

NOTES
AND
QUOTES

6

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.

-1-

LORD, TEACH US TO PRAY

(From the book *With Christ In the School of Prayer* by Andrew Murray)

(p. 10)

"Lord, teach us to pray.

This is what we need to be taught.

Though in its beginnings prayer is so simple that the feeblest child can pray, it is at the same time the highest and holiest work to which man can rise.

Prayer is fellowship with the Unseen and Most Holy One.

The powers of the eternal world have been placed at prayer's disposal.

It is the very essence of true religion and the channel of all blessings.

It is the secret of power and life not only for ourselves, but for others, for the Church, and for the world.

It is to prayer that God has given the right to take hold of Him and His strength.

It is on prayer that the promises wait for their fulfillment, the Kingdom waits for its coming, and the glory of God waits for its full revelation.

Only the Spirit of God can enable us to do it right.

(p 11)

Jesus has opened a school in which He trains those of His redeemed ones who especially desire to have power in prayer.

(p 12)

We offer ourselves as learners. We want only You to teach us.

Even when we know what to ask for, so much is still needed to make prayer acceptable.

It must be to the glory of God, in full surrender to His will, in full assurance of faith, in the Name of Jesus, and with a perseverance that, if need be, refuses to be denied.

All this must be learned.

There is One - the Beginner and Finisher of faith and prayer - Who watches over our praying and sees to it that in all who trust Him for it, education in the school of prayer is carried on to perfection.

(p 13)

We can depend on His teaching us to pray.

Nothing delights Him more than to find those whom He can take with Him into the Father's presence, clothing them with power to pray down God's blessing to those around them, training them to be His fellow-workers in the intercession by which the Kingdom is to be revealed on earth.

By His Holy Spirit He has access to our hearts and teaches us to pray by showing us the sin that hinders the prayer, or by giving us the assurance that we please God.

He teaches by giving not only thoughts of what to ask or how to ask, but by breathing into us the very spirit of prayer and living within us as the Great Intercessor.

(p 14)

Jesus never taught His disciples how to preach, only how to pray.

To know how to speak to God is more than knowing how to speak to man.

Let us take time, not only to meditate, but to pray, to sit at the foot of the throne and be trained for the work of intercession.

As He makes us partakers of His righteousness and His life, He will make us partakers of His intercession, too.

-2-

2016 PROPHETIC WORD

(Get Ready for Realignments and New Assignments, by Doug Addison, 1-26-2016)

- Time of healing and breakthrough for those who have suffered unjustly
- Purging of the things that are not of God.
- God will be pruning things from our lives (John 15)
- Result of time of deeper cleansing will be a closer relationship with God and greater authority
- If you remain in Me and My words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you (John 15:7).
- Major adjustment in our beliefs
- God will be revealing to us the beliefs, values, and doctrines that are not for now.
- Moving us away from mere tradition and revealing deeper revelation that we will need to operate in the new things being released from Heaven.
- We will all be challenged with how we express our faith.
- Expect to be stretched, as God will be pushing our faith to new levels.
- Hold on, as God is going to challenge you
- **I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. (Phil. 4:13)**
- **With God all things are possible. (Matthew 19:26)**
- God is bringing His heart to us so that we too can operate in new levels of His love and mercy.
- Positioning is very important. – it is crucial to align with the right people and places
- God will be moving some people unexpectedly because of new assignments
- January – God will be revealing and healing things at a deeper level
- February – old things dying, new life, deeper level of revelation, strange events, watch for God to speak to the world with a prophetic message in the NFL Super Bowl

- March – breakthrough month. Sudden acceleration of favor and sudden advancements. Lots of movement as God is realigning you to operate at new levels. See the start of new things. They might look small, but the result will be a greater impact.
- He saw an angel taking measurements for expansion...and masses of worker angels rebuilding a spiritual temple because the glory of the Lord is returning like never before...God preparing for a coming movement.
- This spiritual temple is “The House” that Bob Jones talked about with the billion-youth revival.
- Lot of shifting now to bring a major restructuring for those looking for the next level in their lives.
- In 2007, Bob saw that the leaders of the Church did not want to reach this group of outcasts.
- Now it is time to pick up the calling and bring it into reality.
- Doug heard a rumble in the spirit, and it was the Lord coming.
- The glory of the Lord is returning like never before. It is not coming in the current Church structure, because it will blow many churches up by causing division.
- It is because of God’s love and mercy for the current Church that He will not allow this movement to be damaged. We will still have our old church structure.
- This move of God will take place mostly outside the church structure, not inside.
- Those who say yes to this new movement will pay a great price, but the reward will be even greater.
- The new anointing of fire and oil from Heaven can only be touched by those who are called by God and have made it through the tests of humility.
- This will cause jealousy from many leaders, who will try to control or own it – but they will not be able to.
- It will not be contained by one group and will spread like fire around the world.
- God has heard the cries of people wounded by uncaring Christians and leaders.
- God’s new agenda is about those who have been wounded by Christianity. These are spiritual outcasts who do not fit into typical churches.
- To operate in the new move of God for this year it will require us to have high levels of grace, mercy, and love for people. These people might be offensive to many Christians.
- We need to be humble and get God’s heart for people in need.
- This is a time to reveal the Father’s heart to people through unconditional love.
- **And he will go on before the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the parents to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous – to make ready a people prepared for the Lord. (Luke 1:17)**
- We are being called to bless the sons and daughters (spiritual or natural), and God is silencing our negative talk.
- You may need to ask forgiveness of people in your life.
- Releasing what is bound
- There are judgments that have been made by Christians that need to be released.
- **Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in Heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in Heaven. Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by My Father in Heaven. (Matt. 18:18-19)**
- Judgments against others cause us to come into agreement with darkness and not the Lord.
- We need to agree with Heaven over people, cities, and nations.
- What has happened is that people with spiritual keys of authority have locked down people and even geographic regions knowingly or unknowingly.

- He saw a leader who was carrying a spiritual key to open revival over a major city in the U.S. who got wounded and became judgmental. Because he was carrying the spiritual key from Heaven, when he got judgmental, it caused the world to look at this city with judgment.
- He saw these keys being collected all over the world, and they are about to be redistributed.
- There are spiritual keys that have been given to people that unlock and lock things in the spiritual realm in and over people and regions. This is similar to the key of David mentioned in Revelation 3:7b.
- **These are the words of Him who is holy and true, who holds the key of David. What He opens no one can shut, and what He shuts no one can open.**
- The key in Rev. 3:7 is the redeemed key of authority that can open and close things with God's heart and love.
- There are people with spiritual authority operating in the OT version of this gift (Isaiah 22:22). It is mentioned in the context of judgment.
- They often close things down in their anger and opinions. Because this has greatly wounded people and closed people down based on opinions and anger and not God's desires, these keys are now being reassigned.
- He saw two angels traveling the world right now, gathering these keys or assignments. God is lining things up for a breakthrough in March!
- There has been a move of God every 11 years dating back to Azusa in 1906
- 1950 Healing Movement
- 1961 Charismatic Renewal
- 1972 Jesus People Movement
- 1983 Third Wave Charismatic Movement
- 1994 Toronto Blessing
- 2005 a movement started but never got off the ground because of judgments, being bound by those with keys of authority. It's signs: gold fillings, gold dust, gemstones appearing supernaturally. It never went global as God intended.
- 2016 – a move is coming this year. It will be with fire and oil from Heaven that cannot be touched by those who have not been prepared.
- It will cost money as it targets the poor, outcasts, young people, those who don't have much money
- God is releasing financial strategies now for this
- A major key for this year is found in Isaiah – **Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. (Isaiah 43:18)**
- We will need to let go of things that no longer work or that God is no longer moving on.
- This will require us to look to God for our strategy.
- Like Isaac in Genesis 26 who was going to go to Egypt during the famine like his father did, but God spoke to him to go into the land of the Philistines instead. The result was that he got blessed 100-fold in a time of famine.
- God wants to bless us 100-fold in the midst of economic difficulties.
- Financial strategies are going to be revealed to help fund new Kingdom work.
- Expect to be encouraged and to see many prophetic promises of God that will be renewed and fulfilled in your life this year.

WORDS OF WISDOM

(Quotes from the book *THE CALL* by Rick Joyner, p. 29-31)

(pg 29)

“And you shall have more (conviction),” Wisdom interjected, knowing my thoughts. “What you have found here will go with you. However, you do not have to come here to be changed. What you have experienced here you can experience every day. The Holy Spirit was sent to convict you of sin, to lead you to truth, and to testify of Me. He is with you continually. You must get to know the Holy Spirit better.

“Many believe in the Holy Spirit, but few make room for Him in their lives. As the end of this age approaches that will change. The Holy Spirit is about to move over the earth as He did in the beginning. He will take the chaos and confusion that are spreading across the earth, and He will bring forth the glorious new creation right in the midst of it. You are about to enter the times when He will do wonders continually, and the whole world will be in awe of His works.

(pg. 30)

“He will do all of this through My people. When the Holy Spirit moves, the sons and daughters of God will prophesy. From the old to the young they will dream dreams and see visions. The works that I did, the greater works, will they do in My name, that I might be glorified in the earth. The whole creation groans and travails for what the Holy Spirit is about to do.

“What you will find through that door will help you to prepare for what is to come. I am the Savior, but I am also the Judge. I am about to reveal Myself to the world as the Righteous Judge. First, I must reveal My judgment to My own household. My people are about to know the fellowship of the Holy Spirit. Then they will know His power to convict of sin. They will also know that He will always lead them to the truth that will set them free. This is the truth that testifies of Me. When My people have come to know Me as I AM, then I will use them to testify of Me.

“I am the Judge, but it is better for you to judge yourself so that I will not have to judge you. Even so, My judgments are about to be restored to My people. I will judge My own household first. After that I will judge the whole earth.”

(pg 31)

“Many people fall when My Spirit touches them. The time for falling is over. You must learn to stand when My Spirit moves. If you do not stand when My Spirit moves, He cannot use you. The heathen should fall before Me, but I need for My people to stand so that I can use them.”

I HEARD ANGELS ON HIGH PROCLAIMING, "IT'S COMING! IT'S COMING!" AS LIQUID FIRE STARTED TO FALL

(Article on internet by Bill Yount, Hagerstown, Md., email:blowtheshofar@juno.com, Feb. 2002)

In the Spirit I saw in the heavenlies a "Corporate Anointing" over many cities hanging like a large canopy and beginning to be activated to descend upon them. I heard Angels on High proclaiming, "IT'S COMING! IT'S COMING!"

LIQUID FIRE STARTS TO FALL UPON CITIES

I then saw what appeared to be "Liquid Fire" starting to fall from heaven like rain upon these cities. Each drop of rain had fire inside of it. As it fell it was plummeting upon the roof tops of churches burning holes right down through these roofs.

I sense these church roofs represented "spiritual authority" that was being tried by fire as the wood, hay and stubble was being consumed in the leadership of these churches - giving way to God's authority coming upon His House!

EVEN GOOD PLANS AND PROGRAMS WERE GOING UP IN SMOKE

This "Liquid Fire" continued penetrating down through the ceilings of church sanctuaries falling upon pulpits and church pews. "Seemingly" good programs and plans were going up in smoke as this "Liquid Fire" drenched the inside of the house.

This "Liquid Fire" seemed to be declaring, "GOD'S PLANS ARE TOO BIG FOR ONE INDIVIDUAL CHURCH!" Then, like pieces of a puzzle, Angels began giving out only a part of Heaven's "Blue Print" to each church. So these churches in turn would need to come together with other churches to have Heaven's "Blue Print" fully revealed for their city!

A NEW CANOPY COMING ON CHURCHES

A new "spiritual roof " or covering like a Canopy was coming on churches as Angels descended upon roof tops. Divine order of Authority was being established in leadership positions.

What amazed me was that even as pastors and churches were only beginning to slightly come together - even the slightest connections were forming this "Canopy of Glory" and beginning to activate this power over the cities.

Two or three churches coming together began to become like a powerful magnet drawing other churches to them - connecting them like pieces of a puzzle coming together as Heaven's "Blue Print" was being revealed.

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PROPHETIC DIRECTIVES

(By Patricia King, Extreme Prophetic Television, patricia@extremeprophetic.com)

PROPHETIC DIRECTIVES FOR 2005

During the month of December, each year, I take some time aside to pray, seek the Lord, and ask Him for some insights into His will for the coming season. The following are 12 of the prophetic insights He gave me this month. May you be strongly encouraged -- it will be a great year for you and yours!

