is not biblical, but is sometimes in basic conflict with what the Bible reveals on it. Some comments or opinions I’ve heard lately were in direct conflict with even the teachings of Jesus Himself. That is revealing.

I was expecting some of this because of previous experience, but I think this time it has revealed a much deeper level of how far from sound biblical doctrine much of the church in America has received. It is true that “**the kindness of God leads to repentance**” (see **Romans 2:4**), and we never want to forget this. However, like the basis of many false teachings, if we take this one slice of a verse out of context we can be led astray by it, as many are. Understanding the judgments of God are crucial for understanding what God is doing, and even God Himself, so let’s care enough to read this in its whole context.

Therefore you have no excuse, every one of you who passes judgment, for in that which you judge another, you condemn yourself; for you who judge practice the same things.

But we know that the judgment of God rightly falls upon those who practice such things.

And do you suppose this, O man, when you pass judgment upon those who practice such things and do the same *yourself*, that you will escape the judgment of God?

Or do you think lightly of the riches of His kindness and tolerance and patience, not knowing that the kindness of God leads you to repentance?

But because of your stubbornness and unrepentant heart you are storing up wrath for yourself in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God, who WILL RENDER TO EVERY PERSON ACCORDING TO HIS DEEDS:

to those who by perseverance in doing good seek for glory and honor and immortality, eternal life;

but to those who are selfishly ambitious and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, wrath and indignation.

***There will be* tribulation and distress for every soul of man who does evil, of the Jew first and also of the Greek, but glory and honor and peace to every man who does good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.**

For there is no partiality with God (Romans 2:1-11).

It is the kindness of God that leads to repentance, but as we see here, if we do not repent because of His kindness we can surely expect wrath. The Jews who were in such pursuit of righteousness in those times were so sure that they were exempt from the wrath of God that they were recipients of some of the most intense. Their righteousness had become self-righteousness, which caused them to even persecute the Righteous One Himself. Even so, the Lord exclusively reached out to them for years before sending His apostles to the Gentiles. It was God's kindness that kept reaching out so that they would not have to endure His wrath, but a time came when wrath was inevitable.

It is in His kindness that He has been sending warnings to the U.S. that would cause the repentance so that His judgments will not have to come on us. This does not mean that His judgments will never come to all who do evil because it is made very clear in the Scriptures above.

The judgment of God has been coming upon America, and it will intensify if we do not recognize the evil that has been taking over and repent of it. We have already paid a terrible price for not hearing, and I for one pray for the grace to be as clear as possible about what is happening and why so that it will not have to continue. It will continue without repentance and without revival and returning to the Lord. As the saying goes, "If you do not change your direction, you will end up where you are headed," and America is now headed for increasingly serious discipline. The disasters coming upon us are a message, and if we would listen they can be stopped.

HEAR O ISRAEL

(Internet article by © Asher Intrater 2005)

The greatest commandment of all time starts with the word "Hear"- in Hebrew, "Shema". *Hear O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord with all your heart, all your soul and all your might - Deuteronomy 6:4-5.* This verse has been the rallying cry of the Jewish people for three thousand years. Eye witness reports of the Holocaust told of Jewish families holding their little children in their arms, whispering to them, then pointing to the sky, chanting out loud, "Shema Yisrael," as the Nazis machine gunned them into mass graves.

In this article I want to concentrate on that first word - "Hear." Unfortunately, the meaning has been clouded by religious controversy (as if the verse was primarily a Jewish theological defense against the Christian "pagan" belief in three gods) and by religious ritual (some Jews recite the verse with the three middle fingers pointing upward on the forehead with the thumb and little finger in the corners of the right and left eye, spelling out the letters of "Shaddai"; while other Jews wrap their tallit - prayer shawl - around their head like Moses covering his face before the glory fire of God).

Listen and Obey

The word Shema, much like the word Hear in other languages, has two meanings: *listen* and *obey*. So God is telling us to listen - to pay attention to hear and understand what He is saying; and then when we get it, we are to obey - to put into action what the word has said. This is similar to how Pastor Cho of Korea summarized his secret to ministry success as simply, "I pray and I obey."

So God is telling us first of all to develop a listening heart and to try to understand His will. You can't hear a radio station unless you turn into the right wavelength. Before we can "hear" God's voice, we have to "listen" for it. Romans 10:17 tells us "*faith comes by hearing.*" That also has a dual meaning. Our faith is developed as we hear the voice of God in our inner ear, but it is also developed as we "*obey all things that I (Yeshua) have commanded you*" - Matthew 28:20.

Hearing by faith is just as much moral as it is mystical. Faith without obedience is a false faith, like sinking sand, a cloud without water, a body without a spirit. A famous verse in Jewish tradition, which puts the commitment to obey even before the ability to hear is Exodus 24:7 - "*We will obey and we will hear.*"

Prophetic Anointing

There was a time in Israel when almost no one was receiving a prophetic word from God. People were neither listening nor obeying. Then God found one little boy whose heart was sensitive to Him. This little boy was Samuel. But he didn't know how to receive a prophecy. He had to learn. Eli the old priest told him that the next time he sensed the Lord might be talking to him to respond, "*Speak LORD for your servant hears*" - 1 Samuel 3:9.

There is a position, a posture of the heart, a willingness of spirit that makes us ready and able to hear a word from God. We have to *listen* on the inside, and be committed to *obeying*. We cannot make God speak to us, but we can train ourselves to be sensitive and focused on listening. And God certainly wants to speak to us. There is nothing wrong with His transmitter; it is our receiver that needs tuning.

Our staff and students take two hours together in the morning for prophetic praise and prayer. It is a time for listening to the voice of God and developing the prophetic gifts of the Holy Spirit. We believe God wants to raise up a new generation of local Hebrew speaking prophets here in Israel, just as He wants in every other tribe, nation and tongue. We see this as a kind of "school of the prophets" (I Samuel 10:5).

Kingly Authority

Another example is found in the famous dream of King Solomon, in which he was asked what he would like to receive from God. Above all the material blessings of this world, he requested, "*a hearing heart to judge Your people, that I may discern between good and evil*" - *I Kings 3:9*. The word here for a hearing or listening or obedient heart is *lev shomea*, from the same root as *shema* in both the passages above.

Note again the moral dimensions of hearing, so that we can discern between right and wrong. It was the listening heart that made Solomon worthy to be king. That same listening heart gives us the wisdom to exercise spiritual authority. Yet that authority also requires integrity. A king's throne is established in righteousness (Proverbs 16:12, 25:5).

Don't think you are going to have all kinds of spiritual authority without the corresponding responsibility of integrity and righteousness. We learn to reign by the qualities of righteousness (Romans 5:17), and it is the Spirit of Holiness that gives us the wisdom to rule as kings (Proverbs 8:15).

So whether it is to 1.) love the Lord with all our might, 2.) receive prophetic gifts and anointing, or 3.) develop leadership and kingly authority, everything starts with a listening and obedient heart. Like a leaf that flutters at the slight touch of the wind (John 3:8), so are we to be sensitive to the promptings of the Holy Spirit on the inside.

Asher Intrater is a highly respected voice in Israel and beyond. He is also personal friend of Pastor Frangipane. Asher is a Jewish believer in Jesus, the Messiah. He came to faith during a power confrontation with God in the mountains of Central America. He has a BA from Harvard University, MA from Baltimore Hebrew University and M.M.S. from Messiah Biblical Institute. After serving for 13 years in the Washington, D.C. area as an elder, pastor, and counselor, in 1992 he and his wife and four children immigrated to Israel. Asher and Betty Intrater are the directors of Revive Israel Discipleship Training Center, a ministry in Jerusalem that trains local believers to multiply congregations throughout the

Holy Land. The Intraters' passion is to see a national revival in Israel. We invite you to visit their web site.

-5-

IS HEAVEN IN A PARALLEL UNIVERSE?

(by Gary Stearman part 3-4 at injesus.com, prophecy update, archives section)

Sheol, Earth and Heaven

But the Lord's message bore the stamp of heaven. Time and again, He carefully instructed Moses to follow the plan of the Tabernacle and all its accompanying features, including the altars, tables, menorah and ark:

"And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them...According to all that I show thee, after the pattern of the tabernacle, and the pattern of all the instruments thereof, even so shall ye make it" (Exodus 25:8,9).

This pattern was not of earthly origin. Rather, it reflected a design that had already been executed in heaven. Astonishing, as it may seem, there was an original Tabernacle in heaven. The Mosaic Tabernacle was a copy of the real thing. The book of Hebrews gives us a great deal of insight into the matter:

"For if he were on earth, he should not be a priest, seeing that there are priests that offer gifts according to the law: Who serve unto the example and shadow of heavenly things, as Moses was admonished of God when he was about to make the tabernacle: for, See, saith he, that thou make all things according to the pattern showed to thee in the mount" (Heb. 8:4,5).

Nor is there any doubt that the pattern came from heaven. The ninth chapter of Hebrews, speaking of the blood atonement, mentions that the risen Christ, acting as our High Priest, entered into the original, heavenly Tabernacle:

"And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission. It was therefore necessary that the patterns of things in the heavens should be purified with these; but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these. For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us" (Hebrews 9:22-24).

Indeed, the whole book of Hebrews centers upon the idea that the sacrifices made in the Tabernacle (later, the Temple) are superceded by Christ's atoning blood in the heavenly Tabernacle:

"Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum: We have such a high priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens; "A minister of the sanctuary, and of the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, and not man" (Hebrews 8:1,2).

The writer to the Hebrews draws a sharp distinction between the earthly and heavenly Tabernacles. But we must recall that when the Lord met Moses at the door of the Tabernacle, it was in a column of light. It is perhaps not too much to say that this "pillar of fire" was a connection between heaven and earth.

In the earthly system the priesthood offered continual sacrifices on the basis of an annual festival calendar.

These rituals and sacrifices were specifically geared to the life of the spiritual man on planet earth. Neither was their hope in the heavens. By faith, they followed their father Abraham, who was promised the Holy Land from the river of Egypt to the Euphrates.

Furthermore, when Abraham died, he entered into a place of waiting, which came to be called "Abraham's bosom." This expression implies close, familial relationship within the household of faith.

But there is something else. The twelve tribes were closely linked to the earth. Their system of sacrifices promised, not a heavenly kingdom, but an earthly one. Their king, David, and their Messiah were both linked to the idea of a physical throne in Jerusalem, which would extend divine reign over all the world.

The Dimension of the Lost

Dimensionally speaking, their spiritual hope was also earthly, since Abraham's bosom was lodged deep under the earth, in a place called "sheol." It is the underworld, presenting us with the incongruous picture of a paradise beneath the earth.

The King James Old Testament always renders sheol by translating it as "hell." Apparently, the underworld's deepest and gloomiest parts are reserved for the unrighteous.

"For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment" (2 Peter 2:4).

"And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day" (Jude 6).

The "darkness" mentioned by both Peter and Jude is the deepest, gloomiest and most secure part of the underworld. Apparently, it has levels, ranging from pleasant to punishing.

The doomed of the Old Testament who go there are referred to as "the dead."

"For in death there is no remembrance of thee: in the grave who shall give thee thanks?"

(Psalm 6:5).

In this psalm, "the grave" is translated from sheol. It refers to the dead who are deemed to be unrighteous. They are also mentioned in Psalm 88:

"Wilt thou show wonders to the dead? shall the dead arise and praise thee? Selah. Shall thy lovingkindness be declared in the grave? or thy faithfulness in destruction? Shall thy wonders be known in the dark? and thy righteousness in the land of forgetfulness" (Psalm 88:10-12).

However, David and other Old Testament writers consider sheol as a place where existence continues; it is not a place of annihilation. The righteous who once resided there were graced by the presence of God:

"If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there" (Psalm 139:8).

Here, the translators have rendered sheol as hell. This has led theologians to believe that sheol is the residence of both the righteous and unrighteous dead. Prior to the resurrection of Christ, they were both there, but separated from each other in some way that is difficult to understand.

The classic depiction of this situation was given by Jesus, Himself, as witnessed in the sixteenth chapter of Luke. The Lord tells the story, not as a parable, but as the true account of two very real people. One of them, a rich man, went to his death in a state of unrighteousness. The other, a beggar, was judged to be righteous, and went to be with father Abraham:

"There was a certain rich man, which was clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared sumptuously every day: And there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, which was laid at his gate, full of sores, And desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table: moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried; And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom" (Luke 16:19-23).

In this classic narrative, the rich man and Lazarus were both in sheol (called hades in the New Testament). But they were separated. One thing is made clear. The righteous of the Old Testament did not go to a place of death, darkness and torment. Rather, they were comforted by Abraham, the father of the faithful.

Theologians hold that the righteous were taken to heaven by Christ at His resurrection. The following verses state this clearly, in the context of His ascension, when He not only took the Old Testament righteous to heaven, He also replaced the system of prophets with "gifts" of a new form:

"Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men. (Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth? He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.)" (Ephesians 4:8-10)

These "gifts" (as we discover in verse 11) were the leaders of a new body of righteous believers. They were the, "apostles ... prophets ... evangelists ... pastors and teachers." At Christ's ascension, a new system – the church – was set in place.

Heaven, Another Universe?

Unlike the old system, it related directly to heaven. The former system was (and to the present moment, still is) entirely linked to the earth. Its hope was the earthly Kingdom. Its righteous waited beneath the surface of the earth.

Now, the righteous have a clear promise:

"Therefore we are always confident, knowing that, whilst we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord: (For we walk by faith, not by sight:) We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord" (II Cor. 6-8).

The ancient world of Israel and the prophets was inexorably linked to the physical earth. Its Messiah was the promised descendant of David through the tribe of Judah. Its land was Israel. Its capital was Jerusalem. Zion was its future hope. Its God was Jehovah. But when the promised Messiah came, He presented heaven as a reality. John the Baptist, His representative and the last of the Old Testament prophets, came preaching an entirely new message, centered upon the promise of heaven:

"In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea, And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand" (Matthew 3:1,2).

In the end, national Israel refused the offer of this Kingdom. They were entirely convinced that Jesus' offer didn't agree with their view of Scripture. In fact, it didn't. While they remained linked to earth, He was connected to heaven. They firmly held to the coming of an earthly King, who would be their strong political leader.

They wanted a strong man of God who would defeat the Romans and establish Jerusalem as the head of all earthly capitals.

When John baptized Jesus, the evidence of His connection with heaven was more than apparent. Though it was an earthly event, its heavenly import was unmistakable:

"And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him: And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased" (Matthew 3:16,17).

Note that at this signal moment, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit were all present.

Heaven: A Parallel Universe

When Jesus came, He did more than change history. He actually changed the relationship between heaven and earth. His crucifixion and ascension shifted the focus of spiritual activity away from the physical earth and one of its dimensions – sheol. In so doing, He pointed to another universe – heaven.

Jesus made no secret of His mission:

"From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand" (Matthew 4:17).

When He taught the people how to pray, He turned their thoughts toward the universe of the Father in heaven:

"After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven" (Matt. 6:9,10).

The place called heaven is mentioned well over 250 times in the New Testament. Is it a parallel universe? In fact, it does fit that description. It is the eternal world of God and the angels. By definition, the physical world of time-space is different than eternity.

Heaven is a place where events seem to operate on a different scale than it does here, in our universe.

On the other hand, sheol and hades, the Old and New Testament names for a dimension "below," are tied to this universe by the very terminology of their location ... the underworld. This world, in other words, has an "underworld." Perhaps it is one of the multiple dimensions believed by cosmologists to comprise our universe.

Heaven seems distinct from earth in many ways, a universe unto itself. Just before Stephen was martyred, he was somehow enabled to peer into that universe. It was as though a door opened, and he saw the Lord. Those nearby heard him declare what he saw. Then moved by rage at what they interpreted as blasphemy, they killed him.

"But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up steadfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God, And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God" (Acts 7:55,56).

Stephen saw the throne of God and was given the supreme privilege of announcing to a synagogue of Hellenistic Jews that Jesus now stood at the right hand of God. To admit that this was true, they would have had to acknowledge that the man they had just crucified was their own long-awaited Messiah.

Some years later, another man, exiled to the Island of Patmos, was visited by the risen Christ, who declared to him the mystery of the seven churches. Then, a dimensional door was opened to John. It must have looked much the same as the one through which Stephen had peered:

"After this I looked, and, behold, a door was opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard was as it were of a trumpet talking with me; which said, Come up hither, and I will show thee things which must be hereafter. And immediately I was in the spirit; and, behold, a throne was set in heaven, and one sat on the throne" (Rev. 4:1,2).

And so, John was also given a vision of God's throne. But somehow, he was lifted up, his experience expanded into a trip through space ... and time. Instantly, he was in the future, in fact, a time still future to us as this is written. But somehow, his visit was more than just a trip to the future.

It was a trip to a vantage point that allowed key events to be viewed either serially, or as vignettes. Taken together, the scenes that John recorded offer the Bible's most complete view of the place called heaven. It is the destination of the faithful, and much more.

It would be difficult to find a better definition of the parallel universe, we call heaven, than that written by W. E. Vine. In *An Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words*, he describes heaven as "the eternal dwelling place of God." Then, he writes the following beautiful summation. Filled with abbreviations and references, it puts that universe into a paragraph:

"From thence the Son of God descended to become Incarnate, John 3:13, 31; 6:38, 42. He 'ascended far above all the heavens,' Eph. 4:10, and was 'made higher than the heavens,' Heb. 7:26; He 'sat down on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens,' Heb. 8:1; He is 'on the right hand of God,' having gone into heaven, 1 Pet. 3:22. Since His ascension, it is the scene of His present life and activity, e.g., Rom. 8:34; Heb. 9:24. From thence the Holy Spirit descended at Pentecost, 1 Pet. 1:12. It is the abode of the angels, e.g., Matt. 18:10; 22:30; cp. Rev. 3:5. Thither Paul was 'caught up,' whether in the body or out of the body, he knew not, 2 Cor. 12:2. It is to be the eternal dwelling-place of the saints in resurrection glory, 2 Cor. 5:1 From thence Christ will descend to the air to receive His saints at the Rapture, 1 Thess. 4:16; Phil. 3:20, 21, and will subsequently come with His saints and with His holy angels at His Second Advent, Matt. 24:30; 2 Thess. 1:7. In the present life heaven is the region of the spiritual citizenship of believers, Phil. 3:20. The present heavens, with the earth, are to pass away, 2 Pet. 3:10, 'being on fire,' ver. 12 (see ver.7); Rev. 20:11, and new heavens and earth are to be created, 2 Pet. 3:13; Rev. 21:1, with Is. 65:17, e.g." (pp. 208, 209).

Vine's words offer only a tiny hint of the glory that awaits the believer!

The Bible begins with the creation of our visible universe. It ends with the restoration of that universe. The entire operation has been overseen by a loving God who has lavished grace and kindness upon a wayward and fallen humanity. His countless careful nuances have gently nudged man toward his glorious future.

Along the way, sin corrupted that universe, as Lucifer aspired to godhood. The motives of the evil one remind us of secular cosmologists who try to unlock the secrets of this universe. Lucifer tried to do the same thing in the universe of God:

"For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High. Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit" (Isaiah 14:13-15).

Lucifer, (the dragon, the serpent, Satan) is somehow attached to this world and this universe. Once he superintended this region, apparently with access to the parallel universe of eternity ... heaven. His fall from heaven to earth, then to the pit, traces the path of human misery. In the end, his fate involves yet another dimension, namely, the lake of fire.

The single element that draws together all the variables of time-space is the Cross of Christ:

"For it pleased the Father that in him should all fullness dwell; And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven. And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled" (Col. 1:19-21).

To reconcile means to alter so completely that the broken relationships of the ages would once again function in accordance with God's original design. Note that Christ's completed work reconciled all things, in earth and in heaven.

The Cross is the mediation point between two universes. In a way, the cosmologists are right. Multiple dimensions and parallel universes are not only possible, they are the norm.

But scientists miss the point. In their frenzied attempts to describe the environment, they leave out the myriad of beings who populate it. The real drama transcends the mere mechanics of its construction. A description of the house is insignificant, compared with the minds, hearts and love of its occupants.

In the parallel universe called heaven, our Lord has built a magnificent house. One day it will transport itself to this universe. Dimensionally and esthetically incomparable, it will be only a simple reflection of the Creator.

"And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God" (Rev. 21:1-3).

Our eternal home, the New Jerusalem, seems capable of realizing the fondest dream of science. It is capable of travel between universes! The Lamb is its light. It is a literal gem, imbued with the power to transcend time-space. Let the cosmologists look toward it with envy.

THE GREAT TSUNAMI

(A PROPHETIC BULLETIN by Rick Joyner)

In 1987 I had a two-and-a-half-day prophetic experience in which I was shown a panorama of coming events that I wrote about in my book titled, ***The Harvest***. Most of what I saw coming has now taken place, but the biggest event of all, the harvest that was at the end of the age, has not. It is now approaching.

Jesus said, **"The harvest is the end of the age"** (see **Matthew 13:39**). This will be the greatest ingathering of new believers in history, greater than all the previous ones combined. In my vision, this came in two great waves. The first wave was the largest up until this time, but it was only the ingathering of those who were called to be the laborers in the coming even much greater one.

This first wave began shortly after I was given this vision and lasted for almost twenty years. During that time more people came to Christ around the world than had come to Him in all of history up until that time. Some estimates were that an average of almost four hundred thousand people a day were coming to Christ during its peak. There were countries where people were being born again faster than they were being born. Hundreds of millions came to Christ in Africa, South and Central America, and Asia.

Though this wave hardly seemed to touch North America and Europe, they provided many of the evangelists and workers for the other great revivals around the world, and their time is coming. I then saw a period of relative calm before the greatest of all moves of God began. We are near the end of that time and are about to be hit by a wave of revival like the earth has never seen before.

The Magnitude of the Harvest

When a tsunami is traveling across the oceans, it is barely a discernable ripple in the water, but when it approaches land, it begins to rise fast, sometimes to a height of several hundred feet. In minutes, a calm sea can rise up and sweep away everything in its path. Even though it may seem that we are in a spiritual calm now, a spiritual tsunami is coming, and we must prepare for it.

The biggest problem virtually every church will be facing is how to handle explosive growth. In the vision, I saw small churches of less than a hundred people adding a thousand new members a week at times. Of course, this happened on the Day of Pentecost, and then there were other days in which thousands came to Christ in a day. Even with a dozen apostles personally trained by the Lord, there was stress caused by this. Pressure points gave birth to new ministries such as the deacon. The infrastructure of church life that this produced is still the model that works, and we need to return to its effective simplicity to handle what is coming.

I saw churches that grew so large that they started renting football and soccer stadiums in which to hold their services. At times, hundreds of thousands would gather in parks and huge outdoor meetings just to hear Bible teachers to pray and to worship. Not only were whole cities coming to Christ, but also entire nations were coming so that the state itself became like a large church.

A few years ago I decided to watch the news for several hours a day for a week to determine what percentage of stories could be considered good news. During that time I did not see one good news story. They were all about problems, crises, disasters, and suffering. This was during the time of some of our greatest economic prosperity. Now it's worse. However, change is coming. When this next wave hits, the news around the world is going to be dominated by good news.

We will see events like hundreds of thousands of people gathering spontaneously for prayer and worship, becoming the biggest news stories of the day. News teams will be following apostolic teams and evangelists like they do politicians and business leaders now. Much more is happening now than most are aware of, or that is making the news, but when the Lord "suddenly comes into His temple," it will be the news, and the whole world will be aware of it.

There will be individual newscasts from secular networks that will cause more to come to Christ than Christian networks have in their entire existence. This is not to negate what has been accomplished by Christian networks but rather to stress the impact that this revival will have. We will go through a period when the news of the great things God is doing will crowd out just about all other news around the world.

Both the Welsh and the Azusa Street Revivals made front-page news around the world repeatedly for nearly two years. That was just a foretaste, a seed being planted for what is to come. The coming move of God will in some ways be a composite of many of the great moves of the past, but in one basic way it will be different—this will not just be a move of God, but it will be God moving.

This is not just semantics, because every true move of God is at least initiated by God, but He will bless many things He will not inhabit. His manifest presence will be so great in what is coming that people will not chase after individual truths, or acts of God, but they will be after the Lord Himself. He will be the conversation, not just what He does. This is a move that will lift up Jesus. When He is lifted up, all will be drawn to Him, not just to doctrines, projects, or missions, but to Him.

Doctrine certainly has its place, and there is a great need for sound biblical doctrine to be imparted to all new believers, and for all other believers to build stronger foundations on His truth. There is a need for projects and missions that are His will, but "the main thing is to keep the main thing the main thing," and the Main Thing is Jesus. The true apostolic Gospel was Jesus: "They preached Jesus and the resurrection from the dead." Jesus will again be the Message, and it will be what He is doing that gets the attention.

What is coming is the return to the apostolic gospel. The Way is a Person. Truth is a Person, and if we don't know that Person as our Life, then we don't really know the Way or the Truth either. He is coming to take His rightful place in His church. When He does, the church will be profoundly changed. When Jesus becomes our desire as He should be, the church will become the ultimate society on the earth that multitudes will be streaming to. There is no greater adventure than the true Christian life, and there is nothing more boring than religion. Religion is about to be displaced by the true Christian life, and the great adventure will supplant institutional religion.

Catch the Wave

We are coming to the most exciting times in history, but this is also a warning. If we are not prepared for what is coming, we will be victims of it. This coming worldwide revival will also be one of the biggest challenges ever. Moves of God are often referred to as waves in history because a wave is an accurate metaphor. For a surfer, there are few things as thrilling as catching "the big one." However, if you're casually strolling in the surf and the big one catches you by surprise, you will likely eat a lot of sand and drink a lot of salt water. Revivals can do the same thing to churches and ministries that are not prepared for them.

Riding a wave is not possible unless you are positioned right to catch it. To catch a wave, you must discern where it is going to break. Then you must position yourself in the right place. Then you have to begin moving in the right direction when it comes. Though it may seem that everything is quiet right now, we need to be getting prepared for what is coming by getting into position and be ready to move in the right direction as it comes.

The most important thing that we can do to get into the right position is to recover and strengthen our first love—Jesus. We all signed up for Him, not just good teachings, or a better way to live, though we do get those too. There is nothing on earth more contagious than a person who is getting closer to the Lord. Those “who have been with Jesus” are going to start standing out as never before. We only have true spiritual authority to the degree that we are abiding in the King, and the leaders of what is coming will be those who are the closest to the Lord.

What is coming will be far too big for any human leadership or strategy to control. Only the Captain of the hosts can lead this one, and He will. It is not just hearing the words of the Lord as much as it is hearing the Word Himself. The main strategy for what is to come will be to know His voice and to obey Him. He will be giving personal direction to His people. This is why we are told in Acts 2:17-18 that “in the last days” when He pours out His Spirit, the result is dreams, visions, and prophecy upon the old and young, male and female, which obviously includes everyone. This is because we are going to need this kind of guidance for what is to come, and He is going to give it to us as He always has for those who would seek Him.

The coming move of God will be the greatest challenge we’ve ever faced but also will be the greatest time of our lives. These are the times that even the prophets of old desired to see. The Lord has saved His best wine for last, and many who are reading this will witness the greatest move of God of all time.

It is right to appreciate the honor of living in these times, but it is also right to treat it as the great responsibility that it is. To whom much is given much will be required, and this will be a time when much work must be done. Even so, when we are yoked with the Lord, we will find rest and refreshment in our labors as we are told in **Matthew 11:28-30**:

“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 shall find rest for your souls.**

“For My yoke is easy, and My burden is light.”