We ask you to diligently pray through these directives for the birthing of the Lord's will for 2005.

1. 2005 IS TO BE PROCLAIMED AS A YEAR OF THE LORD'S FAVOR (Isaiah 61:2)

This is a year when God's people can contend for greater levels of manifest favor and grace over their lives. Study and pray through Psalm 5:12; Ephesians 2:8; Luke 2:28; Acts 4:33,34; 2 Peter 1:2-4.

2. A YEAR OF RECOMPENSE, REWARD, AND EXPONENTIAL INCREASE

The number 5 in scripture often is used to symbolize recompense, reward, and increase (see Exodus 22:1 -- Thieves must repay 5 times the value of the oxen they steal; Numbers 3:47 -- the Israelites were to reclaim their firstborn with a payment of 5 shekels each; Genesis 43:34; 45:22 -- Benjamin was honored by Joseph with 5 times more food than his brothers and 5 sets of clothing; Matthew 14:17-21 -- Jesus multiplies 5 fish to feed 5,000).

This year, many believers will be surprised with God's supernatural return on their lives for what looked like disasters in the past. Many who were "robbed" by the enemy (in 2004 and previous years) from the promised blessings of God will find a multiplied return this year if they contend for the blessing by faith. God will reward those who stand in faith, love, forgiveness, and purity.

Many Christians and ministries will enter into a season of multiplied and miraculous increase.

3. A YEAR OF POLITICAL TENSIONS AND UPHEAVALS -- MUCH PRAYER WILL BE NEEDED (1 Timothy 2:1-3)

2005 will require Christians to pray much for their government leaders. The enemy will continue to push his unrighteous agendas and attempt to change civic, regional, national, and even global laws to support his purposes. God will raise up many apostolic, intercessory and prophetic leaders to "stand in the gap" and encourage the Body of Christ to pray.

Prayer for government leaders will be of utmost importance in 2005. Christians must be careful not to verbally curse or judge them in their hearts, but to cry out in their prayer closet for God's righteousness and wisdom to fill government leaders.

4. LAWLESSNESS WILL INCREASE (Matthew 24:12-14)

We will see lawlessness increase again in 2005. Law enforcement institutions and policy makers will become overwhelmed at the intensity of crime. The church must pray for a revival of moral righteousness.

The practice of sin will also increase within the church. Intercessors must pray for the true conviction of the Spirit of God and for God to raise up a standard that will protect believers from the deceptions of the enemy.

Many, even in the church, will be calling "good evil" and "evil good." This increase of lawlessness will be a sign concerning the season of the end days. Believers must stand alert and move forward with aggressive action to preach the gospel.

A revival of the fear of the Lord and conviction of sin will begin in the house of God for those who contend for it. In these environments the presence of God will bring many to repentance.

5. A FRESH THRUST OF EVANGELISM AND MERCY MINISTRY (Isaiah 61:1-3)

In 2004 there was a fresh call to the Body to go out to the harvest fields of the world. Many have responded already. In 2005, we will see floods of Christians receiving a true passion for reaching the lost. There will be an increase of training, equipping, and mobilizing.

Many believers will receive a true burden for the lost and perishing, and many in 2005 will GO! Many are going to have fresh compassion for the poor, the afflicted, and the broken. They will reach out to love, support, bless, and strengthen the weak of soul and body.

Great provision will be raised for the poor of the earth and a new missions thrust will enter the church.

6. CHANGE FOR THE CHURCH (Matthew 9:17)

For a number of years, the Lord has been releasing a prophetic call concerning a new wine skin for the western church. In 2005, you will see drastic changes.

For those who have been praying and seeking the Lord regarding the transformation of the church, they will find "new blueprints" from the Spirit that will fit the call God has for their ministries and service. For those who have not prepared, they will most likely find a drastic diminishing of attendance in services, lack of commitment to programs, and a depletion of financial support.

There will not be one particular model raised up for others to follow, but the Spirit of God will direct leaders according to the will of God for their sphere of influence. Spending personal time in the presence of the Lord is the key to discerning the transition. The direction will not come from the mind of man but will be given out of friendship with the Lord as believers and leaders sit at His feet and receive counsel in His presence.

7. KINGDOM MINDEDNESS

A true perspective and understanding of the Kingdom of God is going to increase in the church in 2005. Many believers will become more "heavenly minded" in 2005 and will receive increased revelation in areas of the prophetic, heavenly experiences, and divine and angelic encounters. Colossians 3:1-3 will be a key verse for many.

8. CHANGE IN THE PROPHETIC MOVEMENT

I have had a recurring vision of a sharp, two-edged sword over the last

number of months. The Spirit revealed that this vision was in regards to the prophetic gift and movement. One side of the sword is called truth and the other side is called grace. John 1:17 came to mind: ***"For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth were realized through Jesus Christ."*** In the eighties and nineties, as the prophetic movement was maturing, the Lord laid a foundation of grace through the prophets. There was a beckoning through the prophetic word for believers to abide in the love, intimate presence, and precious promises of God. There was definitely a call to righteousness, but it was packaged in a wrapping of "the kindness of God leads a man to repentance."

This holy and sure foundation will continue to stand and be ministered to the Body through 2005, but there will also be the entrance of the "weighty words" that the Lord will bring to the church. There will be strong calls to repentance and righteousness. There will be words of exposure such as what Ananias and Sapphira encountered. This transition can be very dangerous if it is not properly discerned and managed.

Many disgruntled believers who were frustrated with the "lack of strong word" in this last season could possibly leap into this new season with a wrong motivation. The scripture clearly teaches that "the anger of man does not achieve the righteousness of God."

At the same time, when the weightier words come, those that were called to bring strong prophetic words of mercy, pardon, invitation to intimacy, etc. in the last season might take up offense at the strength of the call to morality, repentance, exposure, and righteousness that is about to unfold.

We must pray for peace and discernment.

In Luke 9:55,56 we find James and John wanting to call down fire from heaven on the Samaritans who wouldn't believe. Jesus rebuked them saying, ***"You do not know what kind of spirit you are of, for the Son of Man did not come to destroy men's lives but to save them."*** In the book of Revelation, we find John, who is now known as the "apostle of love," being entrusted with the weighty words to the church.

The weighty words are coming, but woe to those who attempt to achieve the righteousness of God through the anger and judgment of man. God is looking for apostles and prophets of "love" who He can trust in this season.

9. CHRISTIANS MUST LEARN TO LIVE IN KINGDOM PROVISION (Philippians 4:19)

Economic upheavals will visit the earth in 2005, and global financial institutions will be strategizing to build global economy. It is very important for Christians to learn to live by faith in the area of their needs. There is no shortage of provision in the Kingdom. There is bounty!

The Lord is calling the church to lay hold of supernatural provision and to keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, our Provider. God will remind the church this year that He is El Shaddai, the God of Plenty. Many who move into securing provision by faith will experience tremendous breakthroughs.

The Spirit will lead us into a new realm of securing provision as we follow Him. Keys will be given as we seek His face and the "Breaker Anointing" will operate in the area of provision. God is going to raise up faith-filled people as a standard. Blessings will come upon believers and overtake them as they stand in radical, tenacious, and persevering faith. GREAT REWARD awaits those who believe.

10. A NEW GENERATION OF CHILDREN (Isaiah 8:18)

The Lord is creating a generation of children (including those who are born in 2005) who will be extremely, spiritually sensitive; and many will carry unusual leadership abilities. We must invest time, prayer, and provision into this generation. The enemy will continue to inspire individuals to "market" the spirituality of these young people. Pray for the Lord to give insight, wisdom and counsel to His people on how to groom and disciple this coming generation.

The church MUST grow in spiritual awareness, focus, and creativity in order to reach this generation.

11. GOD'S MEDIA ARMY EMERGES

The Lord is raising up a powerful company of believers who are making claim on the airwaves for the glory of the name of Jesus. This army will continue to surface and grow in 2005.

Many prophetic and apostolic ministers will be expanding their outreach to television, radio, web, and other forms of media. Many young people in their late teens through the 30's will be feeling strong calls from the Lord to get trained in media expressions.

The airwaves belong to the King of Glory (Psalm 24).

12. MIRACLES, SIGNS, AND WONDERS

A very strong move of miracles, signs, and wonders will become evident in 2005. Apostolic scriptures such as Matthew 10:1-8; Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15-20; and Acts 1:8 will carry a fresh revelation to believers. The younger generation, in particular, will be moving powerfully in the preaching of the gospel of the Kingdom with accompanying miracles.

The healing ministry, including the ministry of creative miracles and the raising of the dead, will increase in 2005. God is calling all His people to move in these signs.

You will also begin to see women emerge (especially those born between 1960 and 1990) who are moved upon by the Spirit to move in ways such as Maria Woodworth Etter, Aimee Semple McPherson, and Kathryn Kuhlman.

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AUTHORITY OVER DEMONS

(Special bulletin #1-20, *Authority Over Demons*, by Rick Joyner, March 29, 2006)

Then the seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name."

And He said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven."

"Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you."

"Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rather rejoice because your names are written in heaven" (Luke 10:17-20 NKJV).

Christians have been given authority over demons, yet very few even understand it, much less use it. There are even sincere Christians who believe that demons or the devil do not really exist, but are metaphors for serious human problems. Though one does not have to believe in the devil to be saved, such beliefs which are in direct conflict with the Scriptures have to be one of the devil's most effective deceptions. The devil dwells in darkness or hiddenness. If he can make Christians believe that he does not exist, he has certainly been successful at hiding himself.

Other Christians believe that demons existed in biblical times, but think that they just disappeared somehow after the first century. Others think they are still here, but are all in Africa or the South American jungles. Still others think that they are not only still here, but have been having babies and multiplying since the first century! These tend to see demons behind everything. What is the truth about this, and how can knowing the truth affect our lives?

As is often the case, the truth is found between the extremes. Demonic forces are a much bigger problem than many suppose, and the ignorance of those who do not know how they operate or the authority we have been given over them, are far more vulnerable to the schemes of the devil. Of course, there are some who go too far, believing that the devil or demons are the cause of every human problem. It is going to be increasingly important for us to understand this issue and walk in the authority we have been given over the powers of evil.

Our Authority

True spiritual authority comes from abiding in the King. We have authority "in His name," which implies that we have His authority when we are on a mission for Him. There is a general assignment that we all have as Christians, which gives us general authority in that area. There are also specific assignments that we are given individually, or as groups, which give us more specific authority in areas. There is a reason why the Lord told His followers that He was sending them out to heal the sick and cast out devils. When you are sent out by Him to do His work, you will stir up the evil one and you will need to deal with him.

Even though we would do well to spend much more time seeking to understand the Lord and His ways than the devil and his ways, we are commanded not to be ignorant of the devil's schemes. Those who are ignorant of them are going to be paying an increasingly high price for that ignorance. We must know and learn to use the authority that we have over the powers of evil.

The discerning know that we have as serious a demonic problem in the West as anywhere else in the world. Some forms of civilization enable demonic forces to be more easily disguised. Some demonic forces are simply more socially acceptable, but the good side of the Tree of Knowledge is just as deadly as the evil side. In relation to demonic powers, this means that seemingly "nice" demons, or to use the biblical term, "**angels of light**" (see **II Corinthians 11:14**), that are in fact fallen angels, are just as evil, and result in just as much bondage and death.

When an angel of light is de-masked, it will show itself as hideously evil and cruel as any released by the witchcraft practiced by even the most uncivilized tribes in the Southern hemispheres. This is what the world found out through Nazi Germany, one of the most cultured and civilized nations in the world when it fell under the spell of the Nazis. Even

Winston Churchill stated that had Hitler died before 1938 he would have been considered one of the greatest leaders in world history because of all that he had accomplished in rebuilding Germany. But the true nature of this diabolical leader was revealed, and many today still have trouble believing such a brilliant and cultured people as the Germans could have fallen to such depravity. The truth is that the same thing could happen at almost any time to any nation that remains ignorant of the enemy's schemes.

What does this have to do with us now? In 1990, several prophetic friends and myself all received the same revelation that the very demonic powers that had seduced Germany had been sent to the United States to seduce our country. Because of this revelation, I have spent a considerable amount of time trying to understand what happened in Nazi Germany. I have been astonished by what I have learned and how true this revelation was. I will be writing a lot about this in the future, but it is my basic belief that when we are shown the schemes of the enemy, it is so we can thwart them. This will not be done just by writing articles or books. The church must begin to walk in the authority that we have been given over demonic forces on every level.