You do not put on a yoke to go to bed but rather to do work. However, there is no greater rest and refreshment for our souls that we could ever find than being yoked with the Lord in His work. There is no job or profession we could ever have in this life more fulfilling than doing what He created us to do before the foundation of the world. This will be life on a level more exciting and fulfilling than most have ever known. Even so, knowing and abiding in the rest of the Lord will be crucial for all during this time. As much work as there will be to do with so many coming to the faith, we must not fall to human striving. Striving is counterproductive in the work in the true work of the kingdom.

He Is Supernatural

We were created to have fellowship with God Who is Spirit. Because of this, there is a deep yearning for the spiritual, the supernatural, in every human being. Many cover it up, but we can never be truly fulfilled or at peace without this spiritual fellowship with God. As Jesus stated in **John 4:23-25**:

**“But an hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit
and truth;**

for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers.

“God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”

The Apostle Paul said that if we are at home in the body, or in the natural, we are absent from the Lord (see II Corinthians 5:6-9). We should be more at home in the spiritual realm than we are the natural because the “new creation” is born of the Spirit. This too is going to become a reality in what is coming. Then extraordinary miracles become common, and even the “greater works,” such as speaking to mountains and having them plucked up and moved, will be done to prove that the Word of God is true.

The true Christian life is a supernatural life, and this will be a reality in what is coming. However, that we will be seeing such miracles also means that we will be living in times when we will need those miracles. Everyone will be in either continuous awe and wonder at the great things the Lord is doing, or in continuous terror at what is happening in the world. The Apostle Paul said in **Acts 14:22**, **“Through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God.”** This is true personally and for the whole world. In every trial there is a door to the kingdom, and in the ultimate trial of the whole earth, the whole earth will enter the kingdom.

The good thing is that the tribulation will not last, but the kingdom will. For those who are staying close to the Lord, they will hardly know that they are passing through tribulations. In a prophetic experience, I was once caught up and found myself standing in front of a radar screen on a warship, with the Lord Himself standing next to me. There was a blip on the screen coming straight at us, so I called for the ship to turn 90 degrees. The ship turned, but the blip on the screen remained right in front and coming closer. I called for the ship to turn again, with the same results. I then braced for the impact, but the blip went away and nothing happened. I then asked the Lord what had happened. He said the blip on the radar screen was the great time of trouble. He said that it was coming and there was no way to avoid it, but if we stayed close to Him, we wouldn't even feel it.

For those who are walking in their purpose, even the great tribulation will be a minor event. There will be far more attention on what Christ is doing than on what the antichrist is doing. As we read in Isaiah 60, at the very time when darkness is covering the earth, and deep darkness the people, the Lord's glory will be rising on His people. Then, as we see in verse three, the nations will come to the glory. The light wins! We do need to know the devil's schemes, but true security comes from knowing what Christ is doing, and uniting with Him in His purposes.

As we read in Daniel 2, at the same time all of the kingdoms of men are collapsing and becoming like dust, the kingdom of God is growing, and it will keep growing until it fills the earth. Those who are obeying His command to seek first His kingdom (see Matthew 6:33) will experience never-ending increase. Those who are seeking first the things of this world will experience increasing troubles. Every coming year this distinction will become more pronounced. It is time to put the kingdom first, above anything else that we are pursuing.

One of the most important things that we can do to be positioned to catch the wave that is coming is to come to know the gifts and ministries of the Spirit that we are called to walk in, and begin to walk in them. The Ephesians 4 mandate of all true New Testament ministry is to equip others to do the work of the ministry, not just do it ourselves. Those who do not obey this mandate will soon disappear from leadership in the church, and those who train and equip their people will be the future leaders of the body of Christ. These are the ones who are not burying the talents they've been entrusted with but are investing and multiplying them. We cannot accomplish what we must in these times without every part of the body doing its part.

Summary

For the last five years I have been shown many difficulties and hardships that will be coming, and to date, they have proven to be accurate. Not many wanted to hear or believe what we had to say, and I have to admit that it has not been much fun having so many hard words. Even so, all of these trials have

doors to the kingdom that we must now walk through. Those who did hear the warning and prepared accordingly have done very well. The prepared will prosper in any situation. One of the most important preparations we can make for these times is simplicity of life.

Gaining or losing natural resources is not nearly as important in these times as being in the right place, equipped for our purpose. To lose everything we own is not nearly as important compared to missing the greatest of all spiritual opportunities that is coming. The most valuable thing we can accomplish in this life is to hear those greatest of words on the Judgment Day: **"Well done good and faithful servant"** (see **Matthew 25:23**). There is not a human being who would not gladly trade all that they accomplished to hear those words on that day. This is also what we must live for now. Those who do will be the happiest of all people, and that joy will not go away forever.

-7-

"I WILL REMEMBER THEIR SINS NO MORE!"

(Online article by Francis Frangipane)

Holiness is attained only through an unfolding experience with the grace of God.

Removing the Barriers Caused By Sin

Have you ever had a close friend but talked critically about him to someone else? The next time you were together, did you notice something almost artificial about your relationship? You were not as open nor as honest with him. Because of your sin, there was a small but measurable distance between both of you. Though you may have been ashamed of what you did, if you stayed unrepentant, you actually started to avoid the one you hurt - if not socially, at least with your eyes and heart.

You may have shared a world together beforehand, but now the interpenetration of personalities, the sense of being "at home" in one another's soul, is gone. Unless there is repentance, the distance between you will probably widen until the relationship itself is over. Although neither of you may understand why you drifted apart, the love you possessed died because you sinned and failed to repent.

In the same manner that human relationships are sustained by openness and honesty, so it is also with our relationship with God. When we sin against Him, we unconsciously erect a barrier between heaven and ourselves. We may still go to church, but a sense of distance and artificiality emerges in our hearts.

Each of those defenses we have erected to keep God out ultimately walls us in, spiritually imprisoning us in our sins. These barriers degenerate into strongholds of demonic oppression. Eventually, our walls toward God imprison us outside the Divine Presence, trapping the soul in outer darkness. It is possible that our walls toward God are the very substance of which hell is made.

Yet, the love of God is such that He loves us enough not only to release us from our sins but also from the *negative effects* our sin has had upon our fellowship with Him. Mercifully, He promises, "their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more" (Hebrews 10:17). Every time we ask for forgiveness, our relationship with Him becomes free and new again.

In one sweeping act of forgiveness - so complete that He promises to not even *remember* what we did wrong - God has provided the eternal payment for each sin we contritely ask Him to forgive. He loves us so much that, while He

continues to perfect our attitudes of heart, He also provides a means to keep our relationship with Him genuine and without barriers.

Jesus Paid the Price

"In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace, which He lavished upon us" (Ephesians 1:7-8). What is redemption? Redemption is the "payment of a debt or obligation." There were notes, warrants held against us. We are all debtors to God, but Jesus satisfied the warrants held against us by His death on the cross.

And when you were dead in your transgressions . . . He made you alive together with Him, having *forgiven* us all our transgressions, having *cancelled out* the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us and which was hostile to us; and *He has taken it out of the way*, having nailed it to the cross. Colossians 2:13-14 (Italics mine)

The moment you accepted Jesus into your heart, all the things you ever did wrong, every evil thought, every angry word and every wicked deed - each of which deserved its own punishment - was stamped REDEEMED: PAID IN FULL by our Father in heaven. Jesus paid for them all with His blood. He is our *Redeemer!* He paid the price, not just for the sins we previously committed but for every sin that we sincerely ask forgiveness for now. All our sins are forever forgiven and forgotten.

Hebrews 10:14 tells us that "For by one offering He has perfected for all time those who are sanctified." And again in Colossians we read,

For it was the Father's good pleasure for all the fullness to dwell in Him, and through Him to reconcile all things to Himself, having made peace through the blood of His cross . . . and although you were formerly alienated and hostile in mind, engaged in evil deeds, yet He has now reconciled you in His fleshly body through death, in order to present you before Him holy and blameless and beyond reproach. Colossians 1:19-22

As far as the sin issue is concerned, we must grasp the completed work of Christ. "Having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ" (Romans 5:1). From God's eternal perspective, we are freed from sin. It is here in the realm of time, and specifically in our minds, where sin still has a temporary hold. In His great love, however, God is removing even the barriers our sins have created between Himself and us.

It is important to state here that God has not lowered His standard of holiness. However, He knows we will never become holy if we are afraid to draw near to Him, for He alone is holy! Consequently, He has forgiven *and* reconciled us to Himself through Jesus. The blood sacrifice of Christ has satisfied the debts of every soul who, through repentance and faith in Jesus, sincerely seeks fellowship with God.

"I Do Not Remember"

How little we understand of eternal redemption! How many times will God forgive you? If you have truly set your heart to follow Him, He will cancel your sins as often as you ask. Will He forgive you of the worst sin you can think of? Yes! You may have to live with the consequences of your misdeed, but the redemptive power of God is such that, even in your sin, there are many things of value to be reclaimed. As for the sin itself, if you deeply and sincerely repent of it, not only will God forgive you, He will blot it out of His memory.

Let me share an experience. A certain man of God had been gifted with revelatory insight into people's lives. During an evening service he ministered to a Presbyterian pastor and his wife. By the gift of the Spirit, he revealed the couple's past, uncovered their present situation and then disclosed to them what was to come. This work of God greatly impressed the couple, and as the prophecies were fulfilled, one month later the Presbyterian minister brought two other pastors, each with their wives, to another service for personal ministry.

The word of knowledge was exceptionally sure that night, and the second minister and his wife marveled at the accuracy and truth in the prophetic word. The third couple stepped forward for ministry and again the word of knowledge was present. The prophet spoke to the husband, revealing his past, present and insight into his future. Then the man of God turned to this third minister's wife. As he began to speak of her past, suddenly he stopped. "There was a

very serious sin in your past." The woman, with her worst fear seemingly upon her, turned pale and closed her eyes. The congregation hushed and moved to the edge of their seats.

The prophet continued, "And I asked the Lord, 'What was this sin that she committed?' And the Lord answered, *'I do not remember!'*"

The Lord had been faithful to His promise: "I will not remember your sins" (Isaiah 43:25). Although many times this minister's wife had asked for cleansing, still she could not believe the depth of God's forgiveness. Christ had placed her sin in the sea of His forgetfulness. He removed it "as far as the east is from the west" (Psalm 103:12). From everywhere but the prison of her own mind, her sin had been paid for and removed. And now, in His great mercy, He removed it from there as well!

Oh, what burdens we carry, what guilt and limitations surround us because we do not accept God's total and perfect forgiveness. In Isaiah we read, "I, even I, am the one who wipes out your transgressions for My own sake; and I will not remember your sins" (Isaiah 43:25).

How great is the God we serve. How wonderful is His love toward us. He is our Redeemer! Our Savior! If you are willing to forgive others and will but ask Him to forgive you, He will pardon your debts as often as you contritely turn to Him. He promises He will remember your sins no more. He who calls us into His perfections, has also provided perfectly for us to approach Him. Holiness is an unfolding relationship with the grace of God.

-8-

AN EXTRAORDINARY PROPHECY

(Email author - Hal Lindsay)

Modern communication technology has helped make the Pope's death an unparalleled event. The entire world has literally come together to praise this one man. I find that many sense that there will be some important and climactic consequences to follow the death of this Pope. (John Paul II)

As I studied the many Bible prophecies of the Last Days, I found a most unusual extra-Biblical prophecy made by an Irish Catholic Bishop in the 12th Century. His name is St. Malachy.

According to his biographer St. Bernard of Clairvaux, in his book *Life of Saint Malachy*, St. Malachy was known to have the gift of prophesy and even predicted the exact day and hour of his own death. St. Malachy was canonized in 1190 by Pope Clement III.

According to his biographer, St. Malachy was visiting Rome in 1139 when he went into a trance and received a vision. Malachy wrote down this extraordinary vision in which he claims to have foreseen all of the Popes from the death of Innocent II until the destruction of the Church and the Return of Christ. He named exactly 112 Popes from that time until the end.

St. Malachy wrote a few prophetically descriptive words in Latin about each one of the Popes. He then gave the manuscript to Pope Innocent II and it was deposited in the Vatican Archives where it was forgotten for several centuries. Then in 1590, it was rediscovered and published.

The interesting thing is that scholars have matched the brief 110 descriptive predictions with each of the 110 Popes and anti-Popes that there have been since Innocent II. Though they are a bit obscure, they have fit the general profile of each of the Popes.

Now these are in no way the same kind of predictions we find in the Bible. But they do have certain relevance.

Here are a few examples:

Pope No. 108 – Paul VI (1968-78). The prophecy for the 108th Pope was, “Flos Florum”, which means ‘Flower of Flowers’. Paul VI’s coat of arms contained three fleurs-de-lis (Iris blossoms).

Pope No. 109 – John Paul I (1978). The prophecy for 109th Pope was “De Medietate Lunae”, which means ‘the Half Moon’. John Paul I was born in the diocese of Belluno (beautiful moon) and was baptized Albino Luciani (white light). He became Pope when there was a half moon (August 26, 1978). He died the next month right after an eclipse of the moon.

Pope No. 110 – John Paul II (1978-2005). The prophecy for the 110th Pope was “De Labore Solis”, which means ‘from the labor of the sun.’ John Paul II was born during an eclipse of the sun on May 8, 1920. As the sun rises out of the East, so he came to the Vatican from the east. Wherever on the earth the sun shines, he visited.

Now, if St. Malachy is accurate, there will be only two more Popes before the end of this world, as we know it and the 2nd Coming of Christ. I do know that the whole prophetic scenario of signs that Jesus Christ and the Prophets predicted would come together just before His return are now in view. So what St. Malachy predicted is certainly occurring in the right time frame. Pope John Paul II was aware of these prophecies and at least once referred to them with concern.

According to St. Malachy, there will only be two more Popes.

The prophecy concerning the 111th Pope says of him, “Gloria Olivae”, which means ‘the glory of the Olive’. An article on this in NewsMax says of him, “The meaning of the olive is unclear.

The Order of Saint Benedict – not St. Malachy – has claimed that this pope will come from its ranks and Saint Benedict himself prophesied that before the end of the world his Order, known also as the Olivetans, will triumphantly lead the Catholic Church in its final fight against evil.” This could be a satanic counterfeit of a prophecy from God wherein this Pope will appear to be good, but lead his Church into the final predicted deception.

The olive tree is frequently a symbol for the Israelites in the Bible. Could this mean that this Pope will be an Israelite who will be seen as the glory of his people? It bears watching as to who will be

this Pope. Cardinal Lustiger of Paris is a converted Jew and he is in the running for being the next Pope.

But it is the prophecy of the 112th and last Pope that is most fascinating. St. Malachy predicts, "In the final persecution of the Holy Roman Church there will reign 'Petrus Romanus' (Peter the Roman), who will feed his flock amid many tribulations; after which the seven-hilled city will be destroyed and the dreadful Judge will judge the people."

If any of this is true, then I suspect that the 111th Pope will not live very long. We are just too close to the final events before Christ's return for him to reign for a long period.

The most important part of St. Malachy's prophecies has to do with the events he foresees happening during the papacy of "Peter the Roman." He foresees great tribulations during his reign, ending with the destruction of the Church and Rome. This is will be done by a dreadful judge who will then judge the world.

In Daniel's great prophecy concerning the 70 Sabbatical Years allotted to Israel to finish the purpose for which God created them, it predicts something that fits right in with St. Malachy's prophecy concerning 'Peter the Roman.'

Daniel predicted the exact day that Israel's Messiah would be declared Prince and heir apparent to King David's throne. It was 69 sabbatical years from the date Artaxerxes Longimanus of Persia gave the exiled Jews permission to rebuild Jerusalem. (see Nehemiah 2:1-8 where this permission was granted.)

Exactly 69 Sabbatical years of 360 days [or 173,880 days] later, Jesus was proclaimed the Son of David and Messiah. As predicted, He was rejected and had nothing. Then within a week after that, He was put to death.

Daniel predicted, "Know therefore and understand, that FROM the going forth of the command to restore and build Jerusalem UNTIL Messiah the Prince, there shall be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; The street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublesome times. And after the sixty-two weeks Messiah shall be cut off [put to death], but not for Himself; and the people of THE PRINCE WHO IS TO COME shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. The end of it shall be with a flood, and till the end of the war desolations are determined."

Note that after the end of the 69th Sabbatical year, but before the beginning of the 70th sabbatical year, two very important historical events would occur. First, Messiah would be put to death, but not for Himself. Jesus was crucified within a week of His official presentation as Messiah.

Second, the people of the prince WHO IS YET TO COME would destroy the city of Jerusalem and its Temple. The Roman Tenth Legion destroyed Jerusalem and the Temple in AD70.

Now one last and extremely important detail. The "Prince who is to come" will be of the same people that destroyed Jerusalem in AD70. They were Romans. So the coming Prince, who is the

Antichrist, must be a Roman. Now do you understand why I am so fascinated by St. Malachy's prophecy concerning the last Pope who will be called, "Peter the Roman."

Revelation chapter seventeen details the final judgment of the Mystical woman symbolically named Babylon the great. John the Apostle identifies the woman, "Here is the mind which has wisdom: The seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman sits ..." and "And the woman whom you saw is that great city which reigns over the kings of the earth." (Revelation 17:9, 18 NKJ) When John wrote this, there was only one city that reigned over the kings of the earth – ROME, which sits on seven hills.

The coming Popes will seize upon the popularity created by John Paul II with the secular world. With the help of the media, it is easy to foresee how "Peter the Roman" will be able to mesmerize the world to follow his counterfeit of Christ.

It is time to make sure where you stand with God.

-9-

THE RELEASE OF A NEW BREED

(Jeff Jansen, May 15, 2006 *The Release Of A New Breed*, www.globalfireministries.com)

Birthing Powerful Demonstrations of the Supernatural"

Birthing Signs of the Overcomer

It must have been a sight to see! The children of Israel could only watch with amazement, as Moses brought the terms of their release to Pharaoh from God-backed up with powerful displays of the supernatural. They had never seen the power of God like this before, and now He was demonstrating it on their behalf. The very same thing happened with Jesus as we read in **Matthew 4:16, "The people who sat in darkness, saw great light; and to them who sat in the region and shades of death, light hath arisen."** Jesus shows up demonstrating the supernatural power of God in a new model of what was to come.

For the Israelites, the process of just getting to the place of entering their land, was long and difficult. A whole generation had passed away, because they did not possess the character or the faith required for taking the

Promised Land. Another great change was now coming upon the reality of their existence. In the wilderness, everything had been provided for them; food, water, even the shoes on their feet did not wear out for 40 years. Now, with Joshua, they would have to fight for their own inheritance. The obstacles that stood in their way simply looked impossible.

The New Reality of No Limits

Joshua and Caleb were of another spirit and were granted access into the Promised Land, because they followed the Lord fully (**Numbers 14:24 and 14:30**), and possessed the "Spirit of the Overcomer." Today, like Joshua and Caleb, an emerging company is rising that is hearing the "yes" of Heaven and will follow the Lord fully. This company may be difficult for many to welcome and accept, but we need to get ready for them for they will display the "NEW REALITY of NO LIMITS!"

Several generations ago, A. W. Tozer said, "The fact is that, we are not producing saints. We are making converts to an effete type of Christianity, that bears little resemblance to that of the New Testament. The average so-called Bible Christian of our times is but a shallow display of true sainthood. Yet, we put millions of dollars behind "movements" to perpetuate this lower form of religion and attack the man who dares to challenge the wisdom of it."

Every generation has had its revivals and revivalists that would stir the so-called "pot" and the religious order of the day. The leaders would have to scramble to do "damage control" to try to bring the people back into their so-called normal lives. But, tell me, what really is normal?

An Emerging Ezekiel's Company

Rick Joyner recently wrote that we are coming into times when passive Christianity and passive Christians will cease to exist. There is a maturity, a discipline, and a divine militancy coming upon the people of God. Those who have succumbed to humanistic and idealistic theologies, may have a hard time with this, but we must understand that God is a military God. The title that He uses 10 times more than any other in Scripture is, "The Lord of Hosts" or "Lord of Armies." There is a martial aspect to His character that we must understand and embrace for the times and the job to which are now coming.

There are strong signs of an emerging church that knows no limits in God. This emerging army is an "EZEKIEL'S COMPANY," that has the very breath and life force of God blowing through them. Their sole identity and purpose is found in the power, the presence, and the person of Jesus Christ. They have a radical faith and bold disposition that keeps most people off balance--watching with

amazement-- and, when the situation demands it, they know how to execute and operate in the power of God, to do the humanly impossible. We are no longer standing on the outside of the Kingdom looking in. We are smack-dab in the middle of it and are quickly becoming the **"Greater works than these shall you do,"** generation! **(John 14:12.)**

The Return of the Glory of the Lord

We have crossed the threshold of a new door and have entered into a new room, of seeing the return of the glory of the Lord. It is a new season, a new cycle, a fresh place with the Lord, where the body of Christ is beginning to move past its present experience and self-induced limitations, into new streams of the glory presence of God. People are soaking themselves free in the Golden Glory River of God, only to find themselves in a brand new place, on a brand new shore, bearing fruit.

Out from this Golden River, this new breed of believer is emerging with all of Heaven's DNA (Divine Nature Applied), and is being thrust into cities, regions, and the nations, as "glory dispensers," with astounding signs, wonders, miracles, and powerful displays of the supernatural. God has put His "Governmental stamp of approval" on them, as a fresh sign to the body of Christ of seed promised by His Holy Spirit. They will reveal realms of the glory, yet to be seen.

The New Breed of Saints

This new breed of saints understands, that the anointing is released through compassion and the affections of their heart. The only language they understand, is what comes by waiting in the presence of the Holy Spirit. Meekness and humility are their trademark. The favor of God envelopes them, because of the fatness of the anointing that rests on their lives. As harvesting machines, they understand that the great harvest that is to come into the church, will not come in by conventional means, but will come in supernaturally, by lovesick lovers releasing the realm of the Kingdom of God, in power, everywhere they go.

In order for us to see the supernatural power and glory of the Kingdom of God flow, we need to be radically transformed in the way we see and understand God--who He is, and how He operates. The Lord is looking for those whose hearts are completely His; those who will wait on Him and allow Heaven to fill them, so they can understand by experience, what it looks like when He invades our world. What does He look like? How can we detect Him? This new breed of disciple, is humble and teachable, and they walk completely dependent upon the leading of the Spirit. They are constantly being stirred and

transformed in the inner man, in order to detect even the slightest heart impulse that comes from the heart of the Father. They have come to know the secret of abiding power, and that breakthrough comes from the friendly counsel of God in His presence, as they wait and are clothed with power from On High.

Prayer:

Lord, we ask You for a new breakthrough into the secret place of Your presence. We ask You for a fresh understanding of who we are as sons and daughters of the Kingdom, and for the revelation that will bring us into an experience of this place. Holy Spirit, begin to stir deep hunger in us. We want to be part of this emerging EZEKIEL'S COMPANY, filled with Heaven's breath. Wipe shame from us now, so we can again radiate with fresh love and confidence that comes from Your presence. Build us up in Your grace and strengthen us with experience, as we step out from all that we know as common, and into newness of life with You!

Jeff Jansen

Global Fire Ministries

www.globalfireministries.com

-10-

THE POWER OF SYMBOLS

(Quotes from Foreword by Graham Cooke in Murray Dueck's book *If This Were A Dream What Would It Mean?*)

Symbolism has always intrigued me. The way God weaves symbols and foreshadowing together through prophetic words, dreams, visions, pictures, and even human history is astounding. God authors history the same way He authors other forms of revelation, using symbolic language and powerful metaphors to shape our understanding of Him.

Throughout Scripture, we read many examples of how God speaks in symbolic language, as Numbers 12:6 says: "Then He said, 'Listen to My words: When a prophet of the LORD is among you, I reveal Myself to him in visions, I speak to him in dreams.'" God spoke to Pharaoh in a dream that only Joseph could interpret. The same thing happened with Nebuchadnezzar and Daniel. Joseph of Nazareth also had a dream about his betrothed, Mary, during which an angel said, in essence, "Marry the girl!" That dream changed Joseph's mind, because prior to the dream, he was doubtful about her pregnancy (cf. Matthew 1). The so-called "Three Wise Men" were warned in a dream to avoid King Herod. Later on, Joseph had another dream instructing him to take Mary and Jesus to

Egypt, also to avoid Herod. These were very practical, very prophetic dreams that contained real spiritual power and an impetus for change.

But God is too wise to focus simply on dreams as a means of communication with us. His hand can be seen working throughout history, even in seemingly random events. God has His own unique "sign language" that every Christian ought to learn and reflect upon.

Even a casual reading of Scripture reveals that God invented the literary device of foreshadowing. Knowing what God wants to do will provoke us to pray, fast, and work toward seeing His Kingdom established on earth. These symbols can be learned only through spending time with God. As we give Him our dreams, visions and prophetic impressions, God develops our ability to see Him working in places we never would have dreamed.

One resource for such symbols and metaphor is our dreams. Dream interpretation is a gift produced by meditating on our dreams and then asking God for His take on them. Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams, says Daniel 1:17. One of my closest friends has a gift of interpreting dreams. If you are a dreamer, write down your dreams and work through them with God. Open them up for comment and prayer. Your dream may not seem relevant in the moment, and a few weeks down the road, you may want to put them on the shelf. But you ought to get in the habit of writing things down; treating your dreams as you would any other type of revelation, because you never know when they will be called upon.

Visions, which are closely related to dreams, are another source of revelation. Sometimes, revelation comes through such pictures or even through moving scenes. Many of us have probably had such experiences. Some visions speak to us through everyday objects and may even use our own understanding of these things to speak prophetically. In Jeremiah 1:11-12, we witness this kind of vision:

"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.'"

When God asked the prophet what he saw, Jeremiah looked around and noticed the almond tree branch. It was a perfectly common sight, totally unremarkable. However, the interpretation, timing and specific need of the people combined to produce a positive and significant prophetic interpretation.

I had a similar experience once, also involving a tree. I was about to speak to a meeting of several hundred people when the Lord directed me to a young woman in the middle aisle. I asked her to stand up. As she did, God showed me a picture of a hazel tree. I knew the type of tree it was, because my father and I had been landscape gardeners. All I had was this picture, so I asked the Lord, "What do you want to say?" There was nothing, so I started in with what I knew: "I'm seeing a picture of a hazel tree." I said, and then I began to describe its properties from memory." It has beautiful flowers and fruit. It can grow

almost anywhere. It's resistant to disease, and its bark and flowers can be used for medicinal purposes, as a tonic or a sedative that brings comfort from pain. It's very hardy and resilient."

As soon as I came to the end of that statement, I knew what God wanted to do. "That's how God sees you," I continued, "He thinks you're beautiful and that you're going to bear good fruit in your life. You mustn't worry that you're no good. You're tough and able to resist the enemy. You'll grow in almost any situation." As I moved prophetically, she cried, and her friends cheered and laughed.

I finished prophesying, prayed for her, and taught my seminar. At the end of the meeting, she came to me." Thanks for what you said. You don't know this, but my name is Hazel," she told me. Apparently, that same afternoon, she and her friends had been drinking tea, and Hazel had been in a bad mood. "Hazel. Stupid name, Hazel," she had said. "Why couldn't I have been called by a prettier name? I hate it, and I wish I could change it."

God, in His incredible sense of humor, had used me to say, "Excuse me, but I chose your name. I gave it to you, and I gave it to you for this purpose." She told me that she had cried, because she realized that her name had been given to her for a reason. When she was in the womb, God had named her Hazel. What a powerful word from a perfectly ordinary and common source.

Metaphors and signs that flow from dreams, visions, history, and current events play a key role in the supernatural development of people and the communities to which they are joined. In Scripture, this practice of invading the logical world with supernatural communication is widespread and commonplace, almost ordinary. What is not ordinary (yet) for the Church is an awareness and acceptance of this form of revelatory communication and the ability to interpret it.

The world has hijacked the realm of symbolism to such an extent that it is almost despised in western Christian thinking. But in the Bible, God speaks through symbols and metaphors that need interpretation. Jesus, Himself, used parables repeatedly to share the deep things of the Kingdom. He has always spoken in this way and will continue to do so. "He who has ears to hear; let him (or her) hear!" If the Church will not listen to revelatory language, the Lord will speak to the world directly, as He did with Pharaoh and Nebuchadnezzar. How many people in our society and culture are starting to have amazing experiences in a revelatory spiritual context? They need the correct interpretation. And such an interpretation can only come from practitioners in this Heavenly, pictorial language, people like Joseph and Daniel. Through their understanding of God's symbolic language, these two ordinary people turned the fortunes of God's people at critical times through their alignment with God in understanding dream language. The New Age movement has taken revelatory language prisoner, but God is in the business of setting captives free.

MINISTRY OF HEALING TO SPOUSE AND CHILDREN

(Jack Frost: "Ministry Of Healing To Spouse And Children", www.shilohplace.com)

1. Prayer—ask for
 - Spirit of repentance (Romans 2:4)
 - Others have spirit of forgiveness for me
 - Give me a blessing to speak over them
 - Give me a day and time to do this
2. Start at year 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and make a list of things you did wrong
 - Write a note for each person (spouse, children)
 - Write every way you've misrepresented God's love to them
 - Proverbs 18:8 "children will conform to words of parents."
3. Healing encounter
 - Individual with each child
 - Can talk to whole group about your generational iniquities and how it affected you, what you grew up in, secrets in the family line
 - Psalm 78:1-8, Acts 26:18, Jude 6
 - Pain of never being hugged, etc.
 - How I judged and dishonored my parents
4. Share any other abuses, grief, disappointments, etc that happened to you.
 - Tell the defilement that these did to you
 - Bring all into light; no secrets
 - Cost = pride. You either have self pity or repentance
5. Share how my childhood and youthful pain influenced me as a husband and father (wife and mother)
 - How I tried to escape things
 - Hard to bond, etc.
6. Say: you have not been the problem, I have. You are not an accident.
7. Ask forgiveness (not in general) but be specific for each item on your list to each individual separately and alone. Have them say: "yes, I forgive you" for each item you name
8. I pronounce you released from the sins against you.
9. Give healing prayers
 - Oil and wind into wounds—Proverbs 18:8

- Remove negative words spoken previously and replace with positive
- Wounds be filled with the Father's love and place the cross between us to filter out the wounds

10. Pray the blessing over them

Every few years do this again and catch up since the last time you did it.

Website: www.shilohplace.com and click on Tahiti syndrome lists

-12-

20,000 LEAGUES

(From an internet article by John Paul Jackson)

You cannot go any deeper in God than into His Holy Spirit.

Venturing into His mysterious, consuming depths is very similar to venturing into an ocean. For some people, the beach is just fine. They like the openness, specifically the sunshine and warm sand. Safe up on the shore, you don't have to worry about losing control or being pulled out farther than you wanted; you're completely safe, and nothing can get you—a very important option for some people.

For others, the best part is the snorkeling. What an adventure! You get to be fully submerged in the water - at least, as fully as a flimsy piece of plastic in your mouth will let you. Swimming only a foot or two beneath the waves, you are able to see a hundred things beneath the surface that you never would have seen otherwise. When compared to staying on the beach, snorkeling can seem to be pretty daring.

But then, there are the people who go deep—*way* deep, beyond what is humanly possible.

You cannot go any deeper in God than into His Holy Spirit. Some people are content to just be *by* Him, soaking up the rays. Others only want to get their head wet or have the rush of being momentarily submerged in Him. But others, desperate to find Him or die in the attempt, take a flying leap off the side, with nothing to keep them afloat, nothing to keep them alive beneath the surface . . . except Him.

It's like stepping off a boat with nothing beneath your feet but the Mariana Trench; suddenly, *you* are just plain *gone*, and all that remains is Him.

This is what living in the Spirit means.

Jesus told His disciples that it was to their advantage for Him to go back to the Father so that the Holy Spirit would come to them. In other words, He was saying, “Everything I do is by the power of the Holy Spirit; now I’m leaving so that He can come. And you are really going to *like* what the Spirit does. You’re going to be empowered. You’re going to have more authority than you have ever had before.”

Jesus did signs and wonders because of the power of the Holy Spirit within Him. Through that same Spirit, the mysteries of God are revealed to you, both the large mysteries that are heralded by angels and the small mysteries that are whispered by children. You are able to bless and glorify God with your words and hands *only* because of the Holy Spirit. He is the same Spirit who brooded over the chaos of the earth in Genesis 1, and He is the same Spirit who raised Jesus from the dead. You are intricately, intimately connected with God.

Many of us think that the coming of the Holy Spirit is like a Christian nirvana, but this isn’t always the case. Drowning can be a scary experience. We cannot take precautions with God—we can’t prepare a Route B just in case He doesn’t come through. Having a back-up plan isn’t true faith. With God, it’s all or nothing. No scuba gear. No snorkel. And definitely not an umbrella for the beach.

The secret to living in the Spirit of God is this: You can have as much of Him as *you* want. If you want the beach, then you’ll have the beach. But if you want the depths of Him, then the bottom of the sea is also available. Which do you prefer?

May your heart’s cry be for all of Him—for the deepest depths of the sea.

-13-

THE BATTLE FOR INTIMACY

(From internet article by Patricia King: "The Battle For Intimacy")

There are many spiritual battles we engage in throughout our Christian life, but I believe the greatest one is the battle for intimacy with the Lord. A fruitful life in the Kingdom flows out of intimacy. The character and nature of Jesus is formed in us through intimacy with Him. It is no wonder that this is the area so often assaulted with distractions, insecurities and disappointments.

Have You Been Disillusioned and Disappointed?

How often have you, the reader, cried out for deeper engagement in the Lord only to find emptiness and silence? How many times have you attempted to seek His face with all of your heart and were pulled on by distraction from every direction? How

often have you left your devotional time disappointed and with hope deferred? This, my friend, describes the battle for intimacy. The enemy will attempt to pull us from the posture that is the most critical to our life in God--the posture of abiding, the posture of intimacy.

Recently, I had a talk with a good friend who just returned from Mozambique where she spent some time with Heidi Baker. Heidi told her, "You have no idea the battle I have fought to maintain intimacy and to fight distraction."

Intimacy--this is the battlefield. This is what the enemy desires to steal more than anything! If he can steal our intimacy with the Lord, he gets everything. Intimacy is the most important factor in our Christian experience, and when you understand the importance of something, you are willing to fight for it.

By Faith

What does intimacy look like? What does it feel like? A number of years ago, I felt so desperate to connect to the Lord in intimacy. I set a month apart to seek His face...and I did! The first 10 days were grueling. I cried out to God with deep longings for intimacy. I so wanted to connect with Him. Hour by hour, I would cry out to Him. I had felt so distanced and distracted, and now was my time to really connect.

Although I cried out by the hour, confessed any sin that might be in the way, engaged in warfare, fasted, stayed up many nights, I still could not sense the Lord's presence, and I definitely didn't feel intimate. I was so disappointed. I had never been so desperate and yet so empty and unfulfilled in my longings. I was on my knees, and in tears, pounding the floor as I cried out in desperation, "Lord, where are You?" On the 10th day of faithfully seeking Him, I finally heard Him speak to my heart. His still, small voice said, "I am right here. I have been here all the time. Why did you doubt?"

I realized at that point that I had been in an "anxious hoping mode" rather than a "believing mode". I was hoping to be intimate, but I was not believing I could be. I was longing for His presence and so wanting Him close to me that I had not determined that He was right there.

Hebrews 11:6 was highlighted in my heart at that time: **"Without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must first believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him."**

I had to BELIEVE that He was right there, and that He was meeting my heart's desire. Faith is different from hope. Hope is an expectation, but faith is the substance of what we hope for. It is the evidence of what we do not see. (see Hebrews 11:1)

You Cannot Be Any More Intimate Than You Are Right Now

Over the next number of months He taught me more about the faith required to walk in intimacy. I remember once when I cried out in worship. "Oh Lord, I want to be intimate with You." I was worshipping but felt empty and emotionless. In this state, I

felt condemned. I have always known the importance of intimacy but seldom felt it. I found myself striving in that worship session. In the midst of my desperation, the Lord whispered, "You can not be any more intimate with Me than you are right now."

That took me by surprise. I didn't feel intimacy, only emptiness. What did this mean? He further revealed that His finished work on the cross was the deepest embrace that God could ever express to mankind. He said, "You are in Me, and I am in you. We are one for eternity. You can't get any more intimate than that."

Immediately I began to worship from a different perspective. Instead of hoping to be intimate, I believed I was. This was not based on what I felt. It was based on what was true.

The enemy tried to throw all his usual lies at me, "You are not loved by God, and you are failing in your love for Him. He is disappointed with you because you are falling short of intimacy. Look at your friends. Now, they know how to be intimate, but not you. You fall short." This time, the accusations didn't stick. My intimacy with the Lord was not based on what I felt--it was based on what was true. I pressed in and won the battle.

The battle for intimacy is not a one-time fight. It is constant, and we need to know how to stand. The enemy will use many measures to distract us. Condemnation, busyness, lack of focus, distractions with time priorities, and insecurities are a few. We need to learn to fight through all of these things. This is the battle for intimacy.

The Following Are Some Practical Things that Can Assist You in the Battle:

- 1) Believe that you are loved and cherished by God, and that He deeply longs for intimacy with you.
- 2) Believe that you have been drawn into intimacy through the finished work of the cross. Let all striving go, and believe that you are already intimate. Rest in the truth.
- 3) Set time aside each day to worship Him...to love Him...and to pursue Him in faith. Write this time on your daily calendar as a priority. Do not let anything distract you.
- 4) If distractions come as you are worshipping Him and engaging in intimacy, fight them off and do not get discouraged. The enemy loves to discourage. Press through while resting in faith. The Lord will honor your fight. Even if you spend a whole hour battling off mental distractions, it is better than not spending time with the Lord. He will reward you. Continue to battle. You will get a breakthrough. Keep your focus on Jesus.
- 5) Journaling helps you to keep focused. You might like to write down what He reveals to you and also write love letters to Him. You can meditate on these precious

things weeks, months and even years later.

6) Abide in the Word. Spend time in the scriptures each day, and allow the Lord to speak His heart to you.

7) War in the heavenlies. We can battle against the enemy's strategies through prayer and declaration of the Word. This wins the battle in the heavenlies before it hits the earth. Contend for intimacy for yourself and the rest of the Body. What you sow into others you will also reap.

8) Throughout the day look for opportunities to express love to the Lord. Keep this as your priority in life. He loves your love. It is a gift to Him. Express your love both verbally and through silent prayer throughout your day.

9) Make intimacy a lifestyle. This is not something that you engage in for an hour a day; this is something that you live.

Declare War

The scripture says in **2 Corinthians 2:14**, **"But thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and manifests through us the sweet aroma of the knowledge of Him in every place."** You are guaranteed a win! The battle for intimacy has been won for you in Christ. Take the victory by faith and don't let go. Declare war against every distraction that has been thrown at you. The devil will be sorry he ever tried. Put the pursuit of intimacy high on your list of priorities. It is your inheritance in Christ.

Prayer Directives

1) Pray for the Body of Christ to be protected from the enemy's assault in the area of intimacy with the Lord.

2) Pray for grace (God's divine influence upon the heart) to be poured out on His people in the area of intimacy.

3) Pray for your own personal breakthrough.

4) Believe that increased faith will be released in the area of intimacy.

5) Pray for a spirit of worship to fill the people of God.

6) Pray against distractions.

7) Ask the Lord for breakthroughs for His Body in the area of intimacy and worship.

8) Pray for children to be drawn into intimacy with the Lord at an early age (even from infancy).

9) Pray for ministries and leaders in the Body of Christ to establish intimacy as a priority.

10) Pray for powerful, tangible visitations of the Lord's presence for those who are seeking Him.

I am praying for breakthroughs for all who read this. The Battle for Intimacy is won, and the victory is yours to enjoy!

Bless each and every one of you.

-14-

OPENDOORS

("Open Door to Remain Open in 2005" By Paul Cox, Feb 7, 2005, Aslan's Place, www.aslansplace.com)

It was in 2004 that the Lord started to mature my understanding of the door in heavenly places. The journey has been fascinating and ongoing.

Several months ago I woke up at 11:22, 12:22, 1:22, 2:22, etc. It was evident there was something with 22! Then Lord led me to **Isaiah 22:22**:

"The key of the house of David I will lay on his shoulder, so he shall open and no one shall shut, and he shall shut, and no one shall open." (NKJV)

I thought that there must be something with this verse . . . but what?

HOW THE LORD TAUGHT ME TO DISCERN HEAVENLY DOORS

Weeks later, during a training workshop at Aslan's Place, while talking to a young adult, I began feeling an odd sensation on my left side -- something like acid. The young man began looking past my left shoulder; an expression of terror, as someone seeing a horrific scene, crossed his face.

"What are you seeing?" I asked him.

"I saw a door open and a terrifying being standing at the door. He is looking at you right now, and is not happy."

My gift of discernment led me to believe I was experiencing some type of new revelation. I realized I was discerning a "spiritual force," a being I had encountered several times before. I knew it was not evil, but righteous. Why was he present?

"Why is he unhappy?" I asked.

The young man replied, "The Lord says there are walls around you that must come down so that He can accomplish in you what He wants."

That was all I needed. I prayed, "Lord, remove the walls." Immediately the being stepped from the door and poured an anointing of the Lord on me. He then moved back through the door and the door closed. The Lord had just taught me to discern doors in heavenly places.

HEAVENLY DOORS, HEAVENLY PLACES

During the following weeks and months, a Biblical door of information opened to me. The Lord showed me Scriptures throughout His Word. I went to **Revelation 3:7-8**

"And to the angel of the church of Philadelphia write, 'These things says He who is holy, He who is true, he who has the key of David, He who opens and no one shuts, and shuts and no one opens,' I know your works. See I have set before you an open door, and no one can shut it; for you have a little strength, have kept My word, and have not denied My name." (NKJV)

Isaiah 45:1-3

"Thus says the LORD to His anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have held to subdue nations before him and loose the armor of kings, to open before him the double doors, so that the gates will not be shut: 'I will go before you and make the crooked places straight; I will break in pieces the gates of bronze and cut the bars of iron. I will give you the treasures of darkness and hidden riches of secret places, that you may know that I, the LORD, who call you by your name, am the God of Israel.'" (NKJV)

Since the initial revelation, many have gone through the heavenly doors. Some have seen double doors. At times, the doors appear to be ancient. After going through the doors, individuals believe the Lord has given them new revelations.

Revelation 4:1

"After these things I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven." (NKJV)

It is clear from this passage that these doors are in heaven. Ephesians 2:6 declares that we are seated with Christ in heavenly places. When we go through the doors, we go into the heavenly places. It is important to note that we are not seated in a place but in *places*.

THE DOORS THAT ARE OPENED WILL NOT BE CLOSED!

The Lord continues to teach me about the heavenly doors. One night He woke me and gave me this scripture:

Matthew 7:7-8, "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened." (NKJV)

Having memorized it as a child, I thought I understood its meaning. Could the passage indicate the possibility of going through the heavenly doors?

I have given this message at various venues, and now I know there are many doors and they lead to many rooms designed to hold many things. Now, when I discerned the door, I invited each person to go through it. Their reports are amazing. Each person sees the door in a different way and they do go into rooms unique for them.

What takes place in the rooms is not just an unverifiable spiritual transaction, but many experience physical and emotional healings, or miraculous encounters with the Lord which manifest in their everyday life.

There is a remarkable fact! As stated in Isaiah 22:22, the Lord has promised that the doors that are opened will not be closed! So the doors that opened in 2004 remain open in 2005.

WHERE DO WE GO WHEN WE GO THROUGH THE DOORS?

The following is a list of the rooms people have reported entering:

Throne
Wisdom

Understanding
Counsel
Might
Knowledge
Fear of the Lord
Prophecy
Body Parts
Weapons

Healings
Reconciliation
Treasures
Rest
Vision
Deliverance
War Room
Map Room
Library
Council

Treasury
Wardrobe
Art (Artistic)
Music
Play
Garden (refreshment)
Basic Training
Infirmary
Surgery Room
Recovery Room

Tears (weeping)
Intercessory
Armory
Joy
Swimming Pool
Esther Room
Camp David
Waiting Room
Gym
Storehouse/pantry

Worship
Crowning

Peace
Languages
Anointing
Strategies
New Hearts
Nursery
Birthing
Divine Revelations

Impartation
Equipping
White House Room
Wine Cellar
Furnace Room
Working Room (God with a Jackhammer)
Stones of Fire Room
Conception Room
Preacher's Room
Discernment

Spiritual Body Parts Room
Room to Sit at Jesus Feet (like Mary)
Kitchen
Cupbearer Room
Room of Offerings (i.e. Leviticus Offerings)
Signs, Miracles, and Wonder Room
Family Photos
Generations
Sewing Room
Favor

Fragrances
Wings
Seer Room
Vault
Kneeling
Purity
Stables
Inventions
Bone Room

To what room will the Lord lead you?

WHAT GOD WANTS FOR THANKSGIVING

(FINALLY, THE SECRET REVEALED! WHAT GOD SPECIFICALLY WANTS FOR "THANKSGIVING!"
by Steve Shultz, November 24, 2005 The Elijah List, www.elijahlist.com)

Though it may come as a SHOCK to many Christians, God was quite specific this year, about what HE wants for Thanksgiving.

Well actually, He wants this for Thanksgiving, every day, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year!

Are you ready for the revelation?

He wants thanksgiving for EVERYTHING! Every. . . single. . . thing! But as I like to say, "Don't take my word for it, check it out":

"At all times and for everything giving thanks in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God the Father." -- Ephesians 5:20 (AMP)

And then you have:

"Pray without ceasing. In every thing give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." -- 1 Thessalonians 5:17-18

One of my favorite "God-Sequence" stories takes place years ago, when my family and I had little money. VERY little. Our license plates were expired, and we were on our way out of California, moving up to the Great Northwest. With a young family, we hoped to start a new life up where my wife's parents lived. It was about this time of year too!

But with NO MONEY, except enough gas money to drive out of state, we were nonetheless in a special place with God. Merlin Carother's book called *Prison to Praise* was still a best seller, and his instruction was essentially this: "Good or bad--just thank God FOR EVERYTHING!"

We were practicing doing that too. Everything, good or bad, we'd simply thank God for it because He works in and through it all!

As we neared the northern border of California, suddenly the lights of the California Highway Patrol came on, and we were pulled over. Derene and I knew it was because of our expired license plates. We looked at each other and, believe it or not, with true "feeling" we said, "Well, PRAISE THE LORD!" We meant it too.

JUMPING BACK TOWARD THE PATROL CAR

Now back then, you could jump out of the car and head back toward the patrol car. I'm not sure I'd do that today. But I did just that in 1985. I jumped out and briskly walked toward the back of the car with my license and registration in hand.

Standing halfway between our car and his, WHILE he wrote me my ticket for which I had no money to pay, I shared the Grace of God with him. . . for 45 LONG MINUTES. I'm sure my wife wondered what in the world we were talking about.

As he finally handed me my ticket, he admitted that he was a backslidden Baptist and that this was just what he needed to hear. I had made his day. But then, he had made my day too. I didn't even care about the ticket.

His final words ring in my ears to this day. He said, "**You know, just before I stopped you, I had a great meal. This time with you was better than that meal!**"

Wow! "This 'thanking God for everything' must actually work," I concluded. I have more police stories, but that one remains my favorite.

HOW TO THANK GOD THROUGH OUR FAITH

Jesus said, "When the Son of Man comes, will He find faith on the earth?"

I'm here to tell you that while, yes, there will be a second coming--nevertheless, Jesus is OMNIPRESENT, and He also lives in us right now. For us who believe, the Son of Man (in this one sense) HAS COME ON EARTH ALREADY, and he's looking for faith.

Faith and thanksgiving are very similar.

Faith means, "I've watched you. I've tested you, God, and I've found You Faithful. Therefore, I'll trust you." God sees that faith as gratitude--as THANKSGIVING, IN OTHER WORDS.

As I write this, it's the eve of Thanksgiving. The news is reporting that *at any one time today* there are 7,600 passenger commercial airplanes flying over the United States of America alone (not counting private jets and planes, or cargo, or military planes.) Normally, there are only 5,000 airplanes in the air over the USA.

I can pretty much guarantee that of the 22 million people who will fly this Thanksgiving weekend, the vast majority of them, as they board the plane, don't look to see if their pilot is male or female, young or old, experienced or rather new.

No! Instead, they've read that flying by commercial airlines is the safest kind of travel that there is. They TRUST. They have FAITH; they are THANKFUL that the pilot on the airplane cares enough about himself and the passengers that he won't take off with that plane unless it's safe to do so.

GOD IS OUR PILOT--THE PILOT OF THE UNIVERSE AND OF OUR LIVES

God is our Pilot, and He controls the atmosphere around the earth. Are we sometimes more trusting of our commercial pilot than THE PILOT in Heaven?

During this day and this season, PUT YOUR TRUST--your THANKSGIVING--in Jesus Christ and His Father and the Holy Spirit as they pilot. . . they control the events of the universe. And they control the events of your life.

So here's the secret now revealed: we've watched God. We've tested his faithfulness as we look back on our lives, and we've discovered that we can put our trust--our faith, our thanksgiving--in this God!

So no matter how intense it gets--in all things and in all situations--GIVE THANKS! To do this *is* the WILL OF GOD, IN CHRIST JESUS.

-16-

AT AN INCONVENIENT TIME

(From an internet article by Francis Frangipane)

The Lord has multitudes who believe in Him, but only a minority who truly worship Him. True worshipers find their fulfillment in adoring God. The fragrance of their worship rises, not only during the scheduled times of church services, but also during inconvenient times.

A true worshiper will rise early before work or school; they're up before the household so they can be alone with God. Instead of being frustrated by delays, they transform difficulties and setbacks into opportunities to magnify God. You might see one of these worshipers sitting in the car next to you during a traffic jam, singing along with Christian music in their car.

A true worshiper has learned the secret of worshiping God at inconvenient times.

I, too, find the Lord leading me to worship Him during inconvenient times. I might be alone writing or working on some important project when something awakens in my spirit: *I become aware that the presence of the Lord is near*. Yet, He isn't commanding me to worship, He's *inviting* me. The time of worship may be as little as 10 or 15 minutes or it might be much longer. Regardless, I turn from what I was doing, pick up my guitar and begin to worship Him.

Frankly, I am not a good musician; I only know a few chords. Yet as I worship, I know the King of heaven is actually pleased with my offering. He has granted me an audience, and in some mysterious way, He causes me to feel that the sound of my worship is the only thing He hears as I'm singing.

The Invitation

I, for one, desire my worship to become all consuming. Yet, I confess that a primary obstacle I must overcome is the inconvenient timing of His invitation. It seems like He actually waits until I am focused on some important project - something He actually wants me to complete. Or it might be late at night when I am almost asleep when the opportunity to worship draws near.

Yet, the very fact that I have responded, in spite of the "inconvenience," actually refines and sweetens my worship. Indeed, when I worship in our Sunday service, I admit I can be carried by the sound of the music and the participation of others around me. I am in an atmosphere of worship, so my praise may actually be something imparted to me by others and not purely my own. However, when He comes at an inconvenient time, my response reaffirms that my worship is real and that God truly is first in my life

What is also a great pleasure to me is that, given such short notice, He does not expect from me a large production. As wonderful as Sunday worship services are, He is not looking for a professional song service, just something real from my heart.

Another blessing is that, often, my wife will hear me worshipping and, without fail, join me. As I worship, I'll soon notice a voice singing alongside me in the background. She's as absorbed as I am in the presence of God. It doesn't matter what she was doing, she loves to bow before God and that, too, sweetens our worship.

Prayer and Worship

There is a difference between prayer and worship. Prayer is an appeal to God based on our needs and the needs of our world. The world is filled with people, each with heartfelt and urgent requests, that are welcomed by our Father in heaven, and they are each heard in the throne room of light. However, worship is not the articulation of our need; it is the consummation of our love. It is what we offer to God regardless of the status of our needs.

Recall the Gospel account of the ten leprosy men who cried to Jesus for healing. After the Lord answered their prayers and healed them, they all went their way. One, however, stopped and turned "back, glorifying God with a loud voice . . . he fell on his face at His feet, giving thanks to Him" (Luke 17:11-19). Full of gratitude to Christ, this man returned to bow in worship before God. You see, many people will pray, multitudes will find answers, but few will return to Him in worship.

Beloved, if worship flows genuinely from our hearts, the Lord will repeatedly invite us into His presence. His invitation will approach the doorstep of our souls quietly. It will come disguised as a simple desire to love Him. If we follow this desire, it will lead into the presence of God.

As we worship Him, He will grant us inner strength and peace. As we come with thanksgiving, He will refresh us with His love and joy. Let us delight in the privilege of becoming true worshipers of God, even when the opportunity comes at an inconvenient time.

THE PRINCE OF PEACE AND THE ONE NEW MAN

(By Timothy Sherman, At the Gateway, www.atthegateway.com, September 20, 2005)

In My Vision . . . "Suddenly, the Atmosphere Began to Change to a Deep, Powerful, and Still -- PEACE!"

First Vision:

I saw a vision; the Holy Spirit impressed on me, a Gideon's gathering of saints. This group signified a type of Gideon's Army. I intuitively knew this was a passionate remnant, but increasing mass, of people desperate for God's supernatural intervention and abiding presence in these catastrophic and tragic times that we are experiencing, starting with 9/11. Everyone's hands were raised in surrender and abandoned worship to Jesus, as we came to fully know -- In Him only, do we move and live!

In the background, I could hear music. Suddenly, the atmosphere began to change to a deep, powerful, corporate, and still peace. I saw a small group of children, another small group comprised of youth, and 12 or so adults begin to just go forward with upraised hands to the Lord. Without anyone touching them, they began to fall down or lay down on the floor because of the heavy weight of glorious peace. The still and calm in the atmosphere was so deep and awesome, that some began to fall into trances and a deep silence that looked like rest or sleep.

The Substance & Power of Peace

I kept sensing, in my spirit and hearing in my soul, "Peace, peace, peace." I was also sensing, an incredible knowing of the abiding presence of a miracle power of peace such as I had never seen or experienced in a corporate gathering before. There was a general knowing in everyone's heart, that anything could happen at any moment.

It seemed everyone was arrested in this new power for some time. Then suddenly, those on the floor began to stand up and share, in anointing and reverence, with all of those that were in this trance-like state of peace. Children began to share visions they had. The youth began to share actions, tactics, and strategies that were revealed to them supernaturally. The adults and elderly began to share open prayers, filled with prophetic revelation, with incredible wisdom and understanding.

The one, predominant thing, coming out of all of them, was the substance and power of peace; it was arresting. It was the focus of every vision, strategy, action, prayer, and prophecy that took place with the tangible substance of the supernatural power of peace.