There is another great awakening coming to America. It is right at the door. With this outpouring of the Holy Spirit, the disguises of the evil one which are gripping so many in America and Europe, are going to be stripped away. As we read in the Book of Revelation, when the devil was cast out of heaven, his high place, he came to the earth with great wrath. This is going to stir up a lot of things we need to be prepared to deal with.

A Lesson From Katrina

Katrina means "cleansing" or "to cleanse," and this hurricane was named right. It began a great spiritual cleansing of the Gulf Coast region. Though New Orleans has become known as "sin city" to many, we should not overlook that New Orleans and the Gulf Coast region have some great Christians, great churches, many great businesses, and great communities. We do tend to judge people and things by their most extreme elements, which is a basic deception. Even so, though they themselves may still have a hard time understanding it, Katrina was the answer to the prayers of many Christians to clean up their region.

Though there were many upstanding people and churches there, New Orleans was a center for the occult and sexual perversion. When the people were scattered from New Orleans, there were reports of crime rising dramatically in places where the refugees went. Suddenly, there was an almost instant increase in demonic assaults on churches and church members. We ourselves had things happen that we had never experienced before, and it got our attention when those who were causing the problems were from New Orleans.

Some of those causing problems may have been involved in that kind of behavior before, but not necessarily. One basic thing we must learn about the schemes of the devil is that he uses traumatic experiences to gain entry into people's lives. Traumatized people do things that they would not normally do. Traumatized people can be much more open and subject to demonic control. As trauma increases around the world, this is something we must come to understand, and know how to take authority over.

We need to also keep in mind that after the people were scattered from New Orleans, many communities were blessed with great people who quickly became a blessing instead of a burden. This disaster brought out the best in some and the worst in others. That is what we can expect in every catastrophe. We need to also understand that those who may be temporarily overcome with evil are not really that way, and will not be that way for very long. We need to learn to overcome evil with good.

Even so, I know many felt that the devil had sent those with serious problems to attack their churches and people, and in fact the devil himself may have felt that he was doing this, but the Lord was sending them to us to get set free. Some of those who may at first behave very badly can become some of the best neighbors and church members. However, we do need to know how to set them free from the things that may have a grip on them when they come.

The Lord's Best Friends

Here is the shocker—some of those who had the biggest problems, and maybe even were the most perverted, were sent to us to become pillars in our churches. Who was it that gathered around the Lord when He walked the earth, and who did He choose to be the future leaders of His church? He has not changed, and He is still building His church with the same kind of people.

The truly wise and experienced are more comfortable around those who are in the grip of demonic oppression than around those with a self-righteous religious spirit. The demonically-oppressed are probably much safer to be around spiritually and have in our churches than someone with a religious spirit. The demon-possessed would fall down at Jesus' feet and beg for mercy, but the religious crucified Him. Those who were set free from their bondage, and who were forgiven of much tended to love Him much. Likewise, those who were forgiven of little, tended to love Him little.

The people who come to us with serious problems, even demonic problems, can be far more beneficial to us and our churches in the long run than the prosperous, conservative, mature believers, whom we usually tend to put our hope in. It will be the conservative and mature who are the most prone to become lukewarm, and then they are a much more serious problem than those who are presently cold toward the Lord.

Of course, this does not mean that those who are conservative and mature are all lukewarm. There are conservative, mature Christians who maintain their passion and fire for the Lord their entire lives, and can be pillars in the church. However, this is rare. This is why studies have shown that 98 percent of the Christians who lead others to the Lord do so in the first two years of their Christian walk. After two years in the faith, the overwhelming majority of Christians do not lead anyone else to the Lord. This is because after a couple of years most Christians begin losing their passion for the Lord, and therefore lose their passion for the lost that He gave His life to save.

Our goal should be maturity without losing the fire. However, the mature who are repelled by those in darkness instead of being devoted to liberating them are a worse enemy of the Gospel than those in blatant sin. Lukewarmness is the worst state that any Christian could ever fall into, and even the Lord said that it would be better for one to be hot or cold, but the lukewarm He would spew out of His mouth (see Revelation 3:15-16). New believers coming into our churches, especially those who have been delivered out of great darkness, can help to stir up the fires again in a way that no amount of preaching and teaching can.

Buy Low, Sell High

We invest ourselves in people. If you want a good return on your investment with people, like any other investment, buy low and sell high. If you give yourself to helping those who are down, they will be your friends for life, but when you give yourself to someone who is already doing well, what reward should you expect for that?

Consider King David and his mighty men. The disgruntled, in debt, and other misfits were the ones who joined him when he was fleeing from Saul. However, these became the mighty men of Israel, the key leaders in the kingdom, and the king's friends for life, who loved David so much that some of them would even risk their lives just to get him a drink of water.

It is our basic mandate to help set the captives free. This is what we do. This is not just about investing in those who can benefit us or our churches, but for those whom the Lord so valued that He paid the highest price that could be paid for them—His own Son. Whether we even see a person again or not, we should treat them as this valuable.

Those in the grip of demonic bondage are loved so much by God that He gave His own Son for them, and these are the ones who will tend to love Him the most when they are set free. We must not see these people as problems sent to us by the devil, but as treasures sent to us by the Lord. When converted and set free, these will also tend to be the most faithful and fruitful.

Therefore, we need to view the situation, such as the many from New Orleans who had serious problems being scattered abroad, as an opportunity if they come to us. However, if we do not know our authority over demonic powers and use it, we are going to be in for some difficult times ahead.

Every Christian has authority over demons. No Christian should be intimidated by demons or demon-possessed people. If we run from this calling to set the captives free, we will soon be running all of the time. If this is something you do not want to get involved in, and have resolved not to, you may as well change this mindset now because you will not escape the confrontation with demonic powers for much longer.

Give Them Their Weapons

The newest Christian who has been given the Holy Spirit has more power and more spiritual authority in them than all of the power of the enemy. We have been given divinely powerful weapons. However, few understand them and few have been equipped to use them. This must change. Those who do not understand and walk in this authority, and know how to use these divinely powerful weapons, will find themselves in increasingly difficult situations, and even jeopardy. The Lord gave us the armor and the weapons of our warfare because we need them.

Equipping comes after training. Training comes after teaching. Soldiers have to be taught about their weapons and then trained to use them before they are trusted with them. In general, the church has been stuck in the teaching mode, and we must go on to training and then equipping the saints to do the work of the ministry.

In just a couple of weeks we will be hosting a Deliverance and Spiritual Warfare Conference in which we are going to go into some depth on these increasingly important subjects. If this is something the Lord has been speaking to you about, please come. We are especially interested in those who are not only determined to walk in the authority they have been given, but can teach and train others also.

All of our conferences have been going to a higher level each time, which is a special grace we do not take for granted, but lately they have been going to a dramatically higher level. Even so, this upcoming Deliverance and Spiritual Warfare Conference seems to have a special destiny on it, which I believe is because of how much we are going to need this knowledge and authority in the times ahead. The conference is April 12-15, 2006.

There are many other conferences and churches that are teaching, training, and equipping their people to walk in the authority over the evil one that we are called to walk in. If you feel that this is something the Lord is calling you to do, go to where the seeds He has planted in your heart can be watered. All that I can do in a *Bulletin* such as this is try to impart vision for it,

and stir up those whom the Lord is already speaking to so that they go forward. Those who hear and go forward will soon be very thankful that they obeyed. Those who heard, but did not respond will soon be very sorry they did not. Just as deliverance was a large part of the Lord's own ministry, it will be for His people too, and we will only neglect it to our own peril. We have been given this authority for a reason, and we must walk in it. Go forward.

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ANGELS OF HEALING ARE COMING UPON THE EARTH

(By Bill Yount : Apr 24, 2006, <http://www.billyount.com>, <http://www.elijahlist.com>)

I saw a "Bowl of Healing" teetering as angels of healing were proposing a toast to one another for Divine health coming upon the earth! They were toasting with the scripture **3 John 1:2** that says, **"Beloved, I wish above all things that you would prosper and be in health, even as your soul prospers!"**

I saw many souls prospering because of drawing near to the Lord as they were fighting the good fight of faith for their healing! On the Father's heart was not only healing but Divine Health!

A Bowl of Healing In Heaven Is About to Tip Over...Your Next Prayer Could Tip It!"

Have you ever prayed for someone to be healed, but they died? We all have. But did you know that your prayer of faith for that person was not in vain, and that God still honors it? Neither is that person's death in vain.

I Saw Tears Being Collected in a Bottle in Heaven...and "Unanswered" Prayers for the Sick Down Here Were Being Collected in a Bowl Up There

I saw that our tears over our loved ones (whom we had believed and prayed for to be healed but were not healed) were not shed in vain. I saw these many tears being collected in a bottle in heaven for a purpose. Our seemingly "unanswered prayers" of faith for the sick who had not received their healing were also being collected in a huge bowl in heaven. I had a knowing that our tears and unanswered prayers down here were working for us a "far more exceeding weight of glory!" I saw this huge bowl in heaven that was filling up to the top, and it was about to tip over to pour out upon the earth the greatest outpouring of healing that this world has ever known!

Your Next Prayer of Faith For the Sick Could be the One That Tips the Bowl Over--Never Stop Praying and Believing!

I sense many who have been given the gift of healing have been stopped by the enemy because they have not seen the results of their prayers of faith. You may say, "Bill, I have been prophesied to lay hands on the sick, but I have prayed for ten people who weren't healed!" Listen carefully. "You need to go find number eleven, and lay hands on them, and pray the prayer of faith, and believe God again. God is the healer, not us! We are called to believe God's word as long as we have breath! Remember, we are believers not doubters! Even IF your next prayer of faith for the sick goes "unanswered", it could be the very prayer to tip over that bowl of healing in Heaven! Never stop praying and believing! Your prayers are never in vain!

You may say, "Bill, I have been believing God for my healing for fifteen years and still no victory!" Listen carefully. "It would be foolish for you to quit now. You have fifteen years of faith invested in your healing, and you are closer now to your healing than when you first believed!"

John G. Lake Had a Gift of Healing that is Still Healing People Around the World Through Healing Rooms

John G. Lake came from a large family of sixteen members. Seven of his family's loved ones were killed by an epidemic disease. All of this death in his family actually burned a desire inside of him to lay hold of the power of God and discover the key to healing that is still touching the world today. The death all around him could have caused him to quit believing in healing. Instead, the deaths were like gasoline being thrown on fire--they inflamed him to press in until he got the key of healing for the nations!

I read that John G. Lake was in a foreign country where a plague had broken out, and everyone around him was dying but him. They put John G. Lake's hand under a microscope and dropped a touch of this plague on his hand. As this plague touched his skin, they watched the plague die! Let the deaths around us spur us on to press in until we get what Jesus died to give us, because "by His stripes we were healed!"

Why some people die without being healed, only God knows. For sure, if they know Jesus or are small children then they are *present with the Lord*, totally healed forever! And we will see them again.

In this Bowl of Healing, I Saw an Anointing that Would Release Resurrection Power Upon the Earth!

This bowl that was about to tip over had Resurrection Life in it! I saw a key roll out of this bowl that would unlock the jaws of death and cancel funerals! I heard a strong angel in the heavenlies proclaiming, "They found it! They found the key to the miraculous! They didn't quit but persevered in the 'prayer of faith' beating all the odds against terminal sicknesses, diseases, and infirmities!"

I Think I Have Discovered What the Prayer of Faith Is...It Is When You Pray For Someone Else, When You Feel Like You

Need Prayer Yourself!"

I have prayed for the sick. When I had no feeling whatsoever while praying, I have seen more people healed. I think the real prayer of faith for the sick is when you don't even feel like praying, but you just do it anyway because Jesus said to. I am learning it's not the *prayer of feeling* that saves the sick, but it is the *prayer of faith!* There are divine times when we will be moved with compassion and strongly sense the Lord's presence as we pray. There are also times we are called to pray by faith, not by feeling. You have heard the saying..."When it's hard to pray, pray the hardest!"

Remember, you have healing in your hands because the Healer lives in you!

"Let's tip the bowl over!"

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LEARN TO ABIDE IN MY PRESENCE

(From the book *The Call*, by Rick Joyner)

(pg 32)

"You are small, but you must learn to abide in My presence without looking at yourself. You will not be able to hear from Me or speak for Me if you are looking at yourself. You will always be inadequate. You will always be unworthy for what I call you to do, but it will never be your adequacy or worthiness that causes Me to use you. You must not look at your inadequacy, but look to My adequacy. You must stop looking at your own unworthiness and look to My righteousness. When you are used, it is because of who I am, not who you are.

"You did feel My anger as you began to look at yourself. This is the anger I felt toward Moses when he started to complain about how inadequate he was. This only reveals that you are looking to yourself more than to Me, which is the main reason why I am able to use so few of My people for what I desire to do. This false humility is actually a form of the pride that caused the fall of man. Adam and Eve began to feel inadequate and that they needed to be more than I had made them to be. They took it upon themselves to make themselves into who they should be. You can never make yourself into who you should be, but you must trust me to make you into who you should be."

(pg 37)

"The whole world still lies in the power of the evil one, and you walk on the edge of hell every day. Through the midst of it, there is a path of life. There are deep ditches on either side of the path of life, so you must not deviate from the narrow way."

(pg. 38)

“No one can find their own way out of those ditches. Following your own way is how you fall into them, and your own way will never lead you out. I am the only way out. When you fall, do not waste your time trying to figure everything out, for you will only sink deeper into the mire. Just ask for help. I am your Shepherd, and I will always help you when you call on Me.”

“It is wisdom to know when to ask for understanding and when to just ask for help. Here it is wisdom for you to ask. Only when you are in My presence can you understand. Your understanding will always be twisted when you are depressed, and you will never accurately see truth from that place. Depression is the deception that comes from seeing the world from your perspective. Truth comes from seeing the world through My eyes from where I sit, at the right hand of the Father. Like the cherubim in Isaiah 6, those who abide in My presence will say, “The whole earth is filled with His glory.”

(pg 39)

The reason that these cherubim say that the whole earth is filled with My glory is because they dwell in My presence. When you dwell in My presence, you will not see anything but glory.

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EYES AND EARS OF THE KINGDOM PART I

(Internet article by Revivalist Todd Bentley, 2-25, 2005)

(This is a two part teaching series entitled The Eyes and Ears of the Kingdom. In Part 1 of our teaching, we will examine evidence concerning God’s desire to reveal secrets and mysteries that He’s hidden since the foundation of the world. We’ll discuss strategic keys that unlock revelation from God. As well, we’ll look at why many prophets and seers today are both hard of hearing and almost blind, and how this hinders or prevents their ability to receive the hidden mysteries of God. Next week in Part 2 we’ll discuss how to hear and see clearly so that revelation flows. We’ll discover how we can become mature believers as well as faithful stewards of revelation received from God.)

Before we begin this week’s teaching I would like to invite you to pray with me: *Father I’m asking today that You would remove the hood and the veil that keeps us from hearing and seeing in the*

supernatural realm of heaven. I invite the spirit of wisdom and revelation, the spirit of counsel, might, and knowledge to come to us today. Holy Spirit, come and let that mantle rest upon each one. Thank you, Father. In Jesus name. Amen.”

UNCOVERING HIDDEN TREASURE

On the Day of Atonement when I was waiting on the Lord I had several revelations. I will share some of these with you and then we're going to talk about what it means to have the eyes and the ears of the kingdom and how to seek and find the unsearchable riches of Christ. I'm going to share about the purpose of the mysteries of the kingdom and then I'm going to outline some strategic keys that will help us stir up that spirit of wisdom and revelation.

One of the first encounters I had on the Day of Atonement was when an angel came to me in the spirit and it was in the form of a man. This angel was wearing a linen ephod; a garment made of gems like rubies, emeralds, pearls and diamonds. The entire garment was covered in treasures. Immediately I thought of the hidden treasures of wisdom and revelation and the mysteries of the kingdom. The prophet Isaiah spoke about hidden treasures when he prophesied to King Cyrus: ***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” (Is. 45:3).***

The angel took me in the spirit to a giant vault, like a bank vault. As he opened up the vault, I was blinded by the light of the glory. Then I saw that inside the vault were the unsearchable riches of Christ. Immediately I knew God was giving an invitation this year to understand and to know in a greater way the hidden truths of the kingdom and to be entrusted with wisdom and revelation concerning these mysteries.

In a dream on that same day, an angel came to me and handed me a scroll. Just before he told me to eat it, I read three words: John the Beloved” inscribed on the scroll. In my spirit I knew that God was about to reveal hidden mysteries concerning the Book of Daniel and The Revelation to John. Both books hold prophetic truth that is relevant for us today. (In this series I will bring relevant scripture from the Book of Daniel.)

FASTING RELEASES REVELATION

In the dream, after the angel told me to eat the scroll, I did just that. Then the Lord spoke to me out of Daniel 10. I was led to this key verse:

In the third year of Cyrus king of Persia a message was revealed to Daniel, whose name was called Belteshazzar. The message was true, but the appointed time was long; and he understood the message, and had understanding of the vision” (v. 1).

This Scripture reveals that a true message was revealed to Daniel and he understood both the message and the vision. How many of us would like to understand the mysteries of the kingdom of God? How many of us would like to have the interpretation and the revelation of visions and dreams like Daniel? This kind of revelation is God's desire for us, and I believe this year will be marked by the release of much revelation. But in order to have a keen understanding concerning revelation, we need a strategic key. The Lord told me this element is very important. The key is:

fasting. Daniel said, *I ate no pleasant food, no meat or wine came into my mouth, nor did I anoint myself at all, till three whole weeks were fulfilled” (v. 3).*

Now watch what the fast released. The angel came to Daniel and said, *But I will tell you what is noted in the Scripture of Truth” (Dan. 10:21a).* Daniel’s fast released the angel that brought him revelation out of the Scripture of Truth. God is about to open in a whole new way, the *Scripture of Truth*, also called the *Book of Truth*. The angel gave Daniel revelation concerning what was already written in a book that exists in heaven. God wants to open up the pages of that book to us.

On the Day of Atonement, the angel told me that for those who will position themselves in fasting, God will release a greater spirit of wisdom and revelation concerning understanding revelations and messages. And I’ll tell you why. The Bible talks about the treasures of the kingdom being hidden in a field and when they were found, a man hid the treasure and for the joy over it he went and sold all that he had and bought that field (Mt. 13:44). Listen. Revelation is going to cost us something. God isn’t going to impart a greater dimension or realm of the spirit of wisdom and revelation without it costing us, and not just some little token amount, but something that will cost us everything. The man who found the treasure of the kingdom sold all that he had to purchase the land. Why? The answer is because the kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field.

THE KEY OF DAVID

We have to dig for the treasure and we need to see that Jesus Christ is the hidden treasure; He is the revelation! The prophet Isaiah prophesies about this treasure—a child being born to us, a son being given to us and that the government will rest on His shoulders (Is. 9:6). Then, after laying this foundation, he describes Him as Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father and the Prince of Peace (v.6). Isaiah goes on to say:

Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgment and justice from that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this” (v. 7).

The word "government" means: the entitlement to rule. The Lord has invited us to co-labor and rule with him because of what Jesus accomplished for us by his death and resurrection. [Our dominion and rule in the earth includes two realms: the natural and the spiritual realms. Whereas Adam and Eve did not have dominion over sin, we have been given authority to overcome sin, sickness, disease, death and poverty through Jesus Christ.] But we need a main key in order to co-labor and rule with God. The Lord spoke to me about this key. It’s called "the key of David."

And when we have a revelation of Jesus Christ [Jesus is the revelation] as the Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father and the Prince of Peace, then we actually hold the key of David. God’s government, His kingdom, and the key of David are supported by, and rest upon, the meaning incorporated in these four names of Jesus. And the revelation that lies in these four names is the key to using the key of David.

So let’s take a look at how these four names function. Wonderful Counselor deals with the spirit of counsel or the counsels of heaven. The counsel of God releases the hero-warrior aspect of God which is the Mighty God and brings the spirit of might. We can’t have the spirit of might, which is

power, without counsel. Counsel brings might, but might and the operation of kingdom power must flow from the heart of the Father, the Everlasting Father. The Father's love releases the Prince of Peace. Peace means shalom and includes prosperity, wholeness and health.

Also, another name for the key of David is "the key of knowledge." The key of knowledge concerns revelation, and the authority to see in the unseen realm. The Bible talks about the key of knowledge being taken away and how this hinders those who want to enter into the kingdom (Lk. 11:52). The key is taken away when the traditions of man and legalism replace the key of knowledge. The reason we've had the key of knowledge taken away in our churches today is because we've shut out the kingdom by preferring legalism and the traditions of man, above God. We've settled for a religious culture and a form of godliness that denies the power thereof (2 Tim. 3:5). This mindset not only robs us of our authority to see into the invisible realm, it also robs our ability to only do what we see the Father doing" (Jn. 5:19).

Do you know what the key of David does? It opens up doors of opportunity. It looses for you what God has already loosed in heaven. But how do we know what's been loosed in heaven if we can't see? The key of David deals with opening doors of blessing for our families and opening doors of provision and healing-power into our ministries. As well, it concerns shutting out the enemy from our lives, our families and our finances. And God is releasing a greater understanding today of the key of David so that we can release the kingdom of God—prosperity, health, healing and wholeness to people out of a heart of the Father's love.

HAVING STRATEGIC KEYS

Because of the Father's love for the world, He not only gave His only begotten Son, He also gave us strategic keys so that we're equipped to present the message of the cross to the lost, that they might be saved. Strategic keys are simply the keys that advance God's kingdom. For instance, God has a key for every crusade, conference, healing and deliverance. Jesus had different keys for different situations. He prayed for three different blind men in the Bible, but he had three different methods. When we pray for someone and they're healed, we could pray for two other people with the same sickness and they wouldn't be healed because it takes different methods. Jesus said to two blind men, ***Do you believe that I can do this?***" and the men replied, ***Yes, Lord.***" Jesus touched their eyes and said, ***According to your faith let it be done unto you"*** (Mt. 9:28-29). But to another man, He anointed his eyes with clay (Jn. 9:6), and to another He spit on his eyes (Mk. 8:23).

He had three different methods; same infirmity, but three different methods. God has keys and if we're going to be moving in God's power in the kingdom of God we need the keys that bring the kingdom in every circumstance and every situation. God is about to release keys, apostolic keys. I'm talking about keys that are going to give us cities, regions and nations. That key could be one word or it could be one act. That key could be an act of mercy. That key could be a message or a prophetic word that reveals the secrets in a man's heart.

SEEING AND HEARING IS A CHOICE

God has secrets that He's hidden since the foundations of this world. The apostle Matthew wrote about this: ***that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying: 'I will open My***

mouth in parables; I will utter things kept secret from the foundation of the world” (Mt. 13:35).

I want you to know that God has secrets that have been hidden and sealed since the foundation of this world that will not be opened until our day, our time. Now God did reveal some of the mysteries of the kingdom to the disciples, but He has held back in heaven, to this day, hidden mysteries of the kingdom that He wants to reveal to us. There is a last day generation and the glory of the latter house shall be greater than the glory of the former house (Hag. 2:9). We will go out with a greater bang than what we came in with! There is an invitation for our eyes and an invitation for our ears to be open.

Also, when the disciples came to Jesus and asked Him why He spoke to them in parables, He answered, ***“Because it has been given to you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given” (Mt. 13:11).*** How many of us believe that it’s been given to us to know mysteries? The word mysteries” means: hidden truths divinely revealed, or secrets of the Lord. It’s been given to us to know hidden truths and secrets of the Lord, but how many of us are actually getting any hidden truths from the Lord? If we’re honest, we’re not really receiving a whole lot of mysteries and revelation.

I’m getting the mysteries of the kingdom and I want you to receive them too! So far in this teaching, I’ve only shared but a small portion the mysteries of the kingdom that were revealed to me on the Day of Atonement, but there’s a lot more that I received that day. It’s been given to us, from God, to know these mysteries, but there’s something that’s keeping us from receiving them.

Here’s what the Lord showed me. There’s a veil over many people’s understanding and so we’re not seeing and we’re not hearing. Listen. God wants us to see and He wants to give us more. ***For whoever has, to him more will be given, and he will have abundance; but whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him” (Mt. 13:12).*** To him who has, more will be given; an increase of revelation. But whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him; the one who does not have knowledge, the one who is a hearer of the word and not a doer of the word. There is something about freely I have received, so freely I will give (Mt. 10:8). We’ve been given the honor of stewardship concerning the mysteries of the kingdom.