Supernatural Peace Brings Salvations & Healings

Then I heard the Spirit of the Lord say in my thoughts, "The anointing of My peace shall come to pass -- a deeper, more powerful peace than the church at large has ever known or walked in. It is beginning to fall, like renewal did. The dove of My peace is landing on all who long and desire Him. Great turmoil has been unleashed from Satan's domain, for he knows his time is short. Terror and fear will cause the hearts of many to faint as a result of looking on the things coming upon the world. Satan works in anarchy, chaos, and disorder. Everything he does is to disrupt the peace of My Kingdom.

"The level of peace in My people has been insufficient for the turmoil that they have experienced, but that is finished. This supernatural power of peace is available; now, the people of God will be aware of it. You will sense it. You will know it. You will feel it, and the turmoil will begin to be shattered, for the hungry and the desperate; those that are longing for and asking the Father for this supernatural attribute of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. The atmosphere will become calm, quiet, and still within, even in the thoughts of the mind; you will still experience excitement, enthusiasms, and joy.

"A deep and abiding increase of My peace is released, if you but ask and receive. The forces and the evil works of darkness of fallen man have increased chaos and terror in great measures. I have increased My peace in greater measures. I am always ahead of the enemy and his plans. He plays into My hand.

"In the past, as now, I have given the revelation and impartation of My imputed righteousness. The Holy Spirit has given the revelation and release of the joy of the Lord, for all who want more. Now, I will bring a supernatural peace, a power-peace, which will displace the enemy's turmoil and reveal My Kingdom of righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit. I will now crush your enemies under the feet of *My body*, in a short time."

Suddenly, I saw salvations, deliverances, healings, miracles, forgiveness, and reconciliation break out in congregations and public gatherings everywhere in America--the atmosphere was filled with an awe-inspired quietness, and each soul was filled with total assurance. It came with the power and purity previously described, and it spread like a fire in a windy, ripe wheat field. This glorious release has now begun by God's goodness and unmerited grace.

Second Vision:

I saw a Warrior standing in the full, shining armor of a warrior knight. As I looked, I suddenly realized that he was standing on the continental USA. He was facing the North. His legs were positioned wide apart, like a soldier in an at-ease stance. This Knight, in full battle array, looked very relaxed and confident, and he exuded incredible peace and assurance. He had a large, glistening, beautiful two-edged sword in His hand, and it was raised in readiness.

In the other hand, he had a shield. He didn't look like he was going into battle. He had already won it, and his sword was wet with the blood of his enemy. He was a massive figure. He was a Conqueror. I was suddenly aware, as I looked at His feet, that he was

shod with the armored shoes of peace. I heard the name within me, "The Prince of Peace and the *One New Man*."

Then the Word of the Lord came to me, saying, "I will bring forth fresh and fuller revelation of the shoes of My armor -- the preparation of the Gospel of Peace. I will release My peace. I will increase My peace. I will stand up in the nation of America, in My body, the One New Man. I am placing one foot on the East coast and one foot on the West coast. I am establishing the Twin Towers of true peace and soul prosperity, upon all who will desperately desire it in the nations of America and the world.

"It will come on the East Coast and the West Coast and cover North America. It will come through the two towers of My mighty legs and through the feet of My messengers, carrying the covenant of peace bought by the blood of the cross. The Holy Spirit dove of My peace has begun to fly into many places and release My rest of miraculous, mountain-moving faith. He will land with prophetic healing miracles, signs, and wonders, with soul harvest."

The Twin Towers of the One New Man

The Spirit of the sovereign Lord says, "I am bringing a fuller understanding and manifestation of My Kingdom, which is found in righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit". "I have initiated My righteousness and My joy in recent outpourings and visitations, but now I am joining the two together -- for greater power, purity, and purpose, through the visitation of the anointing of My peace."

These three shall bear witness on the earth, as it is in Heaven. For the God of peace shall crush Satan, shortly, under your feet. "This power of peace is My secret weapon and is evidence of My enabling grace. Grace unto it, and it comes through the feet of My body, the Church, that carries the Gospel of peace and brings good tidings of great joy, in the midst of troubling times. You, My Holy Ones, will tread on the satanic enemies of humanity and the church, My called out ones."

This anointing of His peace is a quiet peace and a shouting peace -- a dancing peace, a running peace, a walking peace, and a standing peace. It's a going peace and a staying peace. "It is a movement of My Spirit, signifying the increase of My government and peace that shall never end," says the Lord, "it now comes in new measures to My City of Peace, you who are born from above and are My heavenly Jerusalem."

Suddenly, I was looking at the legs of the Twin Towers of this One New Man. Written on one leg is: "Peace of Mind." Written on the other is: "Prosperity of Soul." I instantly knew that we were receiving the conquering shoes of the armor of God and were being equipped with more of the Way, the Truth, and the Life. The twin towers of the One New Man were standing with the *peace that surpasses understanding, to guard our hearts and souls*. A peace given to the passionate seekers in the church of America and to the nations of the earth. This anointing of His peace would affect a new peace movement of power and purity, around the world in these last times of great and increased shaking. This peace is found only within the intimate, worshipping, obedient ones in the church of

the living God -- those found abiding in the Spirit of God, face to face with Jesus, the Prince of Peace.

-18-

LAZARUS COME FORTH

(Bill Yount, Hagerstown, MD, www.billyount.com, theshofarhasblown@juno.com, December 8, 2004)

"YOUR 'LAZARUS' WILL RISE IN 2005!...I WILL VISIT CEMETERIES, SEMINARIES, AND SANCTUARIES...WITH A SPECIAL VISIT TO INSANE ASYLUMS!" -- A YEAR OF RESURRECTION AND LIFE!

It was as though I overheard the Father speaking to the angels: "Your New Year's assignment will be cemeteries, seminaries, and sanctuaries...with a special visit to insane asylums! The dead will rise in 2005!"

The Father continued to whisper heaven's secrets to the angels, "If it's dead, I can raise it! But only if it's dead! Get ready to roll some stones away. 'Lazarus' will rise in 2005! My favorite specialty is still splitting graves wide open! Get ready to loose them and let them go!"

"IF YOU HAVE ANYTHING THAT HAS DIED IN YOUR LIFE, YOU ARE RIGHT ON SCHEDULE!"

I sense that many who thought the Lord was too late in the past year in answering their prayers will discover that God is still right on time in 2005! Resurrection Power will attack dead nations, dead churches, dead preachers, dead dreams, dead visions..."My Resurrection Power works best among the dead!"

If you have anything that has died in your life, you are right on schedule. This will be the year of Resurrection and Life! Even the dead will hear His voice!

NEW MINDS, NEW HEARTS, AND A NEW MOVE OF GOD

Insane asylums were high on God's list for the year to free people of their tormented minds! New minds are coming to people on the earth...the very mind of Christ! Legions of demons will go, with new minds arriving!

New "spiritual and physical" hearts will be given out also. Multitudes who are dead in sin and trespasses, and many who have backslid and have gone back into darkness, will come forth and be raised into newness of life.

I saw angels filling up monasteries bringing revelation, honoring the dedication of monks, Catholic priests and nuns, as another great move of God in the Catholic Church was in the making!

"I WILL BRING MANY UP OUT OF THEIR HORRIBLE PIT THIS YEAR"

I sense the Father saying, "I will bring many up out of their horrible pit this year."

The twice dead will begin coming into God's Kingdom this year. I saw as though the sea was giving up her dead, as though these souls were coming up from the pit itself. There were pornographic stars, mass murderers, witches, many from the occults and eastern religions; souls that had committed horrendous, indescribable crimes. It was as though hell itself was vomiting up these souls. Hell was letting go of them. The gates of hell were opening and these souls were being released as the command was being given..."Lazarus, come forth!"

DREAMS ARE BEING RESURRECTED

I saw whole cities in the earth coming under the influence of Resurrection Power. Huge buildings and historical landmarks first appeared as though they were oversized grave-markers on top of the ground. Lying beneath these monuments were God-given dreams buried six feet under. Dreams of a city being lit as a candle on a candlestick, giving light to a nation were wrapped in grave clothes, stuffed inside of coffins.

Dreams of shattered households being turned into homes that would eventually affect a whole neighborhood were held captive inside of dark tombs. There were unmarked graves representing impossible dreams of street people crying up through man-hole covers for brotherly love to flow through her streets.

I then saw a river begin to flow deep beneath these cities. It began rushing and then, finally, gushing forth like a giant geyser. These torrential waters rising began flooding the streets of these cities, raising beggars and street people out of gutters and sewers. They were coming up through man-hole covers as they were being flushed out of hell by the power of this river rising beneath the city.

Light began to pierce darkness as this river flood increased, lifting the caskets with God-given dreams as they finally were pushed upward, breaking the surface of the ground. Dreams were being resurrected throughout these cities. The surfacing dreams, themselves, then started breaking their coffins open and pushing over monuments, causing them to fall into the now empty graves.

It appeared that God was turning whole cities upside down, inside out, and right side up! Their time of visitation had come! "Lazarus... Come forth!"

SPIRITUAL LISTENING

(By John Paul Jackson)

True listening is one of the most healing of human acts. It is also one of the easiest to accomplish. Listening helps individuals become what they were created to be, because it restores value and excites hope within them for their future. It repairs relationships with spouses, children, friends, and colleagues. It strengthens our relationships by cementing our connections with one another. Listening enhances and enriches our connection to God.

One of the clearest signs of genuine spirituality is the act of *spiritual listening*, which is quite distinctive from listening itself. When we listen to another person in a non-spiritual manner, we continually think about how we feel concerning what they are saying. We often fall into competitive listening, thinking about our next statement and looking for a place to insert our story into the conversation. We struggle to suspend our own preoccupation with our lives. Thus, we often listen for our own benefit—not someone else's.

Spiritual listening, however, requires reflection, contemplation, and mindfulness. We learn to slow down our mind, focus, and listen for the benefit of the person telling their story. We ask questions from a vantage point of being interested in the person's well-being and genuinely curious about their experience.

Spiritual listening requires that we *prefer the other person* over our need to tell our own story. Spiritual listening is grounded in lovingly wanting to truly understand where a person has been. It necessitates valuing that individual more than we value ourselves. Spiritual listening is an essential element of what the Bible refers to as “one anothering.”

We know from Scripture—as well as science—that nothing in the universe exists as an isolated or independent entity. Everything takes shape from and through relationships. In the web of life, everything is interconnected. Consequently, our conversation with another individual has two purposes.

- First, we listen so we can assist another in reaching his or her personal destiny.
- Second, we listen so that both can be changed by the encounter. It leads to transformation. Thus, spiritual listening insures that the deepest impact for both can take place.

The greatest attribute about spiritual listening is that it demonstrates to another person how God listens to him or her. In such encounters, the distance between that individual and God begins to dissolve.

Many of us, caught in the busyness of life, neglect the time to truly listen to one another and to God. If we decide to make a conscious effort of becoming a spiritual listener, we will allow God's Spirit to blossom and grow within us, leading to personal transformation.

Someone you will meet today is waiting to be touched by God's Spirit flowing through you, as you listen to him or her. Perhaps this is part of God's divine nature (2 Peter 1:4) and we become partakers of His nature when we care enough to truly listen.

-20-

SPIRITUAL WRITING

(Paul Keith Davis, White dove ministry e-newsletter, July 2005, Regarding Spiritual Writing)

The Holy Spirit is our Teacher but He uses the agency of man to convey His message. He allows us the privilege of cooperating with Him in the advancement of His Kingdom through both the spoken and written word. When our words come from an atmosphere of the anointing, they are saturated with spiritual life and very powerful. That is the admonition of scripture.

Our Mandate

We feel that a portion of our ministry mandate is to help individuals cultivate their ability to communicate their revelation through the spoken and written word. Furthermore, psalms, hymns, spiritual songs, poetry and other forms of creative arts are also emerging to impart truth and awaken a generation. It is our hope and prayer to devote considerable attention to the subject of literature and communications over the next season.

For that reason, the Lord willing, I would like to address the craft of writing and discerning true spiritual communication over the next few newsletters. We have only just begun the journey of understanding God's Kingdom and relaying that message to His people. To do this adequately will be a lifelong quest. Nevertheless, with the Lord's help, we will share how we began in this important area and the love the Holy Spirit has given us for the articulation of His Truth.

I believe there are many people throughout the Church like A. W. Tozer. They have no real training but love God with all of their hearts and desire to share His truth. For them, the quest for truth and the pursuit of God are one and the same. Our admonition is to simply lay our gifts and talents on the altar of faith and allow Him to use us in ways that transcend our own abilities.

-21-

AS I WAS WITH MOSES

(Paul Keith Davis: "As I Was With Moses" WhiteDove Ministries November 2005 E-Newsletter)

The Welsh revival was a profound spiritual awakening. From late 1904 until early 1905, the Holy Spirit's outpouring in Wales directly impacted 100,000 souls for the Kingdom of Heaven and yielded inspiration for countless millions.

Few revivals have been so well documented and thoroughly considered as the Welsh Revival. Evan Roberts, a young ministry student, is principally credited with launching this wonderful expression of God's heart. An entire region came under the influence of God's Spirit, transforming it virtually overnight.

Even so, the wonderful fruit generated from this revival is only a token of what is to be demonstrated in the coming days. Something of great spiritual significance is imminently poised to be released in the earth. Nevertheless, significant preparation is essential to steward favorably the coming grace for revelation and power.

Frank Bartleman was one of the earliest influences in the 20th century Pentecostal outpouring. He knew something about discerning times and seasons and spiritual transition and wrote of it in "*Azusa Street: The Roots of Modern-day Pentecostalism*" saying,

"The present Pentecostal manifestation did not break out in a moment, like a huge prairie fire, and set the world on fire. In fact no work of God ever appears that way. There is a necessary time for preparation...men may wonder where it came from, not being conscious of the preparation, but there is always such."

There have been incredible preparatory advances made in recent years. Many believers have devoted themselves to the lessons learned from the Welsh revival and others like it. These are transitional days and a Heavenly door is about to be opened wide for those positioned to apprehend it.

Visiting Wales

The last week of August 2005, Wanda and I were conducting a conference in Bridgend, Wales. It was genuinely invigorating holding meetings in this historically significant region.

A big portion of our ministry has been devoted to understanding prior expressions of spiritual outpouring and its contemporary relevance. I had already shared in the meetings our message of modern church history and the seeds of revival that were sown for the present Pentecostal movement.

Part of the time-line that I share is as follows:

1885-

Bethshan Conference on Holiness and Healing, in London England; under the leadership of William Boardman and A. B. Simpson.

Many historians acknowledge that the present Pentecostal movement was first initiated in this June, 1885 meeting. Alexander Dowie and others pointed to the London conference as the seed-bed for the healing movement they enjoyed. This conference laid the foundation for the corporate restoration of the Spirit's in-filling and the activation of spiritual gifts.

Some reports acknowledge that as many as 2000 leaders converged on London to discover that divine healing is the "children's bread." A. B. Simpson first visited William Boardman's healing houses in London and brought the concept back to the United States. It was popularized by Alexander Dowie in Zion, IL.

1896 -

Dowie commissioned His Apostolic church in 1896 and founded the city of Zion, Illinois a few years later. His entire ministry was built upon great demonstrations of healing and deliverance. He was a prolific author and steward of spiritual truth that was circulated internationally through his publication, "Leaves of Healing." It is unfortunate that his later years were obscured in controversy and deception. Even so, he was a great pioneer of the faith.

Gordon Lindsay honored Alexander Dowie in his periodical, *Voice of Healing*, acknowledging that Dowie was a "stalwart preacher who proclaimed Jesus Christ both Savior and Healer." Lindsay states that, "In a single-handed crusade in Chicago, and against great odds, Dr. Dowie established the right to pray for the sick without interference from civil authorities. Tens of thousands testified of healing under this man's ministry and his work was without a parallel in his day."

1904/05-

A few years later Evan Roberts launched the 1904/05 Welsh revival, setting the stage for the Azusa Street revival under the leadership of William J. Seymour.

Although the Welsh outpouring most likely did not accomplish the fullness of its mandate, it left an indelible mark on this generation's perception of community transformation.

Visiting Moriah Chapel

Naturally while in Wales, Wanda and I looked forward to visiting Moriah Chapel and the site of this landmark event. On Saturday, August 27, our friends in Bridgend arranged for a tour with the local custodian. The Saturday evening service was to be our last session because of an early return in order to arrive home before hurricane Katrina made landfall.

The visit was inspiring. The elderly gentleman lived his entire life directly across the street from Moriah Chapel. He warmly and enthusiastically shared incredible testimonies and first-hand knowledge of friends and families influenced by this revival.

He related how taverns and pubs were shut down because there were no customers spending their hard earned money on alcohol and promiscuity. He remembered how jails were no longer filled with criminals, but transformed into community centers serving the revival. The entire region was transfigured under the spirit of conviction. Many of the local families continue to serve God as second and third generation legacies of this revival.

I stood behind the pulpit for an extended period of time and imagined how it appeared in 1904 as the building filled with the cloud of God's presence and the altar flooded with tears of repentance. My only thought was, "Lord, do it again, and more." With that we returned to Bridgend for our last service.

Moses My Servant is Dead

That evening during worship, I was contemplating the message that I was going to share. This was now going to be the culmination of the conference and I wanted to leave the people with a spiritual deposit for hope and restoration related to their heritage.

As my mind was focused on this objective, I heard the Lord's voice speak to me saying, "**Moses my servant is dead.**" As soon as that statement was made, I was immediately reminded of Deuteronomy 31:2-3, declaring,

And he [Moses] said to them, "I am a hundred and twenty years old today; I am no longer able to come and go, and the LORD has said to me, "You shall not cross this Jordan. It is the LORD your God who will cross ahead of you; He will destroy these nations before you, and you shall dispossess them. Joshua is the one who will cross ahead of you, just as the LORD has spoken

With that realization I then heard the Lord ask the question, "**how long has it been since the seeds for the modern Pentecostal movement were sown.**" As often as I had preached the historical account of the last century's spiritual heritage, I had never actually done the math. As I calculated in my mind that this was the year 2005 and the beginning was 1885, I then realized it had been 120 years. I knew that the Moses Era was over. We have been called out, but we have not yet crossed over.

The Lord is saying to this generation,

Moses My servant is dead. Now therefore, arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people, to the land which I am giving to them-- the children of Israel. Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given you, as I said to Moses.... No man shall be able to stand before you all the days of your life; as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you nor forsake you- Joshua 1:2-5

The season of transition is upon us and a new commissioning is about to be announced in the order of Joshua.

The Moses Generation

This last 120 years of spiritual activity has functioned in the order of Moses. Clearly, Moses was one of the greatest men of God who ever lived. His intimate friendship with the Lord set a standard we aspire to today. Even so, the totality of his original mandate was not fully achieved in his lifetime.

Moses brought the people out of Egypt under God's mighty hand of power through miracles, signs and wonders; but, that generation did not cross over into their destiny. According to Deuteronomy 29:4, they did not possess the revelatory anointing essential to co-operate with God.

Their eyes and ears were not opened and their hearts were not devoted to the revelation of Heaven's plan. As a result, they were disqualified and a season of discipline ensued.

Nevertheless, the next generation emerged with spiritual hunger and desperation that captured Heaven's attention and positioned them for their inheritance. That is the same model we have followed over the last century.

Naturally, that is not to point a condemning finger at the saints of the prior generation. Clearly, there was a remnant of very godly people who openly embraced the fullness of God's desire. Even so, a prudent analysis of history reveals that the corporate church as a whole did not embrace the open door opportunities set before them to cross spiritual Jordan.

According to John G. Lake's analysis in 1925, "the people were more captured by the phenomena of God than the Person." That mistake was made during the early 20th century and repeated in the '50s. For the 21st century generation to cross over in a Joshua anointing, it will likewise require God's great-grace for walking

intimately with Him, along with a thorough understanding of the lessons learned from past achievements and failures.

Hebrews 13:7-8 declares,

Remember those who led you, who spoke the word of God to you; and considering the result of their conduct, imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

This biblical admonition requires that we remember and be constantly mindful of those who have gone before us. Furthermore, we are to consider well and observe accurately the end of their lives. This examination positions us to imitate their faith. In so doing, the Lord will do through us what he did through them by mighty expressions of His power and authority, because He is the same yesterday, today and forever.

The Lord promised Joshua that He would walk with him as He did with Moses. Our assurance is the same. As the Lord accompanied the mighty champions of the last century, so also will He be with us. Even so, what we do may appear totally different. Joshua's accomplishments were distinctly different from those of Moses.

In the Order of Moses

Following the Holy Spirit's outpouring at Azusa Street, our nation witnessed one of the greatest spiritual awakenings since the day of Pentecost. The 1946-56 "Latter Rain" revival was unprecedented on multiple levels. We have written on this subject in various articles and will not take the space here to enumerate the many wonderful things God did.

The important aspect for this text is the original commissioning that is credited with launching this revival. All historians agree that William Branham was the predominant figure responsible for initiating this national and international healing revival.

On May 7, 1946, after a night of agonizing prayer and travail, William Branham received a visitation from an angel who delivered a divine commissioning directly from God's throne. This account has been well documented and the fruit of the revival itself testifies of its validity.

Gordon Lindsay, founder of Christ for the Nations, wrote of this spiritual experience saying, "The results of the angelic visitation to William Branham have been a steadily rising tide of revival that has sounded out throughout the world, and the end is not yet."

The Book of Acts plainly substantiates the labor of angels working closely with the early saints. God's ways have not changed.

The angel said to Branham, *"Fear not. I am sent from the Presence of Almighty God to tell you that your peculiar life and your misunderstood ways have been to indicate that God has sent you to take a gift of divine healing to the peoples of the world. If you will be sincere and get the people to believe you, nothing shall stand before your prayer...not even cancer!"*

The angel went on to tell William Branham that he would take the ministry of healing around the world and eventually pray for kings, princes and monarchs. Brother Branham responded by saying, "how can this be since I am a poor man and I live among poor people and I have no education." The angel then continued the commission saying, *"as the prophet Moses was given two signs to prove that he was sent from God, so will you be given two signs."*

For approximately 30 minutes the angel stood before Bro. Branham explaining the commission and the way the ministry would operate in the supernatural arena. The important point of this teaching is Branham's role as the principal figure launching the "Latter Rain" revival; his commission came in the order of Moses.

His commission and healing ministry began in 1946 and by 1948 the world was aflame with revival fire. Millions of people were saved, healed and delivered of severe oppression by God's sovereign touch in the years following the visitation.

This exceptional demonstration of God's power was launched in the order of Moses. This past generation has been a Moses generation. We have now come to the end of this phase of God's plan and are about to shift into the Joshua commissioning.

In the Order of Joshua

Much has been spoken and written in recent years about the emerging Joshua Generation. Many people have prophetically foreseen this transition. The Church has now crossed a threshold in Heaven's time-line for the apprehension of this promise.

One of the difficult things for the modern church has been to adequately understand spiritual transitions and timeliness. It has been our observation that most shifts of this nature develop slowly with one season overlapping into the next.

Although 2005 ended a 120 year cycle, it may take some time for this new manifestation of God's attributes to be fully revealed. Even so, it will transpire.

Joshua was promised the same manifestation of God's Spirit that rested upon Moses. Like Moses, Joshua had his "burning bush" experience. However, the Lord did not appear as a pillar of fire in a bush that was not consumed, but as "Captain of the Lord's Host." He said,

No; rather I indeed come now as captain of the host of the LORD." And Joshua fell on his face to the earth, and bowed down, and said to him, "What has my lord to say to his servant? --- Joshua 5:14

The Lord was with Joshua as He was with Moses but in a different manifestation of His nature. He came NOW as the mighty warrior God. So shall it be in this day.

A holy militancy is about to emerge in the Bride of Christ. Many leaders will begin to surface with a Joshua anointing. Joshua means "Jehovah Savior." This form of leadership will function in the Church with concise direction and profound anointing for salvation and deliverance.

These leaders will also do in the last days what Paul did in the beginning. Paul brought to the Church the message of God's Kingdom by a revelation of Jesus Christ. He wrote in Galatians 1:12,

For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ.

Great and profound mysteries of the Kingdom are about to be unfolded that will begin to displace the giants that inhabit our inheritance. These will not be the precepts of man but the manifestation of Jesus Christ. This will be a wonderful and rewarding season of Church history.

THE PROPHETIC MOVEMENT

(Shawn Bolz, office@iburn.org, WhiteDove Ministries November 2005 E-Newsletter)

The Scales of Heaven Will Be Established in the Prophetic Movement

God is maturing people quickly and He is accelerating our growth. I believe that He is responding to our hunger that He placed within us by removing every obstacle that would discourage growing in His nature. Part of removing these obstacles is by gaining understanding and wisdom about the history of the prophetic ministry. If we can look back at both the successes and failures then we will gain higher values so as not to repeat mistakes and be able to glory in Him when we succeed.

We can't look over the history of prophetic ministry without seeing huge mistakes and failures, but as Bob Jones has said "If you want the fruit of prophetic ministry you are going to get lots of messy diapers as it grows." This was never an excuse for the failures or sins but it is a perspective builder. The good thing about messy diapers is you can change them.

There is a grace in this season of transition in the body of Christ to separate bad experience with prophetic personalities from the genuine gift of revelation that is being stewarded by many in the body.

The Corner Stone of the Prophetic

The prophetic has always been a ministry of invitation to higher revelation of Jesus. Sometimes this provokes the unsaved to salvation; sometimes it provokes maturity; but it always shows the Lord's nature of love. This is the cornerstone of the prophetic ministry. It becomes easy to measure if someone's revelation is in line with this standard because if they prophecy anything condemning; if they use revelation politically; if they empower revelation that self promotes; it is simple to see the human element amidst the divine.

Calling Us Higher, Past the Second Heavens

I believe, as the Bible outlines, there is the natural realm and there is the heavenly. It is in heavenly places where the angels and demons fulfill their assignments. Biblically, we discover the natural realm of the earth, the heavenly places where principalities, powers,

and rulers of darkness dwell and the third Heaven where we know the apostle Paul directly encountered God.

There is a helpful reason to bring this up although I am not trying to establish a theology. I believe that Satan and other demonic beings can not create or come up with new information. They can only manipulate what they have already heard or known. Therefore, they have become knowledge brokers. They thrive on information because it empowers them to manipulate and destroy.

Therefore all of history is remembered in their celestial minds, along with any current world activities. If one knows it he tells it to another who tells it to another who spreads it to the whole demonic host. Our strengths and weaknesses are known to all of hell. In this way all of history and information of the world is recorded in the second heavens.

How do psychics predict the future? Because God does not hide what He has said! If He speaks to a small church in Illinois when the next hurricane is going to hit, the demonic can knowledge broker to get it to a psychic in New York City. It is not original to them; it is the counterfeit and exploitation of the true birthing of revelation. Oftentimes God does not hide things He is saying; but His nature is hidden from those who would not want to know Him.

Discernment of the Spirit

As Christians we are automatically discerning of spiritual reality. When you look at someone you can sense their heart motives, sense their depth in God, and discern their character and values. This allows you to have a sense of knowing before you even 'know' anyone.

God's Spirit in you relates relevant information through your spiritual grid, and then this causes you to process in a higher way than those who are not discerning. This though, is only common discernment, it is not prophetic ministry. It is the understanding of spiritual issues over someone's life or a city or even a region.

Psychics, witches, pagans, and many other cults find many ways to open up their discernment realm illegally so that they can see into the realm of the second heavens. This is a counterfeit anointing and a rampant problem in our society generating a billion dollar industry. Therefore, since it is a modern problem of large proportions then we as the Church need to understand it and how it functions.

I have seen well known mediums even tell individuals detailed information about a family member that passed away. They will even convey current information about their family members who are still left on earth. Why? Because they discerned or 'saw' in the spirit either a demon who was impersonating the relative or even the history of this

person's life which lays in the spirit realm like a book over them that any spirit can read.