Jesus continues to say, ***Therefore I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand” (v. 13).*** There is always a connection between the power to understand and our eyes and ears. If we don’t have spiritual eyes and ears operating, we don’t understand. Also, when we have hearts that have become dull, we lose the power to understand. Look at what the Lord said in the next verse:

And in them the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled, which says: ‘Hearing you will hear and shall not understand, and seeing you will see and not perceive; for the hearts of this people have grown dull. Their ears are hard of hearing, and their eyes they have closed, lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, lest they should understand with their hearts and turn, so that I should heal them’” (v. 14).

We need to appreciate that understanding is connected with our eyes and ears: ***Blessed are the eyes which see the things you see” (Lk. 10:23).*** When we become hard of hearing and when we lose our sight, we can’t understand or receive the secrets of the kingdom. So what exactly is it that’s making

us hard of hearing and almost blind? Why do we lose the power of our understanding? The answer is discovered in a key scripture found in the Book of Isaiah: ***Pause and wonder! Blind yourselves and be blind!***” (Is. 29:9a). Do you know what that means? We make ourselves blind! Isaiah goes on to say:

They are drunk, but not with wine; they stagger, but not with intoxicating drink. For the Lord has poured out on you the spirit of deep sleep, and has closed your eyes, namely, the prophets; and He has covered your heads, namely, the seers” (Is. 9b-10).

I want you to know that the seer prophets are going about with a hood on their heads! Many who are called to be prophets and many of those that are called to see can't see or hear because their heads are covered. I was prophesying over a young man the other day that's called to the office of the prophet. He is a true prophet of the Lord [called out by five different prophets]. When I laid hands on him and prayed, I saw a black hood over his head. After asking the Lord what that black hood was, He said, "It's a hood that covers the head of the seer so that they can't hear and see." The Lord told me to pull the hood back in the spirit, that when I would, he would get clarity of purpose and understanding.

There was another time when I was in a church that's called to be "an eagle's nest," the gathering of prophets. But over the entire congregation I saw a black veil. And so I asked the Lord, "What's that?" He said, "Pull back the veil and my people will begin to hear, they will begin to see and get purpose. The enemy has veiled the eyes of my seers." It can be God who veils the seers and the prophets, but I also believe that the Devil can veil the seer and the prophets so that they can't hear or see.

The Bible says, "Blind yourselves and be blind" (v. 9a). Sometimes we choose to only look at what we want to see and believe. We avoid anything else that makes us uncomfortable, anything that really convicts us, or gets too close to us. "Hey wait a minute! You're stepping on my toes!" We can be deaf to the things we don't want to hear even though we know that they are the truth. But when we continually turn "a deaf ear," this makes us deaf! When we continually refuse to see, we become blind. But God wants us to see! Remember, Jesus said privately to His disciples that their eyes were blessed to see the things they saw (Lk. 10:23). When God removes the veil, revelation will become known to us. God will open up the scroll and the books.

Have you ever read the Bible and it was as if it was sealed, like there was a block over your mind? Isaiah speaks about this:

The whole vision has become to you like the words of a book that is sealed, which men deliver to one who is literate, saying, 'Read this, please.' And he says, 'I cannot, for it is sealed' (Is. 29:11).

There is a reason why we're blind; why the corporate church is blind. Let's look once again at the words of Isaiah:

That this is a rebellious people, lying children, children who will not hear the law of the Lord; who say to the seers, 'Do not see,' and to the prophets, 'Do not prophesy to us right things; speak to us smooth things, prophesy deceits'" (Is. 30:9-10).

We don't want to hear words about God's judgments. We don't want to hear words of rebuke and discipline; just exhortation, comfort and edification. In too many places where I've ministered, the resident pastor has instructed me with words like these: "Well now Todd, if you prophecy, only bring forth the words that are going to build up and comfort." When I hear that, I can't help but think: *Oh so you don't want me to call out your sin. You don't want me to talk about the compromise that's going on in your leadership. You don't want me to tell you why the judgment of God is coming upon your city.*

So often we only hear the things we want to hear and we only look at those things that we really want to look at. We're only open to partial truths. Many times we only really want to see or hear if it comes from a certain stream, or it's in a certain package and when it comes in a particular way that we want. *But I don't want it from them. I don't want it if it's too loud. I don't want it if it's too quiet. I don't want it unless it's going to bless me. I don't want it unless it's going to make my ears tingle. I don't want it if it's going to embarrass me. I don't want it if it's going to reveal sin.*

Now I am going to give you four reasons why we become hard of hearing and we lose the power of understanding:

1. When we're unfaithful stewards of revelation (Mt. 13:12).
2. When we don't guard and value revelation and understanding (Mt. 13:19).
3. When we're not rooted in the word, then affliction and persecution is effective (Mt. 13:21).
4. When we're focused on the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches (Mt. 13:22).

If we're rebellious, then we want to call the shots. And God will give us what we want! So when the prophets and seers don't want to hear or see what the Lord wants to reveal, He'll honor that and put a hood over their heads. This situation is what many of them are experiencing; they're no longer operating in their calling.

Listen! The hood and veil can be removed and we will discuss how to accomplish this in Part 2. But right now, I want to outline nine areas that we need to maintain in our Christian walk so that we can please the Lord and receive a substantial increase of revelation:

Ephesians 1:17-19:

- that we know Him
- that we know the hope of His calling
- that we know our inheritance
- that we know the exceeding greatness of His power

Ephesians 3:8-10:

- that we know the manifold wisdom of God to powers and principalities

Ephesians 3:16, 19:

- that we would be strengthened with might
- that we would have a revelation of the love of Christ
- that we would be filled with all the fullness of God.

Colossians 1:27:

- that we would understand the revelation is Christ in you.

When we're rooted and grounded in the Word and in the love of Christ, then the Devil is immobilized. He can't come and snatch away the message of the kingdom! Next week in Part 2 we'll discuss how to walk in maturity, which is the high mark that flows from obedience, submission, faith, repentance and good stewardship. Then the hood and the veil can be pulled back and we will receive the hidden mysteries that God wants to reveal to us.

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EYES AND EARS OF THE KINGDOM PART II

(Internet article by Revivalist Todd Bentley, 3-2-2005)

Last week, in Part 1 of our teaching entitled The Eyes and Ears of the Kingdom we discovered that God wants to reveal hidden mysteries kept since the foundation of the world. We took a look at why believers, and more specifically why many prophets and seers, are hindered from receiving revelation from God. As well we examined several strategic keys that God has provided so that we can stir up the spirit of wisdom and revelation. This week in Part 2 we'll examine what it takes to walk in maturity concerning obedience, knowing God's ways, faith, repentance and good stewardship. Before closing in prayer, we'll discuss the importance of praying in tongues and how this vital communication is activated.

THE EYES AND EARS OF THE KINGDOM

We finished last week's teaching by discussing some of the reasons why believers, and specifically the prophets and seers, are blocked from receiving revelation concerning the mysteries and secrets that God wants to release. We looked at the fact that in order to see and hear in the spiritual realm we must choose to do so. But if we decide that we don't want to see or hear, God will often cover our heads with a veil or hood that hinders our ability to receive revelation (Is. 29:9-10). This week we'll discuss several godly principles that will put us in the right position to have the veil and hood removed.

REVERSING THE PROCESS THAT DULLS REVELATION

Were you ever like a prophetic machine gun? But now it's like the heavens are brass and you've become dull. No dreams, no visions or revelations are happening and you're wondering if God is angry with you. Last week in Part 1 we discussed several reasons why we lose our prophetic edge, and this week I want to examine how we can reverse this process. So let's take a look at Hebrews Chapters 3 and 5 where we'll discover five vital keys that will help us get on the right track and sharpen our prophetic gift.

1. God's hidden mysteries and secrets are waiting for us every morning! How often do we expect to hear the voice of God? The apostle Paul said, ***Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says: 'Today, if you will hear His voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, in the day of trial in the wilderness'' (Heb. 3:7).*** Every day is **today**. How many of us know that revelation? We need to lift our expectation a whole lot higher!

Today do not harden your heart..." How do we harden our hearts? The answer is found in this Scripture verse: ***And to whom did He swear that they would not enter His rest, but to those who did not obey?" (Heb. 3:18).*** Why should God give us a prophetic word if we haven't obeyed Him or acted upon the last prophetic word He gave us? If we don't obey every unction of the Holy Ghost we become dull of hearing. In every area of our life where we're not obedient to the dreams, visions and the prophetic leadings that He does give us, when we harden our hearts, then our sharp edge in the prophetic realm becomes duller and duller. The Holy Spirit says to us that we must not harden our hearts. This also means that we must not make our hearts callused.

When we choose to keep our hearts softened, allowing God's will to come to pass in our lives, then we're on the right tract. We can reverse the dulling process! We need to act on the prophetic word when it comes. When revelation comes it's precious; it's like finding hidden treasure. How do we treat our treasure? We need to be careful with it; treasure it; cherish it. It will cost us everything.

2. On the one hand, we sharpen our hearing when we know God's ways; we're sensitive to Him. But on the other hand, if we only know the acts of God and we do not actually know **Him**, then we become hard of hearing and almost blind. It's vital to God that we know Him and His ways! ***Therefore I was angry with that generation, and said, 'They always go astray in their heart, and they have not known My ways'' (v. 10).*** Let me show you a dangerous truth. The Bible says:

"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'" (Mt. 7:21-23).

Do you know what "I never knew you" means? It means that we ceased to be known because we no longer make ourselves available to God in intimacy. There was a time when God knew us, but now He doesn't know us because we ceased to be known. It's our part. We stopped coming to God in intimacy and we no longer let ourselves be known. The further that we wander from God in our heart concerning intimacy, the deafer we become. And the closer we draw to God, wanting to know Him and be known by Him, we will hear His voice; it won't be muffled.

3. When we believe what God tells us, our faith comes alive and our spiritual sensitivity comes into order. But if we have an unbelieving heart; which the Bible calls an evil heart, then we've

actually fallen away from the living God and we aren't in a position to receive true revelation from God (Heb. 3:12).

4. When we confess our sin and repent and we make every attempt to walk in a way that's pleasing to God, then our body, soul and spirit is cleansed and prepared to receive true revelation from God. But if we are entrenched in the deceitfulness of sin, then we become deaf! Some believers might think that they're actually getting away with sin, but the deceitfulness of sin is taking away their spiritual ears and their spiritual eyes.
5. When we act upon the revelation that God releases to us, practicing what we preach, then we increase in spiritual maturity. The apostle Paul said that solid food is for the mature, who because of practice have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil (Heb. 5:14). Practicing will sharpen our prophetic edge.

REMEMBER THE WORKS OF GOD

Acting upon the revelation that God reveals to us takes us beyond the place of simply hearing, to the place of doing. When we take action concerning a command from God then a memory is made. And we can stir up our faith and trust when we remember the ways that God has performed different feats in our lives. We honor the Lord when we remember His goodness in our lives.

Jesus gave a word of rebuke to his disciples when they freaked out after they realized they cast off from shore with only one loaf of bread on board (Mk. 8:14). After all, Jesus had just performed a few great miracles by multiplying a several loaves of bread to feed thousands of people. But they forgot all about that! So Jesus said to them:

'Why do you reason because you have no bread? Do you not yet perceive nor understand? Is your heart still hardened? Having eyes, do you not see? And having ears, do you not hear? And do you not remember? When I broke the five loaves for the five thousand, how many baskets full of fragments did you take up?' They said to Him, 'Twelve.' 'Also, when I broke the seven for the four thousand, how many large baskets full of fragments did you take up?' And they said, 'Seven.' So He said to them, 'How is it you do not understand?'" (Mk. 8:17-21).

He was explaining that they were hung up on having no bread because they weren't remembering what they had just seen and heard Him do. Their hearts were still hardened because they didn't remember his goodness. He asked them, "Do you not remember?" Then He takes them back to the time when He fed the 5,000 and when he fed the 4,000. It's like Jesus was asking His disciples: *Do you not remember the feeding of the 5,000? Did you miss the message? I am the Lord of the universe and I create something out of nothing. Do you not know who I am yet?* Despite seeing many miracles, it looks like they didn't learn much! Their hearts were hardened; they forgot what God did the last time. And so have we! I'll tell you why we're deaf and blind in the church today. We forget!

But God really wants us to learn a valuable lesson here. It's like Jesus is saying to us: *I will bring difficulties into your lives for a purpose. I intend to bring them again and again until you learn how to overcome based on what I did the last time.* The Lord wants us to have a revelation of His consistent goodness. Also He wants us to know who we are in Christ and the authority we carry so that we can take our place of authority and dominion.

One of the greatest keys to spiritual revelation for me is when I take a few minutes to remember a number of revelations God has given to me. Then I start talking about them and I stir myself up. Listen. We need to dream some old dreams and visions, prophetic words and prophetic promises, that God said to us. Many of us have faced the same storm several times. Could it be that God is allowing certain situations to repeat themselves in our lives because He wants us to believe and remember that He will come through?

KEYS TO MATURITY

WAIT FOR GOD'S COUNSEL

Do we realize that God will put leanness in our soul if we don't remember His works or wait for His counsel (Ps. 106:13)? Listen. Some of us are so spiritually thin. We're not receiving wisdom and revelation because we're not waiting for His counsel; we're not waiting on the Lord. Jesus would wait all night to see what the Father was doing and we can't wait five minutes! I made a practice several years ago of waiting on the Lord for one to three hours. Having the eyes and ears of the kingdom is going to cost us something. It's going to cost us everything! Waiting for God's counsel is crucial to receiving and hearing the hidden mysteries of the kingdom of God.

WISDOM IS FOR THE MATURE

God is opening up to us the realm of prophetic revelation so that we can speak out the hidden mysteries of God. The apostle Paul gives us a big key concerning what it takes in order to speak about the hidden mysteries:

However, we speak wisdom among those who are mature, yet not the wisdom of this age, nor of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing. But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, the hidden wisdom which God ordained before the ages for our glory" (1 Cor. 2:6-7).

In this Scripture (above) we can see that we need to be mature, or we might as well forget about wisdom and revelation. The wisdom that God has hidden before the ages is ordained for the mature.

Paul goes on to describe the kind of behavior that immature believers produce:

And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual people but as to carnal, as to babes in Christ. I fed you with milk and not with solid food; for until now you were not able to receive it, and even now you are still not able; for you are still carnal. For where there are envy, strife, and divisions among you, are you not carnal and behaving like mere men?" (1 Cor. 3:1-3).

We want to have a mature church today without division, strife and sexual sin. When there are all kinds of things going on in the church today we can't expect to receive the wisdom of God. Listen. This hidden wisdom is for the mature believer, not the carnal man.

REVELATION IS FOR THE SPIRIT MAN

You know why we don't have the wisdom of God in our lives? It's because we have too much of the spirit of the world and too much of the natural mind. The natural man has his mind set on the things that his flesh wants. The spiritual man has his mind set on the things that the Spirit wants (Rm. 8:5). Ask yourself an honest question. How much time does your mind think about what the Spirit wants and how much time does your mind think about what your flesh wants? Where do you live more?

Revelation is for the spirit man, not the natural man who has been consumed with the spirit of the world. Not that we can't be in the world and enjoy the world. But we need to keep a check and balance on how much our mind is on what the Spirit wants and how much our mind is consumed with what the flesh wants because that is the key to revelation. Paul preaches that the natural man cannot receive the things of the Spirit: ***But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned*** (1 Cor. 2:14).

The Spirit of God knows the deep things of God, and guess Who we have received? The Spirit of God!

But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God. (v. 10-12).

We have the Spirit of God so that we might know hidden mysteries and secrets that have been hidden since the foundation of the world.

MATURITY INVOLVES CHOOSING WELL

We don't want to be immature in the church today and miss receiving the mysteries of the kingdom. The Bible says, ***He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches*** (Rev. 2:7). Do you know what that means? It's our choice to hear. (We discussed this last week in Part 1.) Let him who has ears hear what the Spirit is saying. We need to have a teachable hearing heart. Every time we hear the same Scripture that we've read a thousand times, there is a potential for faith if we don't shut it off and say, "Know it; heard it; boring." Or, "Preached it; heard it; boring." Too many times I've said, "Open your Bibles" and before I even get a word out of my mouth someone is quoting the scripture. "Open your Bibles to John 3," and automatically people are thinking, *Ah, he's going to preach on being born again. Or, Ah, he's preaching that message we heard five times.* Faith comes by repeatedly hearing the same word. We have a choice to hear. And

it's about hearing and hearing and hearing and hearing! Remember, faith comes by hearing and hearing comes by the Word of God (Rm. 10:17).

Just as we consciously make the choice to hear, we also need to decide if we'll earnestly seek after the hidden mysteries of God. If we want the hidden treasure it's going to cost us everything. The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure hidden in a field (Mt. 13:44). The man who found the hidden treasure sold **all** that he had in order to purchase the field. And remember last week we discussed how Daniel received a visitation from the angel who opened up the Book of Truth. But there was a sacrifice on Daniel's part—a 21 day fast before he received revelation of the message from the angel (Dan. 10). It cost him something!

As well, we need to appreciate that we're not seeking the treasures; we're seeking Christ. In Christ are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge (Col. 2:2a-3). Think about that. What a friend we have in Jesus. Wow! You know, our eyes haven't seen and our ears haven't heard, nor has it entered in our hearts completely, the things which God has prepared for us, who love Him (1 Cor. 2:9). The key to accessing the unsearchable riches of Christ is—love Him.

As we seek God and receive the hidden mysteries [that are kept secret from the foundation of the world (Mt. 13:35b)] we need to be good stewards of this revelation. I heard this from the Holy Ghost on the Day of Atonement: ***Let a man so consider us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God (1 Cor. 4:1)***. I'm supposed to handle the hidden secrets of heaven. I'm supposed to be a steward in sharing with the world hidden truths that have been hidden since the foundation of the world. He wants me to be a steward of the mysteries of God. Have you ever thought about being a steward of revelation? ***Moreover it is required in stewards that one be found faithful" (v. 2)***.

STEWARDSHIP

A steward is not the owner, he is the operator. A steward is the one who exercises the power, the resources and responsibilities given to him. He has the interest of the owner at heart. Do you know why we aren't qualified to receive revelation? It's because we so often have our own interests, our own kingdom, our own name, our own ministry at heart. It's amazing the motives that we have, but we don't have the owner's interest at heart. Listen. We're not owners, we're operators who are entrusted to exercise the power, resources and responsibilities given to us with the interests of the owners at heart.

Stewards are known by their obedience. In the Old Testament, we discover "the Joseph model" concerning stewardship. Joseph was consistently faithful in little. His track record proved that he could be entrusted with much. He was just as faithful with less important matters as he was with the governmental administration of Pharaoh's great wealth. So my question is this. Will we be faithful with the revelation of heaven? God wants to entrust us, like a bank is entrusted. He wants to make a deposit of revelation in us so that we can make a withdrawal and share it with the world. The hidden mysteries of the kingdom are entrusted to mature believers who know how to be faithful stewards.

PRAYING IN TONGUES

Before we complete this teaching series I want to discuss one more important factor that marks a mature believer. This concerns the hidden power of praying in tongues. We don't preach much on the baptism of the Holy Ghost and speaking in tongues much in church anymore, but we need to. Probably most of us don't pray in tongues for more than an hour a week and most of the time it's in a corporate setting. My observation is that we've lost the purpose of tongues.

So I want to discuss one of the main purposes concerning tongues that I've never seen before. This will excite us! Let's take a look at what the apostle Paul said to the Corinthians. ***For He who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God, for no one understands him; however, in the spirit he speaks mysteries" (1 Cor. 14:2).*** The word "mysteries" means secrets which have been divinely revealed. Every time we speak in tongues to God, we're telling God His own mysteries. When we speak in tongues we're speaking divine truths revealed and we're telling God revelation that's been hidden since the foundation of the world. We're not just edifying ourselves and building up our most holy faith. The Holy Ghost isn't just helping us to intercede. We're actually uttering mysteries. Listen. If we want to speak mysteries and hidden truths, then we need to pray in tongues.

But having said that, how do we connect tongues (which functions in the realm of the spirit) to the mind? Here's what Paul says: ***Therefore let him who speaks in a tongue pray that he may interpret" (1 Cor. 14:13).*** Could it be possible that I can interpret my own tongue? Then my understanding is engaged. Keep in mind that Paul is talking about the personal tongue between each of us and God. Not the public tongue. Paul means that when we pray in our personal, private tongue we're actually allowing the Spirit to speak back to God the mysteries the Holy Ghost has revealed. Then the Bible gives us an invitation to let him who prays in an unknown tongue pray that he would interpret. That is why Paul goes on to say:

For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my understanding is unfruitful. What is the conclusion then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will also pray with the understanding. I will sing with the spirit, and I will also sing with the understanding" (1 Cor. 14:14-15).

There is something powerful concerning the spirit of revelation when we pray in tongues. The Lord has been saying to me, *Todd you can birth things when you pray in tongues, but it will take more than ten minutes.* I've been challenged by the Lord about what could happen if I prayed in tongues for eight hours. I've never been able to go longer than three hours straight.

I've noticed that after about ten minutes of praying in tongues most people will feel like they're getting stronger and closer to God. But what happens most of the time is that our mind gets so busy and distracted because we don't usually have any understanding of what our tongue is saying. So we usually can't focus for more than about ten minutes. A practice that helps us stay focused is when we pray in tongues for about five minutes; then worship for a few minutes; then go back to reading the Bible and then back to tongues.

As we close this week's teaching, I want us to pray in our private tongue out loud to God. As we pray in tongues right now, we're speaking mysteries. You might wonder what you're speaking, but keep praying. Break through the membrane! We'll pray for an interpretation from God.

PRAYER

Father, we repent for wanting to call the shots concerning having spiritual eyes and ears. We want to honor You by choosing to see and hear what You want to reveal to us so that we can properly serve You and advance Your kingdom in the earth. We want to have the eyes and ears of the kingdom.

We want to ask you to empower us to push back the veil and the hood so that we can see and hear clearly in the supernatural realm of heaven. We want to pull back the veil and remove the hood off our eyes and ears.

We ask God that we would interpret your mysteries accurately and that we would be able to interpret our own personal tongues when we pray that way. Let the spirit of understanding come. Please release revelation and knowledge to us O God.

Please saturate us in the spirit of wisdom and revelation. We say that we want to be rooted and grounded in the love of Christ and the Word of God; marked by maturity. Thank you Father. In Jesus' name. Amen.

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GOD WORKS THROUGH US

(From the book *The Healing Light* by Agnes Sanford, p ix-5)

The scientific attitude is the attitude of perfect open-mindedness. It consists in an unshakable faith in the laws of nature combined with perfect humility toward those laws and a patient determination to learn them at whatever cost. Through this humility scientists have learned how to conform to the laws of nature and by so doing have achieved results. Through the same meekness those who seek God can produce results by learning to conform to His laws of faith and love.

The first step in seeking to produce results by any power is to contact that power.

The second step is to turn it on.

The third step is to believe that this power is coming into use and to accept it by faith. No matter how much we ask for something it becomes ours only as we accept it and give thanks for it.

If we try turning on an electric iron and it does not work, we look to the wiring of the iron, the cord, or the house. We do not stand in dismay before the iron and cry, "Oh, electricity, please come into my iron and make it work!" We realize that while the whole world is full of that mysterious power we call electricity, only the amount that flows through the wiring of the iron will make the iron work for us.

The same principle is true of the creative energy of God. This whole universe is full of it, but only the amount of it that flows through our own beings will work for us.

We have tried often to make this creative power flow through us, saying, "Oh, God, please do this or that!" And He has not done this or that, so we have concluded that there is no use in prayer, because God, if there is such a Being, will do as He likes regardless of our wishes. In other words, we doubt the willingness or the ability of God to actually produce within our lives and bodies the results that we desire. We do not doubt our own ability to come into His presence and fill ourselves with Him, but His willingness to come into us and fill us with Himself.

God is both within us and without us. He is the source of all life; the creator of universe behind universe; and of unimaginable depths of inter-stellar space and of light-years without end. But He is also the indwelling life of our own little selves. And just as a whole world full of electricity will not light a house unless the house itself is prepared to receive that electricity, so the infinite and eternal life of God cannot help us unless we are prepared to receive that life within ourselves. *Only the amount of God that we can get in us will work for us.*

"The kingdom of God is within you," said Jesus. And it is the indwelling light, the secret place of the consciousness of the Most High that is the kingdom of Heaven in its present

manifestation on this earth. Learning to live in the kingdom of Heaven is learning to turn on the light of God within.