The problem is this can bring no resolution to the person's spirit and only limited resolution to their emotions. They will still go home that night after receiving a reading from a medium or psychic empty as they came and with information that brings no empowering of the divine love of God which is the only thing that really counts.

True Spiritual Resolution

Christians are automatically discerning when they have a fruitful relationship with God. This means we commonly see and discern the spiritual reality even if we don't fully understand why. What makes us different from other discerning religions is that we don't stop with information that may or may not be useful.

We actually get to enter into the Holy of Holies, the place of intimate friendship with God, to hear His heart and what He says about what we are discerning. We can also discern His heart and thoughts about it, bringing us from the common place of discernment to the spiritual gift of discernment.

We are the only beings on earth who can talk to God about His heart and bring true spiritual resolution to spiritual issues. People are trying to become resolved in their heart spending thousands of dollars on counseling, psychiatry, medications, psychics, mediums, etc. Christians can go straight to God and get on a path of true resolution that can heal issues that are rooted in spiritual reality.

I bring to remembrance what Paul encouraged the Corinthians with in 1 Corinthians 14:1:

Follow the way of love and eagerly desire spiritual gifts, especially the gift of prophecy.

This verse is the roadmap for how to pursue prophecy. We follow our heart to heart relationship with God, then pursue the gifts (discernment, wisdom, healing, etc); but especially prophecy that we could hear His heart and know His thoughts.

The difference between common discernment and the gift of discernment or revelation is this; common discernment sees spiritual reality, but revelation speaks into spiritual reality. The prophetic voice of revelation doesn't just speak about information, but speaks God's nature and life into this earth. (On Earth as it is in His heart in Heaven).

The Prophetic Movement Is Being Called from Discernment to Revelation

The prophetic has been born with much frustration in it. Some people are untouched by this frustration but many who have invested time and energy to go to conferences, presbyteries, and places of prophecy have grown increasingly weary. Much of the reason that people get frustrated with prophetic ministry is that the information given is not new or full of life.

I have seen prophetic ministries discern the gifts and callings on someone's life and it births a sense of destiny in that person. I have also seen someone come along after that and just discern what was already spoken by past prophets and say it again and call this prophecy. Prophecy is when you are birthing the very heart of Jesus into a person's life by injecting the DNA of His love into them. This reality empowers them through encouragement, comfort, and edification.

Being able to discern what God has already said can be encouraging. As Christians we can use this information to love one another, but it is on the low scale of the prophetic ministry. This is not what the world is desperate for.

The world wants to see an unveiling of the revelation of Jesus both individually and corporately. This means that God has available friendship for those who would seek Him, to hear His heart in our generation about government, the church, entertainment industry, our families, the weather, etc.

Personal Prophetic Ministry

Back in 1994 I was prophesying over a lady in Tulsa Oklahoma and it was amazing because I wasn't just seeing impressions and having feelings about what I perceived the Lord was saying. I saw a scroll appear over her head and it had everything the Father had ever spoken into her written upon it. I began to read what was already there but I heard the voice of the Spirit say "You don't need to read what I have already written, but say words that write upon that scroll."

I was filled with awe because I knew that my prophetic word was not just reading what had already been laid into her foundation; but I was going to partner with heaven in writing some of His heart over her. As I spoke, I saw the book being written in as I gave her a prophetic word and scriptural validation. She was being empowered to write a book that has now been published and circulated internationally. It was birthed in that one eternal moment.

Our partnering with heaven speaks into that which has not yet come into existence.
Romans 4:17b

"the God who gives life to the dead and calls things that are not as though they were."

God chooses to use those He loves to speak forth creatively into the lives of others and it adds His nature to empower them into being more than they were. This is a picture of personal prophecy. What happens when this gets corporate?

Don't be afraid to pursue prophetic ministry eagerly. God desires to speak to you and through you. When the greater gift is present, the lesser fades into the background!

God is investing Kingdom resources into the development of His heart for the prophetic ministry to come into its next step of maturity. Many conferences, special events, prophetic rooms, teaching materials, etc. are going to be released to bring the revelatory ministries into their next corporate stage of growth.

-23-

WARRIORS OF TRUTH

(By Victoria Boyson, Victoria Boyson Ministries, www.boyson.org)

In prayer, I was shown a vision. In it I saw misguided people who were the enemies of Truth, rallying together to deceive the saints; they were being guided by demonic forces who used them like toys. Great effort was being made by the realms of darkness to bring confusion and to stir up strife among the brethren to break up friendships that gave strength and encouragement to the saints. I saw the enemies of Truth entering the lives of those who have been wounded by rejection and held in bondage by fear. They spoke demonically induced lies with great power to deceive them in their weakened condition.

Ironically, the lies of darkness actually seemed like "real truth" to them and the enemies of Truth seemed like great saints. They appeared as though they were God's answer for the loneliness and pain they were feeling, so they opened their hearts to them. Because they came into agreement with their lies and their love grew painfully cold, they began to attack their brothers and sisters in Christ with accusation and judgment. Consequently, their attacks against them unleashed powers of destruction on the Church.

Just when it seemed that the saints would falter under the heavy assault, I saw the great warriors of heaven rally their armies in preparation to invade earth and dispel the enemies of Truth. They only awaited the command to do so by the saints -- for their cry for help. Under the weight of accusation, the saints began to weep. Their tears unleashed the army of heaven to attack the realms of darkness.

The Judgments of the Lord

It was then that I saw a heavenly warrior filled with great power, radiating a glorious light, entering the home of my enemy. This man had been used by the realms of darkness to rain down curses on my head; he was very jealous and filled with hatred toward me.

However, even though I knew his dislike for me was great, I feared for him because the power of the heavenly warrior was great. I saw the warrior stand before him and draw its

sword, which was enormous and gave off a great light.

I wondered at the sight of what was about to occur and thought, "Can it be God's will to destroy my enemy?"

I heard the warrior speak in answer to the question of my heart and say, "I have been given authority to execute the judgments of the Lord."

Then the warrior, standing over my enemy, raised the sword and thrust it into his heart.

It was difficult for me to watch, because I truly loved my enemy and had prayed for him for a long time. I did not want to see him destroyed. Indeed, I had wept and prayed that he would completely surrender his life to the Lord and not allow the enemy to use him any longer.

The warrior knew the thoughts of my heart and spoke again to me saying, "This sword is the sword of Truth, and will dispel the lies of darkness that have taken over his heart."

"Your Love For this Man Made This Possible for Him"

Then I looked at the sword and saw that, in its radiance, it seemed to be alive and was pulsating. As its large blade rested in my enemy's heart, the Light it held began to fill his body; like melting gold, the Light seeped into his chest.

At first, he lay motionless as if the sword had no effect on him, but then I saw his face cringe as if in pain and I sensed brokenness enter his heart. Sorrow was invading his soul as the truth of his actions was shown to him. The spirit of repentance was dispelling the demonic lies, and darkness was fleeing from him as tears ran down his face.

I looked again to watch the heavenly warrior who had come to execute the judgments of the Lord on my enemy. He watched with determined anticipation as the sword did its work on the man.

Turning to me, the warrior told me, "Your love for this man made this possible for him. I came to him only because you chose to love him in spite of his attacks against you and your family. You chose to love him, and because your Father loves you, He was compelled to touch the man for your sake."

I was shocked! I wept at the words the warrior spoke because I knew that it was only because of my love for Christ that I loved my enemy.

"My Earthly Enemy Was Not My Enemy After All; He Was the Treasure that the Lord Had Longed to Uncover"

In myself, I wanted to hate him. Indeed, I wanted him to suffer as he had made me suffer. My first thoughts at the onslaught of his attacks against me were to call upon God to

execute vengeance against the man. But I saw that the longer I clung to thoughts of judgment toward him, the more distant Christ became to me.

It was only because of my desperate need and love for Christ that I forced myself to pray for him. I asked God to give me love for him, because I simply had none of my own. I had no desire to forgive, but I asked God to give me that as well. And when He had changed my heart, I could honestly say, "I love him" and mean it.

It scared me to remember how easy it would have been for me to condemn the man and how close I came to doing it. It was truly only because Christ loved me that I felt the need to love this man.

Could that one small decision to love and forgive him have brought about his redemption and activated the armies of heaven to fight for him? I was astonished to think that his deliverance at this moment came only because of that one small choice I made to stand with Christ.

Now, I stand in awe as I see the transformation of someone I thought was unredeemable.

I had, in the past, desperately pleaded with God to remove him from my life, so he would no longer have the power to hurt me. I couldn't understand why He wouldn't do it. It was, however, because He wanted to use me to change this man's life, and in the process of helping him, my own heart was transformed as well.

Yes, his redemption has truly changed us both. My earthly enemy was not my enemy after all; he was the treasure that the Lord had longed to uncover, if only I were willing to help Him.

Liberating the Lost

Now I see the warriors of Truth have invaded other lives across the earth as the hearts of the saints have cried out for the souls of men. They are liberating the lost from the darkness that bound them as these saints of Christ cling to the cross of love and hold it high above them in a defiant reply to the attacks of the accuser of the brethren.

The treasured friendships among the saints that seemed hopelessly broken are being miraculously restored, and they have received a greater level of appreciation for one another. The cold love that had tried to force them to fear one another has been flung aside and radical, selfless love has become their war cry!

Darkness had them bound, but THE TRUTH Himself has set them free, and whom the SON sets free is free indeed!

THE GREAT COMMISSION

(By John Arnott, *Catch the Fire Ministries, Toronto Airport Christian Fellowship*,
<http://www.tacf.org> June 7, 2005)

I find myself coming back to the main and plain emphasis of the New Testament and the foundational message of Jesus Christ: His Great Commandment followed by His Great Commission. The Great Commandment is to love, and the Great Commission is to share that love.

When Jesus said, "*Love the Lord with all your heart, soul, mind and strength; and love your neighbor as yourself . . .*" Christ was then and is now calling us to reconnect with the primary values of the kingdom of God. His kingdom is a kingdom of love, ruled by the King of love. And He wants all citizens of that kingdom to be like Him: not hateful, angry, fearful and seeking revenge, but loving, joyful and peaceful. This is where we need healing for the brokenness in our lives by the supernatural power of the Holy Spirit working both sovereignly and through the nurture and love of the body of Christ, the Church.

For years now, Carol and I have been sharing this message because it is an important part of every Christian's foundation. I am still amazed at the profound transformations that occur when people will ask for help, open up their hearts, and let the healing love of God trickle into the deep core pain in their souls. This is one way that we see James 5:16 in operation today. **"Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much."** (NKJV)

I believe that we all need the ministry of loving and experienced pastors and counselors with whom we can confess our faults and become transparent and vulnerable. We all must be humble enough to be willing to share the deep, shameful secrets and pain in the heart, bring them into the light of God's healing love, and break out of the cycle of fear, shame, and control that Satan uses to imprison so many of God's people.

I am also amazed at how many would rather keep their painful secrets hidden than receive help and get free. I beg you, please don't do that. Find a safe place with experienced counselors and let the love of God minister to you through them.

God wants to help you with your pain. Sometimes it will come through a sovereign encounter with God. Other times it will happen through the ministry of brothers and sisters in the body of Christ. And we need both. I have yet to see someone get up following a divine encounter with the Holy Spirit and be perfect.

Sanctification is a lifetime process that involves both instantaneous miracles as well as gradual transformation. It takes a while, even for willing hearts, to become like Jesus.

THE GREAT COMMISSION

Nevertheless, while we live in our current state of imperfection, God is calling us to share the good news of Christ Jesus with a confused, hurting world. This is The Great Commission.

"And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, 'All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age . . .'" Matthew 28:18-20, NKJV

Jesus is sending us out to share and tell the world about His kingdom of love, and we need loving hearts to tell it. He never intended for us to go and tell this wonderful news without first experiencing it ourselves. And He wants us to continue to humbly receive it and give it out throughout the rest of our lives.

He wants to demonstrate the truths of His kingdom with love and power. Jesus offered as positive proof that the kingdom of heaven had come to earth by the fact that it had come into the needs of hurting, desperate people. Heaven was at hand, and so the blind would see, the deaf would hear, and the lame would walk.

When Jesus commissioned the twelve the first time, He instructed them, *"Preach the good news; heal the sick; cleanse the lepers; raise the dead; cast out demons . . ."* He wanted them to both declare and demonstrate the kingdom of heaven to needy people. He wanted people to receive an undeniable, supernatural touch.

It is God's amazing love demonstrated by a release of His power that draws people to Jesus, whether it is the most primitive tribesman or the Wall Street business executive. They become open to receiving the One who loved them so much that He gave -- He literally traded -- His only Son, Jesus Christ, to pay their debt of sin and reconcile us unto Himself. When we believe this, He takes us lovingly into His heart, and true life begins.

The Church today needs to recognize something. People in the West are tired of hearing the claims of the Gospel without seeing a convincing demonstration of God's power and love in their own families. It needs to be personal because then it is undeniable.

The world is waiting for Christians of character and integrity to share the Gospel with power. I believe God wants every believer to demonstrate Jesus Christ to the world with power evangelism combined with prophetic evangelism. If we all do it, we will win the world for Jesus.

Consider **John 14:12, "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father."** (NKJV)

This is the Great Commission. Every believer is to go and not merely tell the stories of long ago and far away events, not merely share the truths and principles taught in the Word of God, but demonstrate them, show forth the miracles of the kingdom, just as Jesus did. He did it by prophetic revelation and by supernatural power, and so must we.

THE GREAT COMMISSION IN OPERATION

Recently, a pastor from London, England, named Sam Larbie spoke at our church. Sam was born in Ghana, West Africa. He was a colonel in the army and went to the U.K. for more training. While Sam was in the U.K., a coup toppled the government in his country, and he had to stay in England. Already a committed Christian, Sam trained for the ministry and became a pastor in the Elim Fellowship of churches. This outpouring of the Holy Spirit touched Sam, and he began to hunger to be able to demonstrate the power of the kingdom of God. During one of our healing conferences, Sam saw that Jesus was calling him to do greater works to demonstrate God's power.

Roger Sapp, one of our speakers, gave a simple prayer model that spoke to Sam. It went like this. "This healing belongs to me because of what Jesus has done on the cross; I receive my healing now as a free gift."

After Sam left the conference, he began to pray this prayer with everyone he encountered, people on airplanes, in shops, or in restaurants. Many were healed instantly, and he promptly led them to Christ. Sam was obeying the Great Commission.

Typically, Sam would open in conversation and very quickly ask his leading question, all the while engaging them with his irresistible, loving smile. "Do you have pain in your body?"

"Yes."

"Then repeat this prayer after me: 'This healing belongs to me because of what Jesus has done (on the cross). I receive my healing now as a free gift.'"

Then Sam would say, "Now check your body. Is the pain gone?"

"Yes."

"Amazing, isn't it? Since Jesus has been on the outside, do you want Him on the inside?"

At this point, he would lead that person in a simple prayer to accept Christ as Lord and Savior. If you think that this sounds too easy, then I challenge you to try it.

Recently, Steve Long, our Senior Associate Pastor at TACF, and I went to Albany, Oregon, for meetings. It was right after we had Sam in our church, and Steve had been challenged by the simplicity and effectiveness of this Great Commission power prayer. As Steve stopped to chat with a lady at the airline security, he decided to ask, "Do you have pain in your body?"

"Why, yes," she replied, "how did you know?"

"I recently took a prophetic course, and now I'm practicing to be a prophet," offered Steve. "May I pray for your pain?"

"Yes," she replied.

"Repeat this prayer after me: 'This healing belongs to me . . . '"

"Wow! That's amazing!" The woman exclaimed. "My back feels great! How did you do that?"

"Well, that was Jesus on the outside of you, healing your body, would you like Him on the inside? . . ."

On that one weekend trip, Steve prayed for and saw healings happen to the airline security person, the housekeeper in the hotel, her husband whom she brought out to the meetings, and a server he encountered during lunch. All but one of them accepted Christ as Savior and invited Jesus into their heart.

Now this is evangelism: We gently confront people with the power of God to love and bless their lives. It is so much easier to accept Christ as Savior when He has just saved your body from severe pain. They reason, "If He can save my body from pain, that helps me believe that he can save my soul from sin and death as well."

What about you? Are you ready to try it? Let God's love heal you and fill you. Let God's power come upon you. Be refilled and baptized in the Holy Spirit. Realize that Jesus is calling you to be like Him in both character and giftedness. Take it by faith, and then experience the reality for yourself. Be filled with all the fullness of God. Drink it in, soak in it, get prayer, and carry His Presence. And now go and give it away.

"But how can I?" you say.

Pray this now: "Oh God, help me. Give me boldness and anointing."

The hardest part for most of us is to get over our timidity and just do it. "Do you have pain in your body?" This is the prophetic demonstration.

"Repeat this prayer after me. 'This healing belongs to me because of what Jesus has done. I receive my healing now.'" All the while, let God's power flow from you into them. That's the power part.

Now you ask them to check their body and, while they are still shocked and amazed, tell them, "That was Jesus on the outside, would you like Him on the inside?"

Then lead them to Jesus. This is love in action. This is the kingdom of God coming to earth, and into the hearts and lives of people.

(Francis Frangipane, internet article, 12-29-04)

The True Foundation: Christlikeness

Christ Himself is the eternal blueprint for our lives. Only in studying Him, in measuring ourselves by Him, do we grow securely upon the foundation of God.

The problem is that, too often, we define ourselves by what we do for God rather than what we become to Him. What pleases the Father most is not what proceeds from our hands but what rises from our hearts. *He is seeking the revelation of His Son in us.*

-26-

DO NOT MAKE COVENANT WITH ANYONE WITHOUT FIRST INQUIRING OF THE LORD

(By Rick Joyner, MorningStar Ministries, www.MorningStarministries.org)

Amazingly, right after Israel absorbed the lessons from Achan's sin and their initial defeat at Ai, the next main event in the conquest of the Promised Land was their deception by the Gibeonites. This, too, was the result of presumption on the part of Israel's leaders. Indeed, presumption is a difficult habit to break.

As we read in **Joshua 9**, when the Gibeonites saw what Israel had done to Ai, they decided to act craftily and deceive Israel in order to spare themselves. They sent envoys to Joshua to make a covenant with Israel. They took old wineskins and stale bread, but they claimed that the wineskins were new and the bread fresh when they left their homes, indicating that they had come from "a far country." But Israel was still concerned that they might live near them. However, it says that they looked at these provisions, "**...and did not ask for the counsel of the Lord,**" (see **Joshua 9:14**) and so made a covenant with them. They soon learned that they had been fooled and that the Gibeonites actually lived very close by, right in the middle of their land. However, because of their covenant, they could do nothing about it.

Of course no one could blame the Gibeonites for this, but Israel now had a very serious problem. Israel had been commanded not to leave any of the inhabitants in the land because they would become a snare to them. They had now violated this basic command of the Lord because of their presumption in making a covenant with the Gibeonites without inquiring of the Lord first. This was a major presumption since they had a covenant with

the Lord. Whatever covenant they made with someone would also obligate the Lord, and therefore should never have been done without His permission.

Since We are also a Covenant People with the Lord, Should this Not Also Apply to Us?

Of course it does. This is why a Christian should never enter into a contract or covenant with anyone without first inquiring of the Lord. We bring many unnecessary troubles on ourselves by entering into agreements without consulting the Lord first. The Lord can obviously see things we cannot, and He will give us direction and counsel if we seek Him. To not do this is an affront to our covenant with Him.

The second great lesson from this incident with the Gibeonites is that when we begin to inherit our promises, watch out for those who come with stale bread and old wineskins.

Of course, the stale bread speaks of teaching that is no longer fresh, and old wineskins are those who are so rigid and inflexible that they cannot contain the expanding, changing nature of the new wine of the Spirit.

As could be expected, right after Israel made the covenant with the Gibeonites, Gibeon was attacked and Israel had to fight their battle for them. Even though the Lord performed a great miracle for Joshua by causing the sun to stand still so that he could completely defeat the Amorites, it still did not mean that this was the best thing for Israel. The Lord **"causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, who are called according to His purpose" (Romans 8:28)** but that does not mean this is the best. We should not consider that just because something turns out well that it was the best thing. It was not right for Israel to have made that covenant, and it is not right for us to do this either, even though the Lord will still intervene on our side, making it turn out okay.

When you start to experience the victories and possess your promises, many will want to join with you, and they will want you to fight their battles for them. This can be a major diversion.

Even though the Lord is with us and will always cause things to work out for good, this can lead us far from our own calling and purpose.

Do not make any covenant or agreement with anyone without first inquiring of the Lord, especially with those who have stale bread and old wineskins.

FINANCIAL MIRACLES

(By Bill Yount, www.billyount.com, theshofarhasblown@juno.com)

"I HEARD THE FATHER SHOUTING HILARIOUSLY, 'I'M BUYING...IT'S ON ME!'"

For some "only-God-knows" reason, all of Heaven seemed to be intoxicated as though staggering under the influence of an overwhelming joy that was shaking every mansion in glory! I hate to compare heaven with a drunk, but have you ever seen someone so full of wine and, while he is under the "influence," he shouts aloud to everyone in the house, "I'm buying...It's on me!" Someone may ask him at that moment, "Why?" And he answers, "Just because I want to!" He wouldn't do this under normal conditions, but the condition of being beside himself for that moment caused him to become a hilarious giver who could not be reckoned with.

It was as though something was causing the Father's heart to skip under the influence of 'joy unspeakable and full of glory' as I heard Him shout to the earth, "I'm buying...It's on Me!" I sensed He was sovereignly choosing to release and transfer heavenly finances and riches onto the earth to answer long awaited cries for provision to do His will in the earth! The Father kept repeating the phrase hilariously, "I'm buying...It's on Me! I'm buying bicycles, airplanes, airwaves, and nations. I'm buying dreams to come true for My people! I'm buying anything that my people can't afford in order that they may fulfill their calling and destiny! One scripture seemed to become rhema, piercing poverty, doubt, and unbelief...***"He has given commandment to bless and He has blessed and I cannot reverse it!"***

THIS IS THE HOUR FOR FINANCIAL MIRACLES UPON THE EARTH!

I heard the Father proclaiming over the earth to His people, "Don't look to the heathen and wait for their riches and wealth to be transferred to you! That makes me jealous! Look to me! I will use the heathen to bless you, but only as you look to me. First you must taste and receive of My riches in Glory that I have for you. No wealth on earth can compare to mine."

Another scripture seemed to be activated this hour in the heavens and the earth, ***"But my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in Glory by Christ Jesus!"*** I then saw what appeared to be a "bank teller" angel picking up the key to Heaven's bank. I then heard the Father say to the angel, "Open it up and empty it out upon the earth! This is the hour for financial miracles upon the earth!" As this bank began to empty itself upon the earth, I saw it filling up again as it was emptying out. I couldn't believe it at first. What was filling Heaven's bank up again so it could continue to be emptied upon the saints, and even sinners, was simply the words "thank you!" When a blessing from heaven came to earth, no matter how big or small it appeared to be, the words "Thank you!" would push provision out of heaven's bank onto the earth and it would flow back toward the person who was being thankful for what they had received.

I sensed that those two words, "Thank you!" was what may have caused heaven to reel and stagger like a drunken man, as the Father came under the influence of a joy that only comes from the earth that intoxicates all of heaven! I sensed the Father asking one of the angels, "Was that a 'thank you' from earth that I just heard?" The angel responded, "That 'thank you' came up by faith not by their feeling or sight. But that one is causing your heart to skip a beat and your heart monitor is going crazy!"

THANKFULNESS CONTINUES THE BLESSINGS

I sense that this spirit of giving being released in the area of financial blessings onto the earth is being sovereignly activated by the Father simply, "Just because I want to!" But what seemed to continue the ongoing blessings, once they were released this hour, was being thankful.

Giving thanks to God our Father when your brother or sister gets blessed before you do. Giving thanks to the Father of all mercies when God chooses to bless your enemy first instead of you! Be thankful. What I saw coming is so awesome, it is enough for all of us to receive.

Again I hear the Father full of joy, joy, joy down in His heart shouting, "I'm buying...It's on Me! Just because I want to!"

DOCTRINES

(Written by David Miller, <http://www.northbrookbc.org>)
(Comments by Francis Frangipane, www.frangipane.org)

DOCTRINES OF: BRICK WALL, PICKET FENCES, BACK YARD AND OF THE CLOSET

David Miller is the senior pastor of Northbrook Baptist Church in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. For over a decade He has been a close friend to Pastor Frangipane and is also a member of the local minister's group that prays together in Linn County.

DOCTRINE AND UNITY

I often feel as if I am being squeezed between two sets of friends. On the one hand, I have theological friends. They value truth, Biblical doctrine -- the meat of God's Word. In a world sowed with Satan's lies, God's Word is our arbiter of truth. It is an anchor that holds us steady, a rudder to guide us, a lamp to light the way. If we abandon the deep things of God's Word, we will be easily fooled and led astray by the enemy's deception. When the pulpit proclaims the deep things of God's Word and the people are firmly grounded in His truth, Christians will grow strong, discern truth from error, and will understand God's will. For the church to function properly, they say, it must maintain doctrinal purity. And I agree with them!

I have other friends for whom the highest value is the unity of the body of Christ. Jesus died to redeem one body, they say, not many. On the night before He died, Jesus prayed that His disciples would be one. Schism in the body of Christ grieves the heart of God and is a personal affront to the blood Christ shed for the church. Besides, they point out, many of the doctrines we divide over really don't matter that much. Why should the church be fractured over petty doctrinal differences? God wants a unified church. And I agree with them!

And that is why I am torn. I love to study God's word in depth and teach it expositionally. I think Christians without a firm grounding in the Scripture are swimming in shark-infested waters. It is folly to reject doctrine in a world of lies. I am amazed at the persistent unwillingness among some to exercise Biblical, doctrinal discernment. But I also see, among us "doctrinal" folks, a sometimes petty, critical nature. Some drop the h-bomb (heretic) on anyone who does not agree with any point of their cherished creed or doctrinal system. There is a superiority of attitude among us, the kind of schismatic behavior that Paul condemned in 1 Corinthians 11.

I would like to propose a middle ground, one that cherishes doctrine without disdain for unity in the body of Christ. Paul, in 1 Corinthians 15, identified the facts of the gospel (the death and resurrection of Christ) as "of first importance." Does not that imply that there are other doctrines that are of second importance? They are important, but not as important as salvation. Is my view of baptism, or the second coming, or of church polity, as important as whether I hold a Biblical view of salvation? Can we maintain doctrinal purity without fracturing the unity of the body Christ died for? I believe we can.

FOUR LEVELS OF DOCTRINE

I propose that there are four general levels of doctrinal truth. For each level, there is an appropriate "unity response" -- a way of dealing with those who would disagree. It is important that we understand each level and respond appropriately.

LEVEL ONE: BRICK WALL DOCTRINE

There is some truth around which we must construct a brick wall of separation and protection. Jude 3 says, ***"Dear friends, although I was very eager to write to you about the salvation we share, I felt I had to write and urge you to contend for the faith that was once for all entrusted to the saints."***

There is some doctrine which we must contend for, even to the point of separation. God's word is a sword, and swords divide. There are some doctrines that all must believe. If you do not believe them, you have denied the faith. There can be no unity in the body of Christ with those whose doctrines threaten the very existence of that body.

Some Christians are unwilling to admit that this level of truth even exists. But doctrines of first importance must be contended for in uncompromising measure. What are those doctrines? I would use 1 Corinthians 15 as a guide.

Paul identifies the facts of the death and resurrection of Christ as of first importance. So, "Brick Wall" doctrine is that truth which is essential to the gospel of Christ. If you question the authority of God's Word, the foundation of the gospel crumbles. Salvation is grounded in a Biblical view of a sovereign, triune God. There is no compromise on these doctrines. Salvation by grace through faith alone -- the exclusivity of salvation through Christ -- is essential doctrine. The fact of Christ's return to judge the world is necessary. Around these doctrines we must erect a brick wall -- tall and thick. Those who deny these truths are not brothers in Christ. They are wolves among the sheep. We do not fellowship with them, we contend with them.

LEVEL TWO: PICKET FENCE DOCTRINE

A picket fence is a friendly way of separating neighbors. It is not a brick wall that divides, it just establishes boundaries. You chat over the fence, have picnics together, watch over each other's homes, and value the neighborhood you share. Around many doctrines we do not need a brick wall, but a simple picket fence.

Imagine if there was only one church in your city. How (and who) would you baptize? What form of church government would you use? Would you practice tongues or not? Instead of fighting over these issues, we form a "Christian neighborhood." Around the neighborhood is the brick wall of protection. Inside the neighborhood we have picket fences. We chat over the fence, fellowship together, watch over and bless each other, and value our unity in Christ.

Yet, we keep the picket fence. We Baptists can baptize believers, have deacons, and vote on everything. The Presbyterians can sprinkle babies. The Bible churches can have elders. The charismatics can speak in tongues and prophesy. The Methodists can methodize. We can all follow our convictions on our side of the picket fence. We try to be good neighbors, have as

much fellowship as we can, then go back to our homes to follow Christ according to our beliefs.

There is a church less than a quarter mile from us. There are few doctrines (other than the basics of salvation) on which we would agree. Recently, they wanted to baptize some new Christians, but their building has no baptistery. We opened our doors and filled the tub. Neither of us compromised our doctrine, but we opened the gate in our picket fence, and had the neighbors over for a visit.

EXAMPLES OF PICKET FENCE DOCTRINES

So, what doctrines are Picket Fence Doctrines? First would be beliefs about church structure and polity. Infant or believer's baptism? Deacons, Elders, ruling pastors? Congregational rule, elder rule, hierarchical rule? Why fight these doctrines? I am Baptist by birth, but also by conviction. I believe the Bible teaches baptism by immersion of believers. But I don't have to hate those who sprinkle babies. I can open the Scriptures and show them what I see there, but until Christ comes again, we are going to have differences of interpretation in the Christian neighborhood.

It is considered a truism that denominations are divisive and evil. I disagree. As long as they are only picket fences in the Christian neighborhood, they allow us to practice our beliefs without having to fight every issue. It is when we erect brick walls of separation around our denominational differences that the problem comes. But the picket fences allow us to maintain friendship while following our individual convictions.

Some major doctrines that may require picket fences: Calvinists and Arminians view so many things differently. The question of God's sovereignty in salvation has been the watershed doctrine that has divided the church. Though I am opposed to Arminian doctrine, I know many who hold those views and have a passion for Christ equal or greater than my own. So what do we do? We stand at the picket fence and lovingly try to convince one another of our position. When the discussion is over, we shake hands and return to our homes where we worship with the folks who believe as we do.

It is not that these doctrines do not matter. They are crucial. But I must, in humility, recognize that it is possible for someone to be a good Christian who loves Jesus and still comes to a different position than I do on these issues. If someone preaches universalism, I erect a brick wall. No fellowship. There can be no unity with wolves. But if someone disagrees with me on election or predestination, we maintain a friendship over the picket fence.

So, the Christian neighborhood is surrounded by a brick wall that protects us from the wolves, the spiritual predators. Inside that wall, we live in unity. Each of us has our own home, separated by picket fences, but we work hard to build a unified community inside the brick wall. I may not worship at First Assembly, or River of Life, or New Covenant, or Calvary Baptist, but I can still recognize them as my Christian neighbors.

LEVEL THREE: BACKYARD DOCTRINE

Even if you live in the same home, you don't always agree about everything. You sit on your deck in the backyard and talk about all kinds of things. Every doctrine of Scripture is important. It is important to figure out how the world will end. We can debate the North and South Galatian theories and who wrote the book of Hebrews. We may sit in the backyard and talk about these things, but they do not affect our fellowship and we should never divide over

them. Not even a picket fence is needed.

The most obvious example of backyard doctrine is eschatology. Our church has dispensational premillennial pretribulationists (wow -- that's a mouthful), premillennial posttribulationists and Amillennialists. Who knows, maybe there is a postmillennialist hiding behind a pew somewhere. I think this doctrine matters. Every Christian should study Scripture and decide what he believes. But I can see no reason why eschatology should be a point of fellowship.

If a doctrine affects salvation, erect a brick wall. If it affects the fellowship or functioning of the church, erect a friendly picket fence. But if the doctrine affects neither, then sit in the backyard talking about it, but never let it become a point of division.

LEVEL FOUR: CLOSET DOCTRINE

A closet is a place of privacy. Some things I believe, I should just keep to myself. I should follow the Lordship of Christ and permit other Christians to do the same. In the early church, the question was whether a Christian should eat meat sacrificed to an idol. Paul told the Romans and Corinthians that each of us can follow our own conscience under Christ, and keep our opinions to ourselves. In 1 Corinthians 8 through 10, and in Romans 14 and 15, Paul spent a long time explaining this principle of personal freedom to his churches.

For us, the issues are observing the Sabbath (or what day to observe it), or taking a glass of wine, or going to the movies, or dietary preferences, or . . . the list is long. Paul commands that those who say no on disputable issues should not condemn those who say yes and those who say yes should not disdain those who say no. Each of us seeks to be obedient to Christ on these matters and allows others to do the same. We also should be willing to limit our freedom to be a blessing to others.

THREE FINAL CONSIDERATIONS

First, each of us must study the Word of God and try to assign each doctrine to its proper category. We will not always agree where doctrines fit, but with the Spirit's guidance, we can uphold doctrine without sacrificing unity. Here are the questions I would ask. Is this doctrine essential to the salvation offered by God in Christ? If it is, then erect a brick wall around it. Is this doctrine essential to the fellowship or functioning of our church? If so, then erecting a picket fence is needed. If the doctrine affects neither salvation nor fellowship, no fence is needed at all.

Second, great damage is done to the purity of the church when doctrines are moved to lower levels than they deserve. If we compromise fundamental doctrine for the "unity of the church," we endanger the very nature of the church. We cannot treat important doctrines like matters of personal conscience. If we do, we sin against the Lord who bought us.

Third, great damage is done to the unity of the body when doctrines are moved to a higher level than they deserve. I saw a bumper sticker recently: "If it ain't King James, it ain't Bible." Here is someone who is making the choice of a Bible version a test of faith. Something that should be left to category 3 or 4 is being moved up to category 1. That fractures the body of Christ. I should not question someone's Christian commitment because they believe the church will go through the tribulation or because they speak in tongues or baptize infants. I cannot treat these issues as if they were in category 1. If I do, I offend the blood of Christ that was shed to redeem One Body.

Some issues, I should keep to myself and allow you to do the same. Around other issues, I erect a picket fence. We can have deep friendships in the Christian neighborhood, even if we maintain separate homes. Around certain issues, I must erect a brick wall. Luther said, "Here I stand, I can do no other." There are doctrines worth contending for.

Lord, help us to always know which truth fits in which category, so that the Christian neighborhood can be protected from its enemies and still experience the unity you desire.

-29-

POSITIONED FOR WAR

(By James W. Goll , *Encounters Network*, www.JamesGoll.com)

-Tips to Defeat Your Enemy-

THE BOOK OF WARS -- Numbers 21:14

(Numbers 21:14, KJV) "Wherefore it is said in the book of the wars of the LORD, what he did in the Red sea, and in the brooks of Arnon . . . "

There are several different books mentioned in the Bible: the book of remembrance, the book of tears, the book of martyrs, and the book of wars.

This book of wars is a book not yet finished; therefore, we have the opportunity to help write chapters within it, as we wage war ushering in the Kingdom of Light.

Battles always precede the advancement of new beginnings and new levels.

The church in metamorphosis is like a beautiful butterfly coming from the chrysalis -- emerging from the hiding place of darkness, coming forth into the brilliant beauty of His great presence.

OTHER KEY VERSES:

- **(Isaiah 43:2, KJV) "When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shall not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee."**

- **(Psalm 138:7-8, KJV) "Though I walk in the midst of trouble thou wilt revive me."**

WHO IS THE REAL ENEMY?

- **(Ephesians 6:12 KJV) "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places."**
- **(Amplified Version) "For we are not wrestling with flesh and blood [contending only with physical opponents], but against the despotisms (an absolute ruler, absolute in power, a tyrant), against the powers, against [the master spirits who are] the world rulers of this present darkness, against the spirit forces of wickedness in the heavenly (supernatural) sphere."**
- **(JB Phillips Translation) "For our fight is not against any physical enemy: it is against organizations and powers that are spiritual. We are up against the unseen power that controls this dark world, and spiritual agents from the very headquarters of evil."**

SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS TO REMEMBER:

- You are born in battle and born for battle.
- Your battle is not against your spouse, children, or your boss but against spiritual forces.
- True spiritual warfare is centered on the placement of the Son.

WHY DOES SATAN OPPOSE YOU?

The devil opposes you because you are the pleasure of God (Revelation 4:11).

WHAT ARE SATAN'S FAVORITE WEAPONS?

1. **Delay:** Weaken your desire to keep you from reaching to God. It's like coming under the fog of fatigue and losing your way.
2. **Deceit:** Satan is the master of deception and seduction, sowing principles of the spirit but making them into legalism.
3. **Distraction:** Broken focus (Proverbs 4:27). Our times of greatest intimacy can be our highest times of spiritual warfare.

4. **Disappointment:** from others, self, church, God, etc. The enemy attempts to magnify the weakness of others to offend and embitter. Those closest to you have the potential to wound you the most.

WHEN DOES THE ENEMY SEEM TO HIT THE HARDEST?

Eight Specific Times of Spiritual Attacks

1. Physical exhaustion.
2. Major changes especially in geographic relocation. Crisis occurs on the eve of change.
3. The birth of a child destined for prophetic greatness. (Matthew 2:13)
4. A murderous scheme to attack a prophetic generation:
 - *Moses with Pharaoh*
 - *Jesus with Herod*
 - *This generation with abortion*
5. When a specific miracle has just left the hand of God toward you.
6. When you take a stand. The degree of intensity in spiritual warfare is often proportional to the plan that you possess.
7. When you are next in line for promotion.
8. Cyclic seasons -- Satan came to Jesus seeking to entice and enslave him, but left for a more opportune time.

~30~

STAKING CLAIM IN THE FUTURE

(Chuck D. Pierce, Glory of Zion International Ministries, www.glory-of-zion.org, April 20, 2006)

From Passover To Pentecost--Staking Your Claim For The Future And Opening Supply Lines

Dear Friends and Devoted Warriors:

Remember, we are still in the process of coming full circle. We are also still in a war season. So do not slack up, but be vigilant and keep boldly going into the Throne Room.

Last year was our "hurricane year" when God was blowing down from Heaven and stirring up the waters of revival. This year is the year of Heaven and earth connecting, and staking our claim in the midst of the whirlwind. That is why we must pay attention to all the tornados that are happening in the Midwest. When you see a state filled with tornados, know that is a revival center God is looking at. This prayer focus will help us move from Passover to Pentecost.

The purpose of this prayer focus is to bring us from a place of “leaving the old season by crossing over and staking claim to our future.” This prayer focus will also confront us with the necessity of unlocking and realigning our emotions, so the function of our “expectation” is restored and receptive from Holy Spirit. This will cause our vision to be redefined and established. **“Without a vision (prophetic revelation and utterance) a people perish”**.

This prayer focus will take us into the Feast of Weeks, or as Christians know and remember, Pentecost. One key aspect of understanding the shift from the Church season to Kingdom expression is the need to unlock the supply lines for our future. This will entail warring to break the conformity of our thinking processes, and it will entail developing a harvest mentality. This will also include understanding the dynamic of warring with structures that would stop the transference of wealth. I decree that after doing this prayer focus your “end will be greater than your beginning”. The Prayer Focus is in five 10-day segments that include:

- 10 Days of Crossing Over to Press into Your Promise
- 10 Days of Decreeing Your Land or Boundaries will Rejoice
- 10 Days of Developing an Expectation for the Future
- 10 Days of Restoring, Redefining and Establishing Vision
- 10 Days of Warring for Increase and the Transference of Wealth

Why This Timing? Why The Feasts?

The Word of God revolves around the Feasts. They were holy assemblies for holy rehearsals. The remembrance of these physical events causes us to understand the spiritual significance of what came and what is to come! The Feasts forecasted His sacrifice for us. Also, they foretell the full redemption of His people and the alignment of all nations, which are His inheritance. When we participate in the waving of the First Fruits at Passover time and then receive the anointing to gather and increase at Pentecost (Feast of Weeks), our faith is displayed and our confidence rises for our provision to be released.

Today, there is a futility in legalistically participating in the Feasts. We cannot legalistically keep the Feasts, but we can honor the Father by remembering Him and receiving from Him at these appointed times (**Galatians 3:10**). No longer do we have to seek an ultimate Sacrifice-- He was given on the Cross. This broke Satan's headship over us personally, as well as mankind corporately. However, we must “enter in” to the fullness of this plan. By participating and remembering the Feast times NOW, they cease to be shadows of things to come. They actually cause us to see our future path to our promise.

May you eat the Word below, and journey closer to His plan of Fullness for your life. **Psalm 34 says, “Taste and see that the Lord is good.”**

10 Days of Crossing Over to Press Into Your Promise

Day 1: Read **Genesis 11-13; Luke 14:25-33**. All Biblical understanding revolves around covenant. Notice in these passages, Abram came out of one societal structure and began his journey of faith. He then left his halfway mark and family ties to receive God's Promise. Notice also how he received prophecy from the Lord along the way. Retrace your journey. Make sure you have not stopped halfway to your “there.” This is a year to be positioned properly.

Day 2: Read **Genesis 14-17; John 2:23,24**. Abram becomes Abraham. The more we come into agreement with the Lord's plan and follow Him, the more we reflect His identity for us. Notice in **Genesis 14:13** that Abram is referred to as the Hebrew, “the one who crosses

over.” Because we are grafted into the Abrahamic covenant, we are a people who are constantly crossing over. When Abram went to war and gave to Melchizedek, God made covenant with him. He moved from promise and prophecy into covenant alignment. Be sure you keep going! Confess the sin of any time you have resisted moving forward.

Day 3: Read **Exodus 2:23-25 and Exodus 3**. Cry out for your future, and watch the Lord acknowledge your cry. He will then start your deliverance process which includes plundering the enemy’s camp. Ask Him to deliver you from any oppression or hard labor that the enemy has unjustly put upon you.

Day 4: Read **Exodus 6 and Exodus 12-14**. Find your place in the army. The Lord brought them out by armies. Decree that anything that has blocked your way will be removed. Do a faith exercise: extend your hand and decree that your way will open up.

Day 5: Read **Exodus 15-16, Matthew 14:13-21, and Revelation 15**. Rejoice and sing the song of the Lord. Thank the Lord for your deliverance. Meditate on the song of Moses. The suffering covenant people sang this at their time of deliverance; we as Christians will sing it again. Thank Him for all the provision that you are receiving. Even if it is “wilderness” provision, thank Him! Let Him take what you have and break it open and multiply it.

Day 6: Read **Exodus 20 & 23, Matthew 17:5 and 28:20**. These are key chapters in understanding justice. Ask the Lord to give you revelation of Feast times. This will cause you to understand God’s timing for your life, as well as unlocking supply. Ask Him to make you aware of angelic visitation and leading. Confess as sin those times when you were resistant to being led properly. Ask Him about a First Fruit offering for the Feast of Pentecost. Much promise will be unlocked to you in these chapters.

Day 7: Read **Joshua 3-5**. These are chapters on preparation, and how to follow (the ark and the priests) into your future. Let me suggest a day of fasting. Focus on your place of crossing over for this season. Also, ask the Lord about those who you have relationship with that are helping you move forward. Let the Lord revive your life by re-circumcising your heart. So many of us hang onto last season’s provision. Declare that new provision will begin. The manna ceased, and they had to learn to use the provision in their Promised Land. This allowed them to reinstate the Feast of Passover to get them back on track. They were unable to do Passover for 40 years since all they had was manna and quail. God changes our provision many times to get us back in synch with His full plan. Get ready to face that thing that has always seemed invincible to you.

Day 8: Read **Matthew 14:22-36, John 6, and Exodus 33**. Be willing to cross over into the place the Lord is calling you. You might want to pull aside into a quiet place to really seek Father. Declare that you will not move forward without sensing His presence.

Day 9: Read **Acts 12 and Esther 9**. Memorize **Philippians 2:27**. Ask the Lord to do a new thing in your prayer life. The beheading of James was during Passover. Ask the Lord to hide you from the religious world. Many times our past failures propel us into a whole new fervency of prayer. Pray and ask God for angelic help to come down, so you can move into the next season. Make a declaration that every decree that is set against you will be exposed and overturned, and that you will advance.

Day 10: Read **Ephesians 1-4**. Recognize your condition as well as your position. Thank Him for the change that Holy Spirit has brought you. Thank Him for His love that has gotten you through so many situations. Thank Him that we are maturing into the fullness of His plan.

Look at the government of the Church. Jesus ascended to Heaven to take His throne next to Father. He gives us access. Ask the Lord to be sure your gift is aligned corporately.

I would like for you to build in a day of reflection and meditation in each 10 day prayer focus to write your observations.

Blessings,

Chuck D. Pierce
Glory of Zion International Ministries
www.glory-of-zion.org

-31-

THE SOUND OF THE LORD

(Paul L. Cox, Aslan's Place, www.AslansPlace.com, December 29, 2005)

(Comments by Steve Shultz, ElijahList.com)

STEVE SHULTZ:

Much has been prophesied in recent years that a new sound would be coming into/onto the Church.

We may now be starting to see how this could happen. In this article (which may stretch you, I'll admit), you will see how God works through sound and vibration in both the natural and the supernatural.

No one ever said that Seers and Prophetic people were the most normal acting people on earth! (smiling). Such is the case with my good friend, Paul Cox.

Read this slowly and carefully, and see what you might glean from the Spirit!

PAUL COX:

Years ago, God taught me a valuable lesson. After raising three children in our own home, my wife, Donna, and I had lost almost everything. God had stripped us of much of our material possessions, and we'd moved into a very small apartment with the only things we had left: a small loveseat, our bed, and an entertainment center.

Over and over, it seemed that we were required to die completely to the world. But then, the Lord began to return everything that had been lost, and it began with a large financial gift which was more than I'd ever received in a year as an American Baptist pastor. The same donor also gave us two additional large gifts. Invited to meet with our benefactor for a meal,

we traveled to the San Francisco Bay area with great anticipation of a wonderful time together. Imagine our surprise when the first words out of his mouth were, "I don't know why I gave you all that money. You've not helped either me or my son."

Now, that's a real "squasher" to a good meal. I still remember that sinking feeling--like, "oh, I need to get out of here." He later denied making such a statement, but Donna and I both heard it. We returned to the home where we were staying, and there was a prophet there (now, never hang out with prophets as they can be very annoying). Donna went right to bed--she'd had it--and I looked awful. I told the Lord, "I do this because of the fruit, and now, there's no fruit." But then, my annoying prophet-friend said to me, "You know what the Lord is trying to tell you." I said, "No, I don't." Back and forth we went:

"Yes, you do."

"No, I don't."

"Yes, you do," until I finally admitted that I do know, and that the reason I do what I do is obedience to God, not because of the fruit that results.

With that experience in mind, I offer this account of new, God-given revelation out of obedience. It is written in faith that He will use it for His honor and glory. First, a little background. . .

"Palmoni"

We spent New Year's 2001 with a group of pastors in Hawaii. During that time, the Lord gave me a prophetic word (something that doesn't happen routinely) that revival in Hawaii would begin in 2004. As soon as the word was spoken, I wondered, "Why did I say that?" I was very relieved when I learned that this was not the first time such a word had been received. Subsequently, I was invited to come back to Hawaii for New Year's 2004. So, we returned to Hawaii and thoroughly enjoyed the massive holiday celebration. Then, two days later, on Sunday morning, I woke up and realized that my body was vibrating. We went to church, and I spoke to a friend who reported that, sure enough, he was vibrating too.

Not understanding what was happening, I called one of our intercessors in Minnesota. And she said she thought that I was vibrating at 7 hertz per second, but she didn't understand what it meant either. Several weeks later, the frequency had increased to 14 Hz, and some time later, it increased to 48 Hz. Finally, at a conference in May, I topped out at 440 Hz, the same frequency at which I vibrate now. Again I called our intercessor, and she got the word "Palmoni." Interestingly, I'd just been reading *The Bible Code* by Chuck Missler, and he mentioned Palmoni (which means "a numberer of secrets") as a Greek reference to "that certain one" in **Daniel 8:13: "Then, I heard a holy one speaking; and another holy one said to that certain one who was speaking. . . "**

It was time for some research on vibrations, and I soon discovered some amazing things. It seems the earth is wrapped in a donut-shaped magnetic field with circular lines of magnetic flux that continually descend and emerge into the north and south poles. The ionosphere, acting as an electromagnetic wave conductor 62 miles above the earth, consists of a layer of electrically charged particles that act as a shield from solar winds.

Natural waves are created as a result of electrical activity in the atmosphere, which is thought to be caused by electrical storms. Collectively, these waves are called the *Shuman Resonance*,

with the strongest current registering at 7.8 Hz. Remember, I was vibrating at 7 Hz in the beginning--in other words, I was vibrating with the earth. But we're not meant to vibrate with the earth; we're supposed to be in sync with the Lord.

Bodily Effects Of Vibrations

Even more amazing is the fact that there are 64 basic elements in the ground that modulate, and they are the same basic 64 elements that are in our blood. There is a relationship between our blood and geomagnetic waves. The body vibrates normally, and in fact, there have been scientific studies that prove this. In 2004, an article in the *International Journal of Sports Medicine* stated that when vibrations were applied very rapidly to muscles, muscles could be exercised to the same degree as if regularly exercised over a two-week period.

Next, I was given a copy of *Molecules of Emotion* by Candice B. Pert, a medical doctor/researcher with the National Institute of Health. She states:

*The first component of the molecules of emotion is a molecule found on the surface of the cell in the body and brain called the **opiate receptor**. The term "receptor" was used to refer to this hypothetical body component which allowed the drug to attach itself and thereby, in some mystical way, initiate a cascade of physiological changes. The more flexible molecules respond to chemical clues by vibrating. They wiggle, shimmy, and even hum as they change from one shape to another, often moving back and forth between two or three favorite shapes or conformations.*

In the organism, they are always found attached to a cell floating on the surface, oily outer boundary, or membrane. Receptors have roots enmeshed in the fluid membrane, snaking back and forth across it several times, and reaching deep into the interior of the cell. Basically, receptors function as sensing molecule scanners. Just as our eyes, ears, nose, tongue, fingers, and skin act as sensor organs, so too do the receptors only on a cellular level. They hover in the membranes of your cells, dancing and vibrating, waiting to pick up messages carried by other vibrating little creatures also made out of amino acids which come cruising along, perfusing the fluid surrounding the cell. We like to describe these receptors as keyholes, although that is not altogether a precise term for something that is constantly moving and dancing in an erratic, vibrating way.

If We Can Vibrate With God, We Can Be Healthy

In other words, this molecule on the cell is the receptor that makes you feel better when you take certain medications. The Bible says that all creation is groaning (a vibration) because of the fall, but it is waiting for the revealing of the sons of God. We need to stop vibrating with the fallen creation and go back to where we were created to be. This is not New Age mumbo jumbo--it's scientific fact, and if we can vibrate with God, we can be healthy. As it is, we're all messed up because of the fall. Dr. Pert continues:

So if the flow of molecules is not directed by the brain, and the brain is just another natural point in the network, then we must ask where does the intelligence--the information that runs our body and mind--come from? We know that information has an infinite ability to expand and increase, and that it is beyond time and space, matter, and energy. Therefore, it cannot belong to the material world we apprehend with our senses, but must belong to its

own realm, one that can experience as emotion in the mind and the spirit. Others call it God.

It is a scientific fact that our emotions are tied to something outside of ourselves.

What is it that flows between us all, linking and communicating, coordinating and integrating our many points?

It's the emotions.

The emotions are the connectors flowing between individuals, moving among us as empathy, compassion, sorrow, and joy. I believe that the receptors on our cells even vibrate in response to the extra corporal peptide, reaching a phenomena that is analogous to the strings of a resting violin resonating when another violin's strings are played.

That's called resonance. You can strum a guitar in the key of C and another guitar will start vibrating in the same key. Dr. Pert is saying that we are so connected that we actually are affecting each other but that there's also something outside all of us that is affecting us.

We call this emotional resonance, and it is a scientific fact that we can feel what others feel. The oneness of all life is based on this simple reality--the molecules of emotion are all vibrating together.

God Shows Up!

So, if indeed we are all vibrating together, what are we vibrating with?

Another scientific fact that should be mentioned is Superstring Theory. In physics, this is called the theory of everything--it's the theory that goes beyond quantum physics. Quantum physics examines power packs--the atoms, the nucleus, etc. Mathematicians have found that there are some math problems that cannot be solved with quantum physics. However, Superstring Theory solves them, and the basic conclusion is that behind all matter is vibration. This is Biblical. God spoke (speech is actually vibration), and matter came into existence. So, behind everything we see that's physical, there is vibration (beginning with the vibration of the voice of God).

Next, the Lord began giving us some scriptural insight into this vibration phenomenon. During a tent meeting in Idyllwild, CA, the worship leader asked me if I remembered 2 Chronicles 5. I replied affirmatively and commented that it's an account of the dedication of Solomon's temple--I'd even preached sermons on it. Have you ever read something in the Bible but not really noticed what it said? As I looked more closely at the passage, I realized this is amazing! The words were right there--the same as ever--but I'd never seen them this way before.

"And it came to pass when the priests came out of the Most Holy Place (for all the priests who were present had sanctified themselves, without keeping to their divisions), and the Levites who were the singers, all those of Asaph and Heman and Jeduthun, with their sons

and their brethren, stood at the east end of the alter, clothed in white linen, having cymbals, stringed instruments and harps, and with them one hundred and twenty priests sounding with trumpets--indeed it came to pass, when the trumpeters and singers were as one, to make one sound to be heard in praising and thanking the Lord, and when they lifted up their voice with the trumpets and cymbals and instruments of music, and praised the Lord, saying, 'For He is good, for His mercy endures forever,' that the house, the house of the Lord, was filled with a cloud, so that the priests could not continue ministering because of the cloud: for the glory of the Lord filled the house of God."
--2 Chronicles 5:11-14, NKJV

Let's examine this passage: notice the phrase in verse 11, "***without keeping to their divisions.***" Priests in the Old Testament were set up to minister in 24 divisions and would serve in teams, each division was for two weeks, for a total of 48 weeks. The remaining weeks would be feasts when all priests would be needed at the same time, serving ***all together.***

Next we see that the singers and all of those with musical instruments "***were as one, to make one sound.***" They did not sing a song--they made a sound. They ***made a vibration (sound) "to be heard in praising and thanking the Lord."***

Then they sang the words of praise, "***For He is good, for His mercy endures forever.***" Look at what happened when they made this sound. The Bible tells us that the house of Lord was filled with a cloud of His glory, so much so that the priests could not continue ministering. In other words, **God showed up!**

"For He Is Good, For His Mercy Endures Forever."