We must learn that God is not an unreasonable and impulsive sovereign who breaks His own laws at will. As soon as we learn that God does things through us (not for us), the matter becomes as simple as breathing, as inevitable as sunrise. He has made a world that runs by law, and He does not like to break those laws.

He can produce a full-blown answer to prayer if we adapt our earthly tabernacles to His laws of love and faith so as to provide the necessities of answered prayer.

Some day the world will come to understand this fact, as it is now beginning to understand the miracle of light waves, for one generation's miracles are the common-places of another generation.

Some day we will understand the principles that underlie the miracle-working powers of God, and we will accept His intervention as simply and naturally as we do the radio and television that cause us to see and hear a person far away both in space and time.

But that is not a breaking of the laws of nature. It was the super-imposition of a higher law of life over a lower law of life. Thus it was the fulfillment of the laws of nature. If one thinks of a miracle not as the breaking of God's laws but as His own using of His laws, then the world is full of miracles.

God does nothing except by law. But He has provided enough power within His laws to do anything that is in accordance with His will. His will includes unlimited miracles. It is for us to learn His will, to seek the simplicity and the beauty of the laws that set free His power.

PRAY TO THE FATHER WHICH IS IN SECRET

(From the book *With Christ In The School Of Prayer* by Andrew Murray, p 23-25)

"But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly." (Matthew 6:6)

After Jesus had called his first disciples, He gave them their first public teaching in the Sermon on the Mount. There He explained the Kingdom of God – its laws and its life – to them. In that Kingdom God is not only King, but Father. He not only gives all, but is Himself all. The knowledge and fellowship of Him alone is its blessedness. Hence it came as a matter of course that the revelation of prayer and the prayer-life was a part of His teaching concerning the new Kingdom He came to establish. Moses gave neither command nor regulation with regard to prayer. Even the prophets said little about prayer. It is Christ Who teaches us to pray.

The first thing the Lord teaches His disciples is that they must have a secret place for prayer. Everyone must have some solitary spot where he can be alone with his God. Every teacher must have a schoolroom. We have learned to know and accept Jesus as our only Teacher in the school of prayer. He has already taught us at Samaria that worship is no longer confined to specific times and places. Worship – true, spiritual worship – is a thing of the spirit and the life. A man's whole life must be worship in spirit and truth. But Jesus wants each one to choose for himself a fixed spot where he can meet Him daily. That inner chamber, that solitary place, is Jesus' schoolroom. That spot can be anywhere. It can even change from day to day if we're traveling. But that secret place must be somewhere with quiet time for the pupil to place himself in the Master's presence. Jesus comes there to prepare us to worship the Father.

A teacher always wants his schoolroom to be bright, attractive, and filled with the light and air of heaven. He wants it to be a place where his pupils long to come and love to stay. In His first words on prayer in the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus seeks to set the inner chamber before us in its most attractive light. If we listen

carefully, our main purpose in being there becomes obvious. Jesus uses the name of Father three times: "Pray to *thy Father*", "*Thy Father* shall recompense thee"; "*Your Father* knoweth what things ye have need of."

The first thing in closet-prayer is to meet the Father. The light that shines in the closet must be the light of the Father's countenance. The atmosphere in which we breath and pray is God's Father-love, God's infinite Fatherliness. Thus, each thought or petition we breathe out will be in simple, hearty, and childlike trust in the Father. The Master teaches us to pray by bringing us into the Father's living presence. What we pray there must be of value. We should listen carefully to hear what the Lord has to say to us.

First, "*Pray to thy Father which is in secret.*" God is a God Who hides Himself to the carnal eye. As long as in our worship of God we are chiefly occupied with our own thoughts and exercises, we will not meet Him Who is a Spirit, the Unseen One. But to the man who withdraws himself from all that is of the world and man and waits for God alone, the Father will reveal Himself. As he shuts out the world and its life, surrendering himself to be led by Christ into God's presence, the light of the Father's love will fall on him.

The secrecy of the inner chamber and the closed door, the entire separation from everything around us, is an image of the inner spiritual sanctuary, the secret of God's tabernacle. It is there within the veil that our spirit truly comes into contact with the Invisible One. Thus we are taught at the very beginning of our search for the secret of effective prayer to remember that it is in the inner chamber, where we are alone with the Father, that we learn to pray properly. The Father is in secret. In these words, Jesus teaches us where He is waiting for us and where He is always to be found.

THE BRIDES

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

2005...THE YEAR OF THE BRIDES

As the threshold of the New Year is approaching, I heard wedding bells ringing throughout the earth at the striking of the midnight hour...January 1st, 2005.

In the Spirit, I heard a huge order of "Bridal Veils" being called into the throne room of Heaven.

"Make that an extra large order," the command came from the Father of the Brides.

I sensed that not only was the Father excited over His own Son's wedding that would soon take place, but He was seemingly beside Himself for the joy of a multitude of long awaited "end-time" weddings that would take place upon the earth, just preceding the greatest wedding in the Universe.

"Get those six water pots out again and fill them with 'living' water! I've saved the very best wine for last, for these end-time weddings."

BEGIN TO LIFT THE VEILS OF 'SINGLENES' OFF OF THEIR FACES!

I saw veils of "singleness" that had been covering many single men and women for years in spite of their desire to marry. These veils were actually covering them to protect and hide them from wrong relationships.

Many thought, "What is wrong with me? No one seems to notice me or seems to even look at me!" But I saw the wisdom of God hard at work to preserve these chosen ones for the person whom the Lord was preparing and keeping separate for them also.

I sensed the Father saying to their guardian angels, "Begin to lift the veils of 'singleness' off of their faces! It's time for them to see and be seen by the one whom I have ordained for them. I will continue to order their steps and 'stops' and cause their paths to cross as they faithfully continue serving me.

"As I sent an angel to direct the steps of Isaac's servant to find Rebekah for him, I am sending angels before them to guide them. In the everyday, ordinary walk of life they will begin to discover My surprise appointments with Divine contacts for the desires of their hearts."

EACH WEDDING BRINGS HEAVEN AND EARTH A LITTLE CLOSER

Veils were coming off of many "widows and widowers" as the Lord was proclaiming, "Your lonely days are coming to an end!"

I saw some divorce papers being shredded to pieces as some who had divorced each other were now making plans to renew their wedding vows and start over!

All of Heaven seemed to be ecstatic over earthly weddings. To them, each wedding brings heaven and earth a little closer, with the intent to portray the ultimate marriage that all creation awaits...the marriage supper of the Lamb!

An angelic conductor was about to move his baton for angel choirs to come in on Heaven's grand finale of -- "Here come the Brides!"

A WITNESS TO THE EARTH OF THE LOVE OF THE FATHER

These end-time marriages were being brought into the Kingdom to witness to the earth the love of the Father between a husband and a wife. This demonstration of God's love would be contagious and influence many in the earth to become the Bride to be -- whom the Father is preparing for His Son.

I sense a "Ruth and Boaz" anointing coming upon single men and women. A word to the Ruth's (single women) is: "Keep serving and gleaning unto the Lord where He is leading you...your Boaz is near!"

And a word to the Boaz's (single men): "Untie your shoe* laces...and prepare yourself to redeem your 'Ruth'!"

- *In the days of Boaz concerning redeeming and purchasing, a man would pluck off his shoe, and give it to his neighbor. This was a testimony to confirm things in Israel.*

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ANOINTING FOR LEADERSHIP

(WhiteDove Ministries March 2006 E-Newsletter, FROM: Paul Keith Davis)

The Coming Anointing for Leadership

The Prophet Samuel is a perfect "type" of the apostolic leadership that will be emerging in this generation. The Lord spoke this truth exceedingly clearly in a prophetic experience several years ago.

We are now poised to see this as a reality in this fresh new day of God's plan.

Samuel functioned in Israel as a priest, a prophet, and a judge. He was a man of noble character who also carried the clear manifestation of God's Spirit. His ministry was marked by prophetic accuracy and intimate fellowship with the Lord. The Palmist spoke of Samuel and this anointing saying,

Moses and Aaron were among His priests, and Samuel was among those who called on His name; they called upon the LORD and He answered them. He spoke to them in the pillar of cloud; they kept His testimonies and the statute that He gave them - Psalms 99:6-7

By understanding his role in Israel's leadership, we can also glean considerable insight into present day apostolic leadership that is being prepared. Of course, this is a process that will take many years for full maturity to be realized. However, we can expect to see the early stages of this leadership during the course of these days. The Lord's people are being groomed to encounter Him in the cloud of His Presence and hear insight and strategy for this pivotal season.

Inspired Priests

The term inspired priests is a reference to teachers who receive their understanding of the Word through divine revelation. The Apostle Paul stated that his revelation of the Word came, not by the teaching of man nor by reading a book, but by a divine revelation of Jesus Christ.

The inspired teachers will promote a message of sanctification within the church. This will present consecrated believers as a suitable dwelling place for God's Spirit and becoming partakers of His divine nature and His Holy character. (See Ezekiel 44:15-16 & 23-24)

It will now become essential for the end-time leadership to be partakers of His divine nature. With this reality we then bear the fruit of the Spirit as a prerequisite for the release and impartation of the power gifts and God's highest callings necessary for end-time

ministry.

Another predominant function of the inspired teachers will be to Biblically communicate the Lord's requirements for the end-time church. Through their revelation of the Word by the Spirit of Truth, they will teach the church the necessary steps of preparation and consecration in order to be viable participants in the glorious ministry yet to come.

The Prophets

Another essential ingredient in this end-time ministry will be the role of the prophets. The primary purpose of the prophets will be to reveal the 12 primary redemptive natures of God. These attributes were expressed through Jehovah of the Old Testament and Jesus of the New Testament. All of the redemptive natures of Jehovah were found in the person of Jesus Christ who is our ultimate example.

Even as Revelations 22:2 expresses the 12 manner of fruit bearing in their proper seasons, so shall the Holy Spirit reveal to the church the 12 primary redemptive natures of Christ and their proper Biblical applications.

King/Judge Anointing

It is important to discern that during the first century church all apostles were also prophets. This is a Biblical truth that can be proven throughout all the generations of the church. Therefore, the individuals functioning with the "king/judge" anointing will also bear the spirit of wisdom and revelation, bringing understanding concerning the seven Spirits of God and their importance to the overcoming church now being prepared.

God's manifold wisdom will be expressed through these anointed vessels as they lay the foundation for the end-time church. Ephesians 2:20 declares,

having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner stone.

Of course, there is no other foundation laid other than Christ Jesus. Therefore, the apostles and prophets will be an expression of the Holy Spirit's work through individuals who embody the merger of the Word and Spirit that produces the life of Christ; that is the foundation for His Temple to be reestablished in the earth.

As the church matures and moves toward perfection, we will then begin to see the priesthood in the order of Melchizedek emerging. He was the king of Salem and priest of the Most High God. Of course we know from scripture that was none other than God revealing Himself to Abraham veiled in human flesh.

Evidence of the Coming Spiritual Government

The surest evidence of God's true leadership will be the clear presence of the fruit of the Spirit. God's righteousness will begin to reflect the fruit of the Spirit in our lives. The evidence of His character in us is ultimately pleasing to the Lord.

Even more important than revealing the Spirit's power gifts is the revelation of the fruit of the Spirit through a consecrated life of righteousness. This is only achieved by the Holy Spirit abiding in us; believers becoming partakers of the divine nature that reveals the Spirit of Holiness.

These men and women will be known by their fruit and their purpose will be to manifest God's redemptive attributes in the earth. Their anointing will come from Isaiah 11:2, the sevenfold Spirit of God.

Their Identification - The manifestation of the Fruit of the Spirit - Galatians 5:22-24

1. Love
2. Joy
3. Peace
4. Patience
5. Kindness
6. Goodness
7. Faithfulness
8. Gentleness
9. Self-Control

Their Anointing--- The Seven Spirits of God- Isaiah 11:2

1. Spirit of the Lord
2. Spirit of Wisdom
3. Spirit of Understanding
4. Spirit of Counsel
5. Spirit of Might
6. Spirit of Knowledge
7. Spirit of Reverential Fear of the Lord

Their Purpose - To reveal the twelve names illustrating the divine character of God and His primary redemptive attributes manifested in the Person of Jesus.