So, we see there's a relationship between the sounds and the words and the glory coming. Why did they say these particular words? I've meditated on this, and I've come to understand that when life comes at us with all that it brings, our response must always be that His love endures forever if we want to experience His glory.

My little grandson, Cody, was born with cystic hygroma and was surgically cut from ear to ear when he was just 2 days old--his little face is deformed--but you see, "***For He is good, for His mercy endures forever.***"

When a tragic auto accident injures or kills someone we love, we shouldn't ask, "Why did God do that?" We should say, "***For He is good, for His mercy endures forever.***"

When someone we love comes down with cancer or some other devastating disease, our response must be, "***For He is good, for His mercy endures forever.***"

This contradicts everything the world says is true. Just listen to what the media said when the tsunami hit--or even what theologians said. They all claimed that God had his reasons. That is a bunch of baloney! Why don't we blame the enemy for what the enemy does? Why do we call such disasters "acts of God"? You see, "***For He is good, for His mercy endures forever.***" It (His mercy) flies in the face of everything life dishes out--the priests sang, and God liked it because it was (and remains) the truth.

But there's still more in this passage. There were 120 trumpeters. The only other place in the

entire Bible where the number 120 is mentioned is in the Upper Room. And what happened when 120 came together in unity? The power of his Spirit fell. Think there might be correlation? I do. The English translation "one accord" in **Acts 1:14** is from the Middle English and Old French word "accorder," which is derived from a Latin word meaning "to be at one heart."

The Greek word is "homothumadon," which means "with one mind, with one accord, with one passion." It's a unique word--used 12 times as the number of government in the New Testament, ten of those times occurring in Acts, which helps us understand the uniqueness of Christian community. Homothumadon is a compound of 2 words and means to rush along in unison. "The image is almost musical."

Unity

Think of vibrations as a number of notes or sounds, while different, harmonizing in pitch and tone as the instruments of a great concert blend together under the direction of a concert master. In much the same way, the Holy Spirit blends together the lives of the members of Christ's church to be of one accord--it literally means to "lock arms with one purpose." It is unity.

In John, we're told that the Lord Jesus prayed that the Father would make his followers one so that the world would know that He was sent by the Father. Unity is an amazing vehicle of evangelism, yet it's the hardest thing to maintain in a church. Nevertheless, the Lord still wants us to become one. Remember at the Tower when the Lord said of Babel:

"Indeed the people are one and they all have one language, and this is what they do; now nothing that they propose to do will be withheld from them. Come, let us go down and there confuse their language, that they may not understand one another's speech." --Genesis 11: 5-6

Why?

It's because, whether for good or bad, there's a spiritual principle of unity. What would happen if there was a church of Jesus Christ in a location that would finally come into complete unity? I would declare that there's no building in the world that could hold a church that size. But we fight against it--we have our own opinions of how things should be done. Still, the Lord wants us to be one.

A key passage in my life, first given prophetically in the early 1990's and given again during a recent trip to Hawaii, is Psalm 133. Look what happens when brothers dwell together in unity: the anointing flows.

Behold how good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! It is like the precious oil upon the head, running down on the beard of Aaron, running down on the edge of his garments. It is like the dew of Hermon, descending upon the mountains of Zion; for there the Lord commanded the blessing--life forevermore. --Psalm 133

The Key of "A"

After I had given this sermon in Kaneohe, a man came up to me and said the Lord had told him to give a specific amount during the love offering that was taken for me **before** I had preached. The amount was \$133.12. He asked the Lord why He told him that amount, and the Lord told him to go to **Psalms 133:1-2**. The Lord had confirmed in a miraculous way what He had been teaching me.

Let me tie all this together. I originally started vibrating 7 Hz (as was prophesied to me), and now I'm at 440 Hz. By the way, 440 Hz is actually the key of "A." An interesting fact about the key of A is that it's internationally used to tune musical instruments. I cannot prove it, but I believe by discernment that this is the sound that they made at the temple dedication--remember they sang the sound and in the sound the words proclaimed, "for he is good and his love endures forever." The word for love used here refers to the covenant love of God.

The Two Columns

As the vibrating continued, I began discerning Palmoni, and some people also started seeing Palmoni, describing them as vibrating, living columns. We were sharing this information in a meeting at Aslan's Place, and a lady who is an intercessor who lives two hours away called in the morning with a passage with something about columns (I like it when God sends this kind of confirmation because I often feel I'm walking off a cliff, falling into craziness--my life is lived entirely by faith). It was **1 Kings 7:15-21**, regarding the construction of the temple;

"And he cast two pillars of bronze, each one eighteen cubits high, and a line of twelve cubits measured the circumference of each. Then he made two capitals of cast bronze, to set on top of the pillars. The height of one capital was five cubits, and the height of the other capital was five cubits. He made a lattice network, with wreaths of chainwork, for the capitals which were on the top of the pillars: seven chains for one capital and seven for the other capital. So he made the pillars, and two rows of pomegranates above the network all around to cover the capitals that were on top; and thus he did for the other capital. The capitals which were on top of the pillars in the hall were in the shape of lilies, four cubits. The capitals on the two pillars also had pomegranates above, by the convex surface which was next to the network; and there were two hundred such pomegranates in rows on each of the capitals all around. Then he set up the pillars by the vestibule of the temple; he set up the pillar on the right and called its name Jachin, and he set up the pillar on the left and called its name Boaz." --1 Kings 7:15-21

Jachen means, "He shall establish it," and Boaz means, "the strength of youth." So, there are two columns with these names that appear to be two freestanding columns in the temple. When we discern these pillars (or Palmoni) show up in our meetings, we have people walk through them so God can "re-tune" His people to vibrate with him. This sounds bizarre, especially for people like me who are Baptists! But it works. Look at this passage from **Colossians 1:15-20** as recorded in **The Message**:

"We look at this Son and see the God who cannot be seen. We look at this Son and see God's original purpose in everything created. For everything, absolutely everything, above and below, visible and invisible, rank after rank after rank of angels--everything got started in him and finds its purpose in him. He was there before any of it came into existence and holds it all together right up to this moment. And when it comes to the church, he organizes and holds it together, like a head does a body. He was supreme in the beginning and--leading the resurrection parade--He is supreme in the end. From beginning to end, He's there, towering far above everything and everyone. So spacious is He, so roomy, that everything of God finds its proper place in Him without crowding. Not only that, but all the broken and dislocated pieces of the universe--people and things, animals and atoms--get properly fixed and fit together in vibrant harmonies, all because of His death and His blood that poured down from the Cross."

In Harmony, Something Is Going To Change

Let me remind you of my opening example of the lesson the Lord taught me--we do this by faith. And, we now have had two people, both women with Dissociative Identity Disorder (DID), who became totally integrated when they walked through the columns. We've also seen people healed. This is a new kind of deliverance. Whenever we do this, people go through a new level of deliverance. This testimony of one woman is amazing:

In 2002, the Lord revealed to me that I had Dissociative Identity Disorder, formerly known as Multiple Personality Disorder. My prayer counselor and I spent a year inviting my different parts to come out of hiding and tell their stories. That was when I found out that my family had been involved with the occult when I was very young. Satanic ritual abuse was the cause of my dissociation. We then spent a year and a half bringing healing to my memories and parts.

*My husband and I had attended a Paul Cox discernment conference in Kitchner, Ontario, Canada, and were regularly removing objects off each other's bodies. We were excited to hear that Paul would be in New Jersey in December of 2004 and that God wanted us to attend. My life was forever changed. The presence of God was filling the meeting hall, and like the priests in **2 Chronicles 5**, I was not able to stand. One of the times I fell to the floor; we had entered into God's heavenly places. I went into a room of tears, and for the first time in my life, I was able to scream at God.*

*I have since cried buckets of tears. This was a great gift of healing from God to me. The next day Paul spoke on the superstring theory and how as the body of Christ, we need to be returned to vibrate in unison. Paul mentioned that at one of his conferences someone with DID was integrated during a time of worship, where all who were present sang **2 Chronicles 5:13**, "**For the Lord is good and His love endures forever.**" I prayed, "God if you want to unify me, I receive that."*

We then began to sing that as God put the tune in our heads: the Lord is good, His love endures forever; the Lord is good, His love endures forever," over and over again. God spoke to me as I lay on the floor. He said I no longer needed my stuffed animals, nor did I need to pray prayers of protection anymore. I knew I had been integrated, united, and made whole. I praise God for His mercy and His grace to me. He preserved my life and restored me to His original creation. I no longer hear voices. I can read the Bible with comprehension and focus. I can laugh and cry, and I can sing a new song.

Years ago, I read a little paragraph by a woman author; unfortunately, I can't remember the name of the book. She said, "Why is it that we come to church like children playing with chemistry sets. Should we not rather come to church with crash helmets and seat belts? For perhaps the Living God might come and visit His church."

The Bible says that when they sang the sound, the priests did not stand. We are a royal priesthood, and He wants to retune us to vibrate in unison with him. Let us act in faith. Let us not limit our God. We never know what God's going to do, but we do know that if we're in "vibrant harmony" with the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, something is going to change within us.

-32-

DELIVERING BABIES FROM ABORTION

(By Bill C. Yount, www.billyount.com, theshofarhasblown@juno.com, December 24, 2004)

"I SAW 'ANGELIC MIDWIVES' HAND DELIVERING MANY BABIES FROM ABORTION THIS COMING YEAR!...MANY WILL SURVIVE IN 2005!"

I heard a strong angel decreeing over the earth, interrupting the spirit of abortion as wombs were opening, "Not that one, you don't! These are made in the image of God!"

Prayers seemed to have mounted up and taken wings to ascend to the throne room crying out on the behalf of the unborn. I heard many angels communicating, "We just got a breakthrough assignment to deliver the unborn! Tell them to keep crying out and pleading the Blood of Jesus...the spirit of abortion is beginning to be notified, 'Let My Babies Go!'"

"ANGELIC MIDWIVES" ARE BEING ASSIGNED TO "HAND DELIVER" THE DELIVERERS

It seemed like a season equivalent to when God had called Moses in his mother's womb to be a deliverer to the nation of Israel. In Moses' time Pharaoh sent a decree to destroy every male child being born. But the fear of

God came upon the midwives and they saved these babies. Moses was one of these babies who was delivered. I sense that these kind of "hand delivered" babies deliver nations!!!

And I sense that once again a season of intervention is in where the fear of God is beginning to fall on abortion clinics as "angelic midwives" are now being assigned to doctors and nurse practitioners.

A stronger cry from the throne became even louder for intercession as an angel began proclaiming, "I think we got another Moses here! Another David, another Deborah, and, yes, there is another Esther coming out of that womb! Keep prayer coming up. . . these babies have an anointing for the nations!"

THESE CHILDREN WILL BE "ARROWS IN THE QUIVER"

I saw the Holy Spirit begin to overshadow many mothers who, like Mary, were overwhelmed what to think and to do next as they were surprised by what was in their wombs. But the Holy Spirit began to melt their hearts, as it was revealed by God Himself, "Fear not, that holy thing which shall be born of thee is of Me. You are not carrying a mistake, you are carrying a miracle!"

I saw in the Spirit many babies being offered up for adoption. God had already handpicked married couples and placed His desire in their hearts to extend their families. These children appeared as arrows in their quivers who would eventually speak with the enemies in the gates of their cities and nations!

"Babies unplanned are Heaven's surprises; unplanned by man for Satan's demises!"

-33-

DEATH AND RESURRECTION

(Special bulletin #11, by Rick Joyner, October 6, 2005)

Katrina and the bird flu

As I have shared with our local church, conferences, and through our Prophetic Bulletin over the last few months, it was only a matter of time before the media would realize the seriousness of the coming "bird flu" plague. That is now happening. The threat from this flu is very real, and it does have the potential to be just as deadly as the scientific community is stating. Even the terrible

scenarios that are being projected are almost all being purposely understated to prevent panic. This is understandable, but even the understated warnings are causing great fear, and even panic with some. However, this is not understandable for a Christian, nor acceptable.

Even the “best case” scenarios would make this plague the worst disaster in human history. The time is now here when Christians must know and abide in the peace of God. If we have true faith, we must also have the peace of God which remains calm in the midst of any storm. We have been given a kingdom that cannot be shaken. If we have built our lives on it, every thing that can be shaken is shaken. We are told this in Hebrews 12, and through even the greatest shaking, we will remain steadfast and a sanctuary in the storm. Do not let anything steal your peace.

If you feel like the situations now coming upon the world are beyond control, you are right. They are beyond human control. This is the primary reason for the great time of trouble or tribulation that is coming upon the world. It is the result of mankind trying to run the world without God. After this time, all of creation will know for all of eternity that this was a bad idea. We need God. We need Him for our personal lives, and we need Him in all human affairs. Everyone who scoffs at this as being “a crutch” will soon wish they had one, and we need to be ready to share ours with them.

Resolve every time that you feel fear and panic rising in you to read Psalm 91, and other Scriptures that promise God’s protection. He will protect His people who have made Him their refuge. If the Word Himself has taken His stand against the devil with “**it is written,**” how much more should we? There is only one answer to the problems that are coming upon the world, and we know Him.

Determine every time when you begin to feel fear that you are going to trust God and grow in the peace of God. Fight the fear with “**it is written.**” What He has promised us is absolute truth; it is a rock; and it will not shake even when the entire world is shaking.

As I have been sharing in these Special Bulletins, we must learn all that we can from the Hurricane Katrina disaster because we are going to need that understanding for the times that are coming upon the world. The church is not only going to be safe during these times—we will be building while everything else is collapsing. However, we must learn to face the greatest human devastation and chaos, wade into it, bring order, and get the job done. Our resolve and peace will help many others find the same Source that we have.

It Is a Good Day to Die

We must also learn to die well. If that statement alarms you, you are the one I am probably addressing this to. If we truly believe in the resurrection, not just as a doctrine, but as the sure promise that it is from Almighty God who cannot lie, then we, above all people on the earth, should be able to die with joy, not fear. As I have heard from many hospital workers, not many Christians die well. Something is profoundly wrong with this. Regardless of whom we are or what we have, we should be looking forward to the day of our death with great desire for “the joy that is set before us.”

One of the most important Christian teachings and disciplines is the call that we have to take up our crosses and “die daily.” If we have died to this world, as we have been called to do, it is impossible

for us to fear. What does a dead man fear? One who is already dead to this world does not fear anything on the earth. This must be our resolve.

The number one strategy of the devil in these times is to control the world through fear. The Lord leads His people through faith. The times are going to increasingly reveal those who have true faith and those who do not. Psalm 32 is an important word for us, especially verses 6-11, which is quoted below:

Therefore, let everyone who is godly pray to You in a time when You may be found; surely in a flood of great waters they will not reach him.

You are my hiding place; You preserve me from trouble; You surround me with songs of deliverance. Selah.

I will instruct you and teach you in the way which you should go; I will counsel you with My eye upon you.

Do not be as the horse or as the mule which have no understanding, whose trappings include bit and bridle to hold them in check, otherwise they will not come near to you.

Many are the sorrows of the wicked, but he who trusts in the Lord, lovingkindness shall surround him.

Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, you righteous ones; and shout for joy, all you who are upright in heart.

The recent earthquakes, tsunamis, and hurricanes are already taxing the whole world's relief efforts. The worst natural disasters in human history are continuing to be topped by succeeding ones. The Lord and the prophets have all made it clear that this would come upon the world in the last days, but this should not cause fear in Christians, but rather rejoicing—not because we are rejoicing at the suffering of others, but because our redemption is drawing near.

The kingdom is coming, and our King is going to restore the earth to the paradise He created it to be. He is going to remove all disease, pain, cruelty, and suffering, and wipe every tear away from every eye. The tragic lessons of the part of creation that is trying to live without its Creator are nearly over—and the joys of redemption and restoration are about to begin. The kingdom is at hand, even at the door.

However, we must understand this door. As Paul said in Acts 14:22: "Through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God." The Lord does not allow troubles to come upon His people without purpose, and the basic purposes are: 1) to help conform us to the image of Christ, and 2) to help us find the entry into the kingdom in that area of our life. The "great tribulation" (see Matthew 24:21) or the "great time of trouble" are also doors for the whole world to enter into the kingdom, and that will be the result.

It Is Time to Take the Land

After reciting the events and trials of Israel in the wilderness after leaving Egypt, we are told in I Corinthians 10:11, "Now these things happened to them as an example, and they were written for our instruction, upon whom the ends of the ages have come." Everything that Israel went through is a prophetic parallel of what the church would go through, and how we, too, will enter the Promised Land, the kingdom of God. In this light let us consider the prophetic significance of Joshua 3:3-4, 14-17:

"When you see the ark of the covenant of the Lord your God with the Levitical priests carrying it, then you shall set out from your place and go after it.

However, there shall be between you and it a distance of about 2,000 cubits by measure. Do not come near it, that you may know the way by which you shall go, for you have not passed this way before."

So it came about when the people set out from their tents to cross the Jordan with the priests carrying the ark of the covenant before the people,

and when those who carried the ark came into the Jordan, and the feet of the priests carrying the ark were dipped in the edge of the water (for the Jordan overflows all its banks all the days of harvest),

that the waters which were flowing down from above stood and rose up in one heap, a great distance away at Adam, the city that is beside Zarethan; and those which were flowing down toward the sea of the Arabah, the Salt Sea, were completely cut off. So the people crossed opposite Jericho.

And the priests who carried the ark of the covenant of the Lord stood firm on dry ground in the middle of the Jordan while all Israel crossed on dry ground, until all the nation had finished crossing the Jordan.

In Scripture, the Jordan River often represents death. That is why both Jesus and John the Baptist baptized there. The Jordan River also empties into the Dead Sea. There was a reason why the Lord commanded the Ark of the Covenant to be carried across the Jordan "about" 2,000 cubits ahead of the rest of the people. The Ark represents Jesus, and the cubits represent years. This was a prophetic statement that the Lord would pass through death to His Promised Land "about" 2,000 years before the rest of His people.

The Lord said that "...the harvest is the end of the age..."(Matthew 13:39), and we read in Joshua 3:15 that "...the Jordan overflows all its banks all the days of the harvest..." This speaks of how death will be overflowing *all* of its banks *all* of the days of the harvest, which is the end of the age. Because of this we can expect such natural and human disasters to increase during the coming times.

As all of the Lord Jesus' own prophecies concerning these times make very clear, we are coming to the greatest times of trouble the world has ever known. However, the good news is, if we have built our lives on the kingdom which cannot be shaken, we will not only survive what is coming, but we will prevail and prosper. We are now at the time that the church is going to cross over and begin to possess its Promised Land.

We must also understand that at the very time such great troubles are going to be coming upon the world that “the Jordan River overflows all of its banks,” Christians who are walking in the ways of the Lord are going to prosper more than they ever have before. However, this is at the time when death is overflowing all of its banks, so we must learn to keep functioning even when a thousand fall on one side, and then ten thousand on the other.

The present world systems are being shaken, and this will increase, but if we are abiding in the Lord, we are on a Rock that simply cannot be shaken. However, our prosperity is not so we can live luxuriously, but so we can help the desperate and prepare the way for the coming kingdom. As I recently told one of our U.S. senators, the federal government is going to run out of resources for helping the people through what is to come, but we will be open to lend them some!

I was being serious. Even the federal government of the wealthiest and most powerful nation on earth has limited resources and is running out of them now. Our governments are going to be reduced to the role of just trying to keep order in the times to come, and there will be a time when even that will be beyond their ability. However, we have not only been given a kingdom that will not even shake through what is coming, but a kingdom which has resources that all of the earth, even all of creation, could not exhaust. Those who have built their lives on the kingdom will have increasing access to those resources.

I did not see it, but I was told of an article in one of the country’s foremost liberal newspapers that admitted the church was many times more effective at meeting the desperate needs of the people devastated by hurricanes Katrina and Rita. I was just in the disaster area and I can tell you personally that this is true—the church was far more effective than the government in this. The next time we will do much better.

I am not mad or disappointed at the government for this. We are the most foolish of all people if we are putting our hope in the governments of this world. I have actually marveled at how well they have done so far, and I am thankful for a government that will do all it can to help people in need. However, the government does not have the resources that we have—we have the unlimited resources of heaven, and those who have learned how to open the doors and windows of heaven will now see them opening wider and wider.

Paradise Again

In Joshua 3:16, we are told the waters of the Jordan “which were flowing down from above stood and rose up in one heap, a great distance away at Adam.” This could have been translated that the waters of the Jordan “were rolled back all the way to Adam.” It was no accident that this little town was named “Adam,” just as there are no accidents at all in Scripture. This was a prophecy that when God’s people begin to pass through this baptism in the Jordan, we will begin possessing all of the promises of God that we are called to inherit, and death will be rolled back all the way to Adam! This means that all of the death which was the consequence of the Fall will be reversed.

For this reason we must prepare ourselves for increasingly great natural and manmade disasters as we get closer to the end of this age. We will need to learn to cope with death all around us and keep

on functioning. Just as no general could be successful if he is *overly* concerned about casualties, we, too, will have to learn to cope with death—even sending forth missions and missionaries that we know will not return. We must not be overly given to grieving or mourning the dead in order to save the living from an even greater, eternal disaster.

The prophecies of these times are fearful for those who are not abiding in the Prince of Peace. Even so, they are the greatest hope and represent the release that the prophets and righteous ones have longed to see come to pass since the beginning. We must understand that the problems are coming, and to avoid looking for them because they make us uncomfortable or fearful is to live in deception. Those very problems are also our greatest opportunities, and we must be ready to seize them.

If we have built our lives on the kingdom, we have nothing to fear, from anything or anyone. Those who have not built their lives on the kingdom will have many things to fear, and it will increase. It is better for them to fear than to go on in their delusions and be in the terrible jeopardy those delusions keep them in. Therefore, we want to see these things for what they are, and be prepared, not to just survive, but to save many others.

Israel's inheritance was the land, and they dispossessed the people who were on it. Our inheritance, which is also the Lord's, is the people. Even though the Jordan will be overflowing its banks, and death will be all around us, the power of His indestructible life will be flowing through us to reap the greatest harvest that the world has ever known. We must not sleep or be distracted while the treasure of the earth is ripe for reaping.

Victory over Death

Baptism is a ritual performed to emphasize an important spiritual reality. The bane of Christianity since the third century has been to substitute rituals for the realities that they represented, and were intended to illuminate. The ritual of baptism was meant to convey the commitment on the part of the one baptized so they would die to themselves to live to Christ. After the third century, one could be baptized in place of living the crucified life, removing the life and power of the cross from the church.

We should not belittle the importance of the ritual. A wedding is a ritual and not the marriage itself, but because marriage is so important it is right to make a big deal out of the ritual. Likewise, it is right to make a big deal out of baptism, communion, and the other important rituals handed down to us, but they must not be allowed to supplant the truths that they were given to us to illuminate.

You can dunk someone in the water all day and not have them partake of the death or resurrection of Jesus. There is nothing magical about the water. The power is in the crucified life. The baptism is performed as a commitment to live the crucified life in order that we might also be resurrected with Christ, as we read in Romans 6:4-5:

Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, in order that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk

in newness of life. For we have become UNITED with Him in the likeness of His death, certainly we shall also be in the likeness of His resurrection (emphasis mine).

We must note here that *in this text there is no mention of water!* This is not speaking of water baptism, but of what water baptism represents—the crucified life. Paul further conveyed in Romans 6:5:“For if we become united with Him in the likeness of His death, certainly we shall also be in the likeness of His resurrection.”

What did the Lord mean when He stated, "I have come to cast fire upon the earth; and how I wish it were already kindled! But I have a baptism to undergo, and how distressed I am until it is accomplished!" (Luke 12:49-50)? Was the baptism that was distressing Him simply being immersed in water? Of course not. He was referring to His impending crucifixion. That crucifixion is also the meaning of our baptism.

Jesus was likewise referring to the baptism into His crucifixion when James and John asked to be seated on His right and left in the kingdom. He said, "You do not know what you are asking for. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?" (Mark 10:38).

It is a basic spiritual principle that death is the path to life in Christ. We are called to live now by the power and authority of the resurrected life of Christ, but by its very definition one cannot experience a resurrection without first experiencing a death. To be baptized with His baptism is to be conformed to the purpose of His death, the laying down of our own lives for the sake of others.

When the church reduced the truth of the crucified (and thereby resurrected) life to a mere ritual, it has robbed the Lord of our consecration, the church of its salvation, and has stolen from the world the power of the gospel. There are many Scriptures that make the meaning of this very clear. The following are just a few of them, which I encourage you to read carefully as their importance is literally life and death:

For if we died with Him, we shall also live with Him; If we endure, we shall also reign with Him (II Timothy 2:11-12).

The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are the children of God, and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, IF INDEED WE SUFFER WITH HIM, *IN ORDER THAT* we may also be glorified with Him. (Romans 8:16-17 emphasis mine).

That I may know Him, and the power of His resurrection and the FELLOWSHIP OF HIS SUFFERINGS, being conformed to His death, *IN ORDER THAT* I may attain to the resurrection from the dead (Philippians 3:10-11 emphasis mine).

For to you it has been granted for Christ's sake, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake (Philippians 1:29).

We ought always to give thanks to God for you, brethren, as is only fitting, because your faith is greatly enlarged, and the love of each one of you toward one another grows ever greater; therefore, we ourselves speak proudly of you among the churches of God for your perseverance and faith in the midst of all your persecutions and afflictions which you endure. This is a plain indication of God's righteous judgment so that you may be considered worthy of the kingdom of God, for which indeed you are suffering (II Thessalonians 1:3-5).

We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not despairing; Persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; ALWAYS carrying about in the body the dying of Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. For we who live are constantly being delivered over to death for Jesus' sake, that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our mortal flesh (II Corinthians.4:8-11).

The Lord made it clear in His Word—if we are to partake of His life, we must also partake of His death "that they who live should no longer live for themselves, but for Him" (II Corinthians 5:15). Any other teaching is a false gospel and an enemy of the cross. Death separates the things that are natural from the things that are spiritual. Again, to have a resurrection, there must first be a death. If we want to walk in the resurrection life of Jesus, we must be willing to lay down our lives for Him.

Pray for Our Governments

As I recently had a conversation with a high-ranking man in world affairs, and is in a position to know what world leaders are doing, he told me straightforwardly that President Bush is one of the few world leaders who has sought to understand and prepare his nation for the expected unprecedented plague released by the "bird flu." The best case scenario for what this will do on the earth will make it worse than the plagues of the Middle Ages. The worst case is incomprehensible. We have been given a wise leader for the times, and we do need to pray for him. He is not being a fear monger in asking for the authority to use the military for such things as quarantines of regions of the country. Though quarantines will not really work for this, these troops will be needed to keep order.

It is almost incomprehensible that he has done so well facing so many problems during his presidency. He has not handled any of them perfectly, and only the greatest fools should expect that of any human being in this world. He has done very well, but his greatest trials are likely still ahead of him.

In the coming Bulletins, I will focus more on some very practical things we must do, and more of the lessons we are now learning from the disasters that have been coming upon us. We cannot run from this. There is nowhere to go. Just as true warriors run to the sound of battle, not away from it—we must learn to run to the cries for help and lead them to the Helper, who is the Remedy for every human problem. You already have Him. Let Him fix all of your problems, and determine that you are going to grow in trust in Him every day. Then resolve that you are going to help others do the same. That is why we are here. If we have been chosen to live, it is to do a job. Let's get on with it.

SUPERNATURAL GRACE PART I

(Fresh Fire Ministries - Revivalist Todd Bentley, September 2004)

This article is the first 'Teaching of the Week' in our on-line equipping ministry. The following article is a two-part series on Supernatural Grace. Part 1 defines what supernatural grace encompasses, with an emphasis on different aspects of the favor of God, which is essential to the anointing. Part 2 will cover great grace; the importance of intimacy; secrets to the anointing, instruction on operating by the Spirit and an impartation of "Great, Grace."

Supernatural Grace

God is imparting and releasing supernatural grace to His people in this hour to empower them to live an overcoming Christian life! As you continue to read and if you open your heart to the ministry of the Holy Spirit, I believe you will receive an impartation of supernatural grace, by faith!

Supernatural grace encompasses grace and favor, and great grace: otherwise known as "grace, grace." I want to describe what supernatural grace encompasses in more detail, so that you will have a solid understanding. The Greek word for grace in the New Testament is the same word for favor. Grace is the unmerited favor of God, but it's more than this. The grace of God is the favor and kindness that He gives without regard to the worth or merit of the one who receives it, in spite of what that same person deserves. Think of it as God being kind and good to us even if we don't deserve it.

Both grace and favor can come as a tangible presence upon our lives. Grace and favor is also an anointing that can be imparted and transferred, although, in the Body of Christ, we haven't really thought of grace and favor in this way before.

God also wants us to understand a higher level of grace He has for His people - Great Grace - which He is releasing to equip us with His supernatural power for the coming healing revival. Great grace comes as a sovereign anointing and is a supernatural function of the Holy Spirit coming upon us to do impossible feats by the Spirit of grace.

Now, in the rest of this two-part teaching, we will discuss, in depth, the biblical concepts of favor, grace and great grace.

Favor

The favor of God is because of God's love. Another definition of favor is: pleasure, desire, and delight. Favor happens when God turns to us and He is pleased with us - favorable towards something - especially what is pleasing and desirable to Him. It has nothing to do

with us. I believe it's possible for God to give us favor even if we haven't fasted and prayed enough, or we haven't given enough. Now let's examine several benefits of favor.

Jubilee Freedom

It's time to come into our destiny! In January, the Holy Spirit began to speak to me from the book of Isaiah, that it's time "...to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord" (Isaiah 61:2). The word 'acceptable year' means the 'favorable year.' This is the year of the Lord's favor and I'm standing in faith for this! The favor of God brings the blessing of the Lord. The favor of God brings everything we need in the natural to do what God has called us to do. If we have the favor of God we will have everything else we need. There are times of testing before we come into the favor, but I am saying this is the year of the Lord's favor.

I want to say there is an anointing of God's Spirit to bring us into the acceptable year, a place of liberty and release just like the year of Jubilee. It will come on us like Joseph's coat of many colors - like a tangible anointing when everything in our lives will increase as far as the opportunities of God.

There's an opening for us to come into the Jubilee anointing and blessing. Jubilee is the cancellation of all debt, the release of all our property, the release of all slaves: all the bondage in our lives. Jubilee heralds the return of our sons and daughters, and the release of our investments. All these things! God released them on Jubilee! We love Jubilee and we pray that God will bring about Jubilee.

Scores of believers sow faithfully into the blessing of God and walk in the principles of favor, and yet they cry, "God, I want more favor on my life!" We need to realize that it is possible, under the anointing of God's Spirit, that we can prophecy, proclaim and decree favor and Jubilee, and everything that comes in Jubilee will come into our lives the moment we speak the word.

With Jubilee, in one instant it's possible to come into a Holy Ghost meeting, and in the next moment receive a tangible anointing called 'favor' upon our lives. It can happen that fast! The moment we proclaim: "Favor!" then tangible favor is released. A sovereign anointing can come upon our lives, resulting in increased favor.

Growing in Favor

Jesus increased in favor: "And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man" (Luke 2:5). I believe that we have to increase in favor with God first and then we will increase in favor with man. It's possible to walk in a level of favor with God and man that we have never experienced before.

However, today believers struggle to walk in the favor of God. Many haven't grown in the level of favor and therefore are hindered from doing what God has purposed for them, mainly because they don't have the resources. I know of different ministries in a battle;

ministries that have been operating for 20 years, but are still on the telephone trying to get meetings and struggling to support one staff member.

But God is going to break that Spirit of poverty and lack and He's going to release His grace. The Bible tells us about the child, Samuel, and how he grew on, and he grew in favor with the Lord and also with man (1Samuel 2:26). I want to say that it's time to grow on in the favor of the Lord - both with God and man!

More and more believers are going to come into the anointing that brings the favor of God. To give you an illustration - because of God's favor and anointing we've turned away an average of 3-400 international invitations in just six months this year, and hundreds of other invitations in North America had to be declined. I have enough invitations for 300 preachers! That's why I raised up 12 anointed laborers and I want to raise up 100. We'll book meetings for them and send them out because I can't be everywhere. So why do we have the favor of God? The answer is - the anointing.

The Anointing

I'm going to share several points about the anointing and its influence on increase:

"But my horn You have exalted like a wild ox; I have been anointed with fresh oil. ...The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree. He shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon. Those who are planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God. They shall still bear fruit in old age. They shall be fresh and flourishing to declare that the Lord is upright. He is my rock and there is no unrighteousness in Him" (Psalm 92:10,12-15).

The first thing that happens when the anointing touches our lives is a release of vision, strength, and purpose. My horn is exalted like the wild ox. My horn is my strength. When God anoints our horn, it's our strength; our vision; our purpose; and it's our destiny. But people without vision perish! Without vision we become lazy and complacent - we cast off restraint. When we get tired, discouraged and disappointed, and we don't want to go on in the vision - we stop contending for miracles and going on with the gospel. But not when God anoints our strength. We want to run again... harder and faster. We're not going to let up or shut up!

With the anointing, we will flourish and prosper like a palm tree. This resilient tree is one of the only trees that can grow in a dry and thirsty land. So, even when revival is over, we are still in revival, we are still blessing others, and people are still getting saved and healed. In a dry and thirsty land we are flourishing! There is fruit and much fruit that remains - not only at a young age - but even at our old age. The righteous shall still bear fruit; they shall be: fresh, fat, abundant, green, and flourishing. Isn't that what we want in the kingdom?

A primary purpose of the anointing is to empower us to declare the gospel and the testimony of Jesus - that He is upright and there is no unrighteousness in Him. It's a preacher's anointing. And we preachers need a word of encouragement here. I want to

say that it's God's will for us to bear much fruit that remains. God is heavily on our side and wants to replace a poverty mindset with a bigger, fresher, fruitful vision. God wants us to succeed; to increase.

"You will grow like a cedar" (Psalm 93:12b). The cedar is one of the mightiest trees in Israel and it symbolizes spiritual maturity, roots, depth and revelation. We can possess these strengths!

Fruitfulness is another immense benefit of the anointing - followed by freshness: a life-giving freshness that nurtures a new anointing and constant revelation. When fresh oil comes upon our lives, we begin to live in freshness and constant revelation. We can enjoy fresh manna every morning. Hallelujah!

People love to be around the anointing, seeing the power of God as people get saved, healed and delivered. They don't want to be dry and thirsty. The ministries that attracted me in the beginning were the ministries like Benny Hinn because of the presence and the anointing of God, regardless of his style being a little bit older than what I am used to. Some believers get hung up on the different styles and some don't. Even though I look different than most Christians, a lot of older folks say, "Todd, we love you." And I'm like, "Really?" "Why?" "Because we love the anointing!" They know the genuine. Many believers want to volunteer and help in this ministry.

Jesus was anointed with two anointings: the Holy Spirit and power. It's possible to be anointed with the Holy Spirit - smeared with the Holy Spirit, like having the oil poured on and rubbed in, like a massage. Then some 'as it is in heaven' rubs off on us and we carry this realm everywhere we go. That's the anointing.

More than Enough

Real prosperity means fulfilling our vision and having more than enough to do what God has called us do to. Then we are productive and in a place where we multiply by raising up sons and daughters. We're not after the material blessing that favor brings; we're after the favor, and the favor will take care of everything else. It really isn't about success. We're not talking about money. We're talking about favor and we're talking about souls. We're talking about crusades and about having opportunities to preach the gospel. We're talking about fulfilling our dreams.

God's will is to prosper our lives so that we can win souls! Believers need to be out of debt so they can freely go into the nations and win souls. God wants us to acquire buildings and lands where we can facilitate the training of believers for the harvest. Instead of planting one church, why not plant 10 churches? I'm not starting with planting one school; we are going to plant schools all over the world. (Of course we need to have money in order to do this.) God's will is to give us favor so that we will have fruit and a bigger vision.

In Bible times, there were seasons when no one was lacking. People sold their possessions and lands, bringing the proceeds and laying them at the apostle's feet so

they could distribute to anyone that had need. "Nor was there anyone among them who lacked; for all who were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the proceeds of the things that were sold, and laid them at the apostles' feet; and they distributed to each as anyone had need (Acts 4:34,35). Most of us would like to be in a position where people just come and bless us for the work of the ministry.

God has Favorites!

Let's think once again about the increase of favor. We often don't understand that the love of God and the favor of God are two different things. Let me make this statement: God loves each of us with an unconditional love - but favor is different. God can actually favor someone more than someone else. Two examples of this are when God favored Joseph above all his brothers (Genesis 37) and when God favored Jacob above Esau by giving Esau's inheritance to Jacob (Genesis 27).

God loves everyone in the kingdom the same, but He favors some above the rest. Why? Because God is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him. So if we're not seeking Him as passionately and diligently as the next person, we may not have as much favor and anointing. I may have Him reward me more, depending on how desperate I am to seek Him. God does respond to the one whose heart is after Him - a heart like David's. God honors intimacy. Even though at times David's life was a mess, he had a heart that was after God. His heart-attitude was that he wanted to be right with God - even though there wasn't always the holiness. When we think of all the ways that we come short, God is saying, But listen! You have had a heart that has been hungry for Me! Your heart has been hungry for My presence and if you'll seek and pursue My presence. That's where the anointing is guys. The anointing is in intimacy.

Preparing for Favor

Now let's look at the book of Esther. She was taken from the safety of her uncle's home and ushered into the royal palace because the King was looking for a new Queen. It wasn't long before she obtained the notice and favor of the official in charge, so her beauty preparations were readily given to her, and an allowance!

"Now the young woman pleased him, and she obtained his favor; so he readily gave beauty preparations to her, besides her allowance. Then seven choice maidservants were provided for her from the king's palace, and he moved her and her maidservants to the best place in the house of the women" (Esther 2:9).

What an example! The first thing that happens when we come into favor with the King is that God will move us into the royal palace - the place of ruling and reigning. The next thing that will happen is God will say, "Give him/her an allowance!" Wouldn't we all like the King of the universe to give us an allowance because we found His favor? "Here is a line of credit!" Her exciting life-story goes on:

"Now it happened on the third day that Esther put on her royal robes and stood in the inner court of the King's palace, across from the King's house, while the King sat on his

royal throne in his royal house, facing the entrance of the house. So it was, when the King saw Queen Esther standing in the court, that she found favor in his sight, and the King held out to Esther the golden scepter that was in his hand. Then Esther went near and touched the top of his scepter, and the King said to her, "What do you wish, Queen Esther? What is your request? It shall be given to you- up to half the kingdom!" (Esther 5:1-3)

When Queen Esther received favor, the King held out the royal scepter and asked, "What do you wish, Queen Esther? What is your request? It shall be given to you--up to half the kingdom!" Because she had favor with the King she could ask what she wished. However, let's not miss this: there is a crucial principle that brought this favor; namely: preparation! She prepared herself because she was hungry and desperate to find favor. Initially she spent six months in the oil, and the oil represents death, suffering, sacrifice, and dying to the flesh. That's one of the keys to the anointing. I want to spend as much time as I can in the oil! Then she was in the perfumes for six months; the fragrance of Jesus; the presence of God. She fasted (Esther 4:16).

Many people want the favor and the blessing that comes with the favor, but they're not ready to pay the price to get the favor. We need to be like Esther if we're going to get favor with the King and ask what we wish. If we're going to be moved from where we're living in our Christian lives into the royal palace and given an allowance, if we're going to be moved into a place of ruling and reigning, it's going to take us preparing our lives like Esther prepared her life. She kept herself clean and pure-a virgin, without spot; free from the spots that were in the world. She embraced one thing -she wanted favor with the King. (He was an unrighteous King and maybe she had no choice, but God was moving her into a place of ruling and reigning to save His chosen people.)

It's time to prepare ourselves for intimacy with God. It's time to remain in the house of God and to be friends with God. It's time to have a place of intimacy in His presence and to seek Him with all our heart. It's time to search after Him right now. These are days where God is about to pour out His presence. These are days when God is about to pour out divine visitation. I know that part of what I am sharing is getting us hungry for the presence of God and for the anointing.

-35-

SUPERNATURAL GRACE PART II

(Fresh Fire Ministries - Revivalist Todd Bentley, September 2004)

FAVOR AND GOOD WILL

How many of us would like to have the favor and good will of all the people in our city?

There was actually a day in Christianity when the church had esteem, respect and awe. But today, we have a reproach on the church. Can we imagine in revival that God would place such favor on ministry that we'd even have the goodwill of those in the world? This means our boss and any family that hates us right now. It means the churches in our city that tolerate us, but really don't want us to be here.

God is giving our ministry favor in our city right now. Fresh Fire recently put on a lunch for 50-60 of the ministerial and we said, "Church we want to work together with you." Now they are coming on board—even churches that aren't as free concerning the expression and manifestation of the gifts of God's Spirit—but they love Jesus and the gospel, they love souls, and they love the kingdom. We're coming together! Hallelujah! God knows how to favor his people. Start contending for a whole new reputation in the favor of God.

PARTNERING WITH FAVOR

When Samuel the prophet anointed young David with golden oil, (1 Samuel 16:13) the Spirit of the Lord came on him from that day forth. He was called out in a public meeting in front of all his brothers and given a ministry as King. Now that's favor!

So here's David, anointed, and he's out in the wilderness with this anointing on his life. In contemporary terms—it's the bums, robbers, misfits, drug addicts, and prostitutes that came out to David in the strongholds—they volunteered to serve him. **"...Everyone who was in distress, everyone who was in debt, and everyone who was discontented gathered to him..." (1 Samuel 22:2a).** They were saying something like this to David: *We recognize that even though you're not King right now, we want to get in on ground level. We know that God has called you to be the King of Israel—even though you don't look like a King at this moment—you're running from Saul, hiding out in the wilderness in the strongholds. God is going to remove Saul and yet he's trying to kill you.*

So often things aren't really the way they look! One little person in your cramped office; 50 people in your church. You're faithful and you're pressing through. You don't look like a King, but a few people recognize the anointing of who you're going to be. Similarly, six years ago I was having meetings in Abbotsford with 20-30 people and now we can't come to some churches because the buildings aren't big enough! It's not that I can't preach to a church of 200, it's just that 2,000 will show up because people are hungry and they want the anointing. They came to David when he was nothing and they were saying: *We're going to take all that we have, all our strength and we're going to give it to you and we're going to help you become King because we see where you're going.* That's what the anointing will do. People will want to get around the anointing.

You might not have the big palace, the big ministry right now, but if you get the anointing people will want to be around it. The businessmen will come, the partners and the people with lands and houses will come and put it at your feet. Do you know that there are people in the kingdom that are simply called to help other people get to their destiny? What an honor to receive this kind of dedicated help.

The Lord called some to simply come and help David become King, and they too, became like David. They shared out of association the same anointing as David. Those were the men that he was the most faithful to. That's why we're going to be the most faithful to our partners and to those who are getting in on the ground floor right now in our ministry. I am going to remember those first 2,000 partners forever who helped us birth God's vision.

Maybe you're not going to have a forefront ministry like I do, but in the process you become a partner. That's a mighty act. Or just think if you helped launch 10 people into ministry through television. All the fruit from that ministry in the next hundred years would be yours too because you gave the first seed. But we don't think that way in the kingdom. We all want to be the guy doing the TV show.

GREAT GRACE

As God releases great grace, believers will experience a fresh excitement and new level and acceleration in their walk with the Lord! Great grace, different from the grace received as the free gift of salvation, was released upon the early church to impact the world with the manifestation of God's kingdom: **"And with great power the apostles gave witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And great grace was upon them all" (Acts 4: 33)**. This great grace is a supernatural grace, power and a presence that came upon early believers. It can also be released upon our lives.

"And with great power the Apostles gave witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus." 'With great power' means with miracles, signs and wonders—with great anointing. **"And great grace was upon them all."** What brought the great grace of God? **"...with great power the Apostles gave witness..."** Great power brings great grace. Again, great grace is the supernatural function of the Holy Spirit coming upon us to do impossible feats by the Spirit of grace. Great power! Great grace!

I believe that we find the first reference to this great grace in the Old Testament when the angel of the Lord referred to "grace, grace." The angel was speaking about Zerubbabel, the man He was commissioning to rebuild the temple: **"Who are you, O great mountain? Before Zerubbabel you shall become a plain! And he shall bring forth the capstone With shouts of "Grace, grace to it!" (Zechariah 4:7)** Later we will further discuss this "grace, grace" that Zerubbabel was to operate in.

The "grace, grace" needed in the rebuilding of the temple was the same "great grace" necessary for building the early church—it is also an empowerment today's church needs to prepare it for the soon-coming King. There is a growing hunger to see a multiplication of the presence, the fire, the blessing and the favor of God. Our Father wants to release opportunities, inheritance and ownership of lands and buildings to His children. Great grace will usher in a release of anointing for multiplication! The apostle Luke writes in Acts about how the word of God spread and grew. **"Then the word of God spread, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the**

priests were obedient to the faith" (Acts 6:7). The disciples gave themselves continually to the word of God and prayer and the word of God grew and the disciples multiplied greatly. The Lord is about to release an anointing for multiplication! I'm contending for that multiplication. God took just five loaves and a few fish and multiplied it to feed 5,000 with twelve baskets left over. That's a principle in the kingdom (Luke 9:15).

INTIMACY, POWER, FAVOR AND PROVISION

Abraham was a friend of God—"**...Shall I hide from Abraham my friend what I am doing?" (Genesis 18:17)** And Moses spoke to God face to face as a friend speaks to a friend (Exodus 33:11). Both men experienced deep intimacy with God. It must be noted that it's not just about the increase of grace and favor. Rather, these are days of intimacy with God; an intimacy that releases the power of God—that then releases favor. The favor of God comes by the anointing and this releases the provision of God. We can't get favor without the anointing.

This favor has been the key for our ministry. In six years we have believed God for everything we have received and everything that we have done in the kingdom. Favor has come because of the power of God demonstrated in my life through miracles, signs and wonders. When believers see the power of God they want to volunteer freely; they just want to give everything they can to everything we are doing. **"Your people shall be volunteers in the day of your power" (Psalms 110:3a).**

Many Christians want to serve God; they have a dream and a vision, but lack the provision of God to do what God has called them to do. When this happens, then what God is really saying is that we don't have the anointing because if we had the anointing we would have favor, and if we had favor, we would have the provision because favor brings the provision. But when believers experience Holy Ghost power, there is a release of the favor of God and this releases the provision.

Great power and great anointing bring great grace and great grace brings great provision. I'm telling you, the provision of God is waiting—the blessing of the Lord. We all have a measure of favor, but there's more and the key to increasing, is intimacy. God wants us to have an increase, and we can increase. When we have this on our lives, just think of where we will be! It's intimacy with God, power, favor, provision!

SECRETS

The secret to the anointing is discovered where David describes the intensity of the anointing on his life. **"But I am like a green olive tree in the house of God; I trust in the mercy of God forever and ever" (Psalms 52: 8).** David is telling us how anointed he is when he describes himself like a green olive tree in the house of God. Listen! It's one thing to have the anointing come and to be in the ever-increasing, constant flow of this anointing—but it's another thing to be a producer of the oil—to **be** the flow, the well. David

is like the olive tree that brings the oil because he is in the house of God. That is a key to the anointing! God wants us to be in His house because these are days of intimacy and abiding in the vine.

Abiding in the vine and remaining in the presence of God is the secret to fruitfulness and much fruit that will remain. ***"If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you" (John 15:7).*** Only the friends of God who remain in the house of God, can pray with that kind of expectation. So the key to answered prayer is friendship with God. ***"No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you" (John 15:15).***

BY THE SPIRIT OF GOD

I want to share again about the supernatural works of grace that God is releasing. Let's look at it again in context from Zechariah 4.

When God called Zerubbabel to rebuild the temple of Solomon, it was a big vision that involved the entire nation, but the new temple lacked the splendor of the former temple. The old guard wept when they remembered the temple in its former glory. And yet, there's an astounding promise that God made: ***"The latter splendor of this house shall be greater than the former, says the LORD of hosts; and in this place I will give prosperity, says the LORD of hosts"*** (Haggai 2:9).

But just like us, they were looking at the color of the carpet! They got so caught up in the building program! People have nice, great big churches, but so often they are empty of the glory and the presence of God. They don't have one drop of the golden oil running down the walls. Let's not even build until we get the glory, or we'll just have an empty shell. I want the glory more than I want anything else!

Back to Zerubbabel... God called this man. He carried the weight of the ministry; he had the vision, and the dream. The prophets had prophesied. How many of us have ever been called out by the word of the Lord? How many of us have a dream and a vision and we're still waiting for the fulfillment of a prophetic promise? It's a big problem in the church today—people with vision without being empowered—people with desire without having what they need to do what God has called them to do. This makes us ache, doesn't it? How many of us have felt this pain?

I ache everyday guys. I ache because I want to do another crusade, but I don't have enough funds. I ache because I want to double the crusades. I ache because I want to win one million souls—but I am moving towards the goal as I ache. You know, it's God's will that keeps us in this painful place so that He can enlarge our hearts because He never wants us to be satisfied. All the days of our lives, if we are really walking out God's vision for our lives, we will always ache over our intense longing to win more souls, save more

kids, build more homes or have more people in the church. Often it seems impossible to do what God has called us to do—we don't have what it takes.

So Zerubbabel is called to ministry. Yet the temple of God lies in ruins and everyone is so caught up in their own thing that they don't have a passion for souls and revival. Haggai the prophet has to come and rebuke them because they are building their own houses and lands. Zerubbabel began to cry out! He was lamenting: *How, what, when, where, why?! I don't have the money! I don't have the laborers! I don't have the infrastructure! I don't have the staff! I don't have anything that I need in the natural to do what God has called me to do, but I have the dream and the vision! I don't know how to get from point A— point B!*

That's the frame of mind he was in when God brought a message to him: ***"And the angel who talked with me came again, and waked me, like a man that is wakened out of his sleep. And he said to me, "What do you see?" I said, "I see, and behold, a lampstand all of gold, with a bowl on the top of it, and seven lamps on it, with seven lips on each of the lamps which are on the top of it. And there are two olive trees by it, one on the right of the bowl and the other on its left." And I said to the angel who talked with me, "What are these, my lord?" Then the angel who talked with me answered me, "Do you not know what these are?" I said, "No, my lord" (Zechariah 4:1-5).***

It's like God, in answer to Zerubbabel's prayer, is giving him a vision to reveal keys to the fulfillment of his destiny. The Lord is handing him the key to his breakthrough. Yet Zerubbabel did not understand the Lord's message. "Thanks a lot God. I am fasting for strategies and you show me some bowls and some lamps. How does that help me build the temple of Solomon? How does that help me win a million souls? How does that help me pay for another crusade? God! Can't you just send someone to write a cheque for a million? That would be a lot easier."

Look at how the Lord responded: ***"...Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the LORD of hosts" (Zechariah 4:6).*** He tells Zerubbabel that the answer he is searching for is by His Spirit; by His presence; that the answer is His anointing because great power brings great grace and great grace brings great provision! Zerubbabel was looking for the stuff that the favor brings, but the favor comes out of the power and the power comes out of God's presence! It's like He's showing Zerubbabel and all of us— that the answer is symbolized and demonstrated in the golden oil dripping into the bowls; the ever-constant, increasing flow of oil. We need the anointing! We need the power of God! Then everything will fall into place!

God is asking: ***"Who are you, O great mountain?" (Zechariah 4:7a)*** What stands between you and your destiny? ***"...You shall become a great plain..." (Zechariah 4:7b).*** God is encouraging Zerubbabel that his destiny will be fulfilled; what God called him to do will be accomplished. Zerubbabel stands in a high calling and he will endure with shouts of "grace, grace" to it!

That's the number one thing, my friend, that your life get the touch of God, the fire of God and the presence of God. Not more doctrines; not more papers; not more licenses. God can use those things, but God can use a poor uneducated man that has never been to a Bible school who has received the touch of God's Spirit. It's like God is saying that it's not by might, it's not by power, it's not by military strength, it's not by numbers, it's not by staff, it's not by dollars in the bank ...it's by My Spirit.

Guess what? The Spirit of God is free and accessible right now. You may not get the million dollars you need, but you can get the Holy Ghost today. When you begin to testify about Jesus Christ with great power, everything else will come, but don't let your life be hindered by what you don't have. Understand that true fruitfulness is abiding in the vine. His word abides in you and when you ask what you wish, it shall be done for you (John 15:7).

God is looking for friends. He doesn't have lack in heaven. As a minister of God, I take steps of raw faith every day: I go for it and the money comes in. Every year we increase our budget. We've gone from a million-dollar budget to two million, to three million, to five million, to eight million, to 12 million. Every year I lift the bar higher. People don't understand how my brain works... I move forward in the presence of God. At times, even though our partner base may remain the same and we may be holding the same number of meetings—nothing seems to have changed, yet, all of a sudden I need ten more staff. How do I pay ten more staff? The anointing.

I want to co-labor with the Holy Spirit to activate significant breakthroughs for you. I am going to do something of a supernatural feat that only the Spirit and function of the Holy Ghost can accomplish in your life. It is going to remove every hindrance and obstacle. And I'm going to do something that is so supernatural, that many of you will have a breakthrough similar to the one Oral Roberts had. Without one dime in his pocket, he built Oral Roberts University. I know ministries that have built millions of dollars of buildings and they keep going even though in the natural, it's like they are broke!

Listen! You can build things into the kingdom with nothing but the anointing. By the presence and the anointing, God is building this ministry through me. Six years ago I worked in a saw mill in Surrey and I had absolutely nothing. It isn't my preaching. I haven't been to Bible school. It isn't my age. Everything about my past disqualifies me and everything about who I am today should disqualify me. You should be encouraged!

The anointing of God's grace is the word of the Lord for this hour. Grace, grace—and you can receive it by faith. He is going to do something so supernatural and He is going to do it by the Spirit called grace, grace. From nothing to something ...grace, grace. Open your heart now... the Spirit of grace is about to move. God is about to touch your life and anoint you with strength and take you to the next level. I want you to believe with me.

"Father I pray for every man and woman reading this...they are hungry for you. God, every man or woman has a dream and a destiny. Lord, our hearts are aching—you have

enlarged our hearts with vision. Now we need you to enlarge our hearts with provision because we want to have more in order to do more. Lord I am asking the Spirit of grace to empower every man, woman, church leader and ministry that is standing in faith right now. I am asking you to release upon them grace, grace.

Grace, grace! I speak it over every life, over every child, over every unborn child. I speak it over my children's children and yours. I speak into the city of Abbotsford where I live, and by faith I speak it into your city right now, grace, grace. Moving into our hearts right now is a supernatural anointing of God's power to do the impossible. Father, release it now! Let the golden oil come right now: Holy Spirit, anoint, fill and touch each one. Hallelujah!

*I decree and I prophesy divine visitations of His presence. **"Behold I stand at the door and knock. If any man hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and dine with Him and he'll dine with me"** (Rev. 3:20). Lord, right now open up doors of intimacy; open up doors to the King's palace and open up doors to the King's chamber. Bring us into your presence..."*