1. Lord Our Shepherd
2. Lord Our Provider
3. Lord Our Righteousness

4. Lord Our Peace
5. Lord Our Healer
6. Lord Our Banner
7. Lord Who Sanctifies
8. Lord Of Hosts
9. Lord Most High
10. Lord Who Smites
11. Lord of Recompense
12. Lord is Present

The Primary Redemptive Names of God

Jehovah Rohi - The Lord My Shepherd- Psalm 23:1

Although Israel learned to magnify the Lord for life, healing, victory, holiness, peace, and protection, they were still pilgrims and were in dire need of divine provision in their wilderness journey with all its weariness, physical needs, duties, dangers and difficulties. Thus there came the revelation of God as their Jehovah Rohi, the One whose Shepherd love, care and resources they could depend upon in all the un-trodden and unknown pathways of the future.

Thus the Lord is the feeder to provide, keeper to protect, companion to cheer, friend to help, pastor to comfort, herdsman near to us, as His frequent revelations as such proves.

Psalm 23 contains eight redemptive names of Jehovah;

1. Jehovah Rohi (Psalm 23:1) - Jehovah is my shepherd.
2. Jehovah Jireh (Psalm 23:1) - I shall not want.
3. Jehovah Shalom - The Lord is my peace. (Psalm 23:2) He makes me to lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters.
4. Jehovah Rophi - The Lord my healer. (Psalm 23:3) He restores my soul.
5. Jehovah Tsidkenu - The Lord is righteousness (Psalm 23:3) He leadeth me in paths of righteousness for His name sake.
6. Jehovah Nissi - The Lord is my banner (Psalm 23:5) Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of my enemies.
7. Jehovah M'Kaddesh - The Lord my sanctifier. (Psalm 23:5) Thou anointest my head with oil.
8. Jehovah Shammah - The Lord is there (Psalm 23:4) Thou art with me.

Jehovah Jireh - The Lord Will Provide- GENESIS 22:14

The definition of this term is "The Lord will see" or "The Lord will provide". For man this conjunctive meaning seems impossible. However, for the all-knowing God of creation the

dual meaning is easily exemplified.

His pre-vision means His pro-vision. That was Abraham's revelation given to the place where He found the ram provided as a substitute for Isaac. This miracle was not of a normal significance; but rather it was a creative miracle by God for the sacrifice in the same sense that the Lord created a body through the miraculous conception for the substitute sacrifice for man.

As Elohim, God demanded the sacrifice of Isaac, but as Jehovah He made complete provision of a substitute for the son Abraham willingly offered. The place of this miracle is the first recorded instance in scripture of the naming of a place after a divine interposition or manifestation.

Jehovah Tsidkenu - The Lord Our Righteousness - JEREMIAH 33:16

In the Old Testament there is evident revelation of Israel as being a nation seeking after righteousness, yet in its passionate desire for righteousness, the people discovered their own unrighteousness. Therefore, we become people who seek after purity of heart so that we can enjoy communion with God. Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God.

The Greeks sought after wisdom and the Romans pursued power and world dominion; but there are today a remnant of God's chosen people who seek after God and His righteousness.

To the glory of the gospel is that Jehovah Tsidkenu became flesh and was made unto us righteousness (I Cor. 1:30). A righteous God pronounced death as the penalty of sin, yet that same God became flesh, the righteous branch, to taste death for every sinner and provide the righteousness that is transferred or imputed to the believer and is thereby accepted before God. Acceptable righteousness therefore is not attained but obtained.

Jehovah Shalom - The Lord Our Peace- JUDGES 6:42

The word "Peace" and its cognates appear over 400 times in scripture. It is one of the most precious and fundamentally essential ingredients for a believer to be at peace with God and know the peace of God. It relates to a harmonious relationship obtained through reconciliation of a debt paid in full.

Peace or "Shalom" is often translated - welfare, good health, prosperity, favor, rest whole, finished, restitution or repay and perfect.

Jehovah Rophi - The Lord Our Physician- EXODUS 15:26

From Israel we learn that in times of sickness God heals, for He is our Jehovah Rophi, "I am Jehovah thy healer".

To express God's grace in restoring spirit life, He declared that He healed all of our diseases, spiritual as well as physical. (Psalms 103:3)

He also is the one who heals the broken in heart (Psalms 147:3) and for those who are backsliding, He is also their healer as well (Jeremiah 3:22). The scriptures also clearly indicate the removal of bodily infirmity (Genesis 20:17; Matthew 4:23).

Jehovah Nissi - The Lord Our Banner- EXODUS 17:15-16

Moses took care that God should have the glory for the victory over Amalek. Instead of setting up a trophy in the honor of Joshua, though it had been a standard policy to put marks of honor upon men, instead he built an altar to God's honor. What is most carefully recorded is the inscription upon the altar, Jehovah-Nissi - The Lord my Banner. The presence and power of Jehovah were the banner under which they were enlisted and by which they were kept together.

Jehovah Nissi in literal Hebrew means "A hand upon the throne of Jehovah". Jehovah will have war with Amalek from generation to generation. Amalek's hand had dared to assault Jehovah's throne to overturn it and so He gave Israel the authority and power of that throne to overwhelm Amalek. The uplifted hands of Moses symbolized this banner. Here we have an illustration of the hand of faith outstretched in prayer.

Jehovah M'Kaddesh - The Lord Who Sanctifies - EXODUS 31:13

The term holiness is from the Hebrew word "Kodesh" and is allied to "sanctify" and is translated as dedicate, consecrate, hallow and holy in various translations. "I am Jehovah M'Kaddesh - The Lord who sanctifies you". This term's main influence relates to moral and spiritual purity.

In the New Testament many scriptures relate to the process of sanctification, the sum of which are provided to the church through the atoning work of Christ.

SANCTIFIED BY TRUTH (JOHN15:3;17:17)
SANCTIFIED BY THE BLOOD (HEBREWS 13:12)
SANCTIFIED BY FAITH (ACTS 26:18)
SANCTIFIED BY PRAYER (I TIMOTHY 4:5)

Jehovah Tsebahoth - The Lord of Host- I SAMUEL 1:3

This term in Hebrew is taken from sabaoth, meaning host or hosts with special reference to warfare or service and often appears as the Lord of Hosts. This Hebrew term has also rendered armies and also appointed for service. This reference for Jehovah appears fourteen times in the book of Haggai and twenty-four times in the book of Malachi.

In Zechariah, the Lord of Hosts, occurs fifty-three times and is of great interest seeing it is connected with God's action in judgement and blessing upon Israel. The expression "Thus saith the Lord of Hosts" implied divine revelation and divine authority; a phrase like "Holiness unto the Lord of Hosts", Zechariah 14:21.

When the conquest of Canaan was about to begin the Lord was revealed as the unknown warrior with naked sword standing before Joshua. When Joshua asked the question, "are you for us or against us"; the reply came, "I am Prince of the Host of Jehovah", therefore Joshua humbly surrendered his sword to Jehovah Tsebahoth.

The whole of His creation is under His control and obeys His sovereign command, willingly or otherwise. HE is:

1. Lord of all angelic hosts (I Kings 22:19)
2. The Lord of all steller (Genesis 1:16)
3. The Lord of all the feathered hosts (I Kings 17: 2-7)
4. The Lord of all the animal hosts (Is. 11:6)
5. The Lord of all the human hosts (Is. 40:15)
6. The Lord of the satanic hosts (Matthew 28:18)

Jehovah Heleyon - The Lord Most High

Jehovah Heleyon is frequently used in the Psalms as a declaration of God's highest position or kingship. This title reveals God as the high and lofty one that inhabits eternity (Is. 57:15); Prophetically speaking of Jehovah's reign over the earth at the time of Israel's restoration or the restoration of God's chosen people.

It is also reassuring for us to know that during these difficult days that the Most High rules in the kingdom of men also (Daniel 4:25). This redemptive name places God at the highest place of every realm of life so that He can fulfill His will in and through us. When applied to God, this redemptive name reveals that though He is the highest, there are others below Him endowed by Him with like natures and therefore in some way related to Him by His Spirit.

Jehovah-Makkeh - The Lord Who Smites- EZEKIEL 7:9

The Lord has given Israel to us as an example of His dealings with man. He set Israel in the midst of heathen nations as His witness but instead of revealing and glorifying Him

she changed His judgments into wickedness greater than all the nations she was suppose to influence for Him. Therefore He said, "You shall know that I am Jehovah-Makkeh", the Lord who smites thee. (Ezekiel 7:9)

Daniel the 9th chapter reveals that Israel found themselves in captivity because they refused to heed the voice of the Lord their God which was set before them by His servants, the prophets. Consequently, as a result of their disobedience the Lord smote Israel and disciplined her because of her unbelief and rejection of His true revealed word. The church has also experienced a similar disciplinary period over the past forty years because of her rejection of the true revealed word as brought to the church by His servant the, the prophets.

The good news is His promise to restore. According to Hosea 6:1 2, **Come, let us return to the LORD. For He has torn us but He will heal us; He has wounded us but He will bandage us. He will revive us after two days; He will raise us up on the third day, that we may live before Him.**

Jehovah Gmolah - The God of Recompense - JEREMIAH 51:6

The scriptures declare that retribution or recompense does not belong to us but rather it belongs to God. In Jeremiah 51, the Lord declares that He will severely punish Babylon because of their harsh dealing with Israel thereby revealing Himself as the God of retribution.

The same was true of Egypt when they placed the nation of Israel under a heavy burden and struck the apple of His eye. When a person is shamefully treated or misjudged, even wrongfully condemned or blamed when innocent, it becomes very difficult not to take up our own defense and leave our reputation to God. Yet this is the precise way that He has instructed for us to respond. Retribution and recompense belong only to him. Vengeance is His and He promised to repay. (Deut. 32:35; II Thes. 1:8)

Jehovah Shammah - The Lord Is There- EZEKIEL 48:35

The name of the city revealed through Ezekiel is Jehovah Shammah- the Lord is There. This location is so named because of the manifest presence and power of Jehovah residing therein. We also know from scripture that God does not dwell in temples made by hands, but rather we are to be God's temple.

This is the last of Jehovah's redemptive titles in the order of their Old Testament occurrence. It discloses the consummation of His progressive self revelation.

The people of Israel were brought out of the bondage of Egypt by His manifest presence

(Deut. 4:37). However, the people willfully and continually sinned and the conscious manifest Presence of God was rescinded. Yet when the people repented of their gross idolatry, because of His love and pity, the angel of His presence redeemed them once again (Isaiah 63:9).

The apostle Paul describes the church as a habitation of God, a house of God, and the building growing unto a holy temple in the Lord. The question remains, Does the Glory of Jehovah fill Jehovah's house and are we members of that house displaying His Glory?

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BAPTISM OF FIRE

(WhiteDove Ministries March 2006 E-Newsletter, Shawn Bolz, office@iburn.org)

The Baptism of Fire

Recently I met with a pastor in one of the cities I was in. In the past twenty years this man was used by God to host some of the most strategic events in that region. He also held a place of passion that was esteemed by pastors of many denominations in the area. His church was large and his vision endless. When I met with him recently there was a large gap between those glory years and where he and his church were at now. He was at a completely different place then even five years ago. He doesn't attend regional meetings anymore, let alone host them. He is still in ministry but it took him a lot to even consider meeting with a prophetic voice, but never the less, he arranged the meeting.

Before my meeting with this man of God, I spent time with another leader in the city. That leader found out about my appointment and said "Oh he is jaded and disillusioned" He has lost his ground. I think God is giving his mantle to someone else."

I understood why this leader would say this but this statement was narrow-minded and self serving. It wasn't a Kingdom perspective but more of a western world corporate perspective and it was offensive.

When I met with this man of God I went into a vision. I could see countless saints who are all around the world today who have been used greatly by God but have not entered into their greater works that were promised. I believe many of these saints are going through one of the hardest but also greatest seasons they have ever been in. This is a season of both

a purging of self and imbuing of the Divine nature of Christ.

The Furnace That Prepares Us For The Baptism Of Fire

When someone is going through a firing, they are being stripped of any other identity that satisfied them outside of being the one whom Jesus loves. They are also being delivered of self. I was given the passage of scripture in 2 Peter 3:14-15

"So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with Him (God). Bear in mind that our Lord's patience means salvation."

In these sometimes long drawn out seasons, God is training them to be an over comer, to have wisdom and understanding so they can be mentors to a generation of those who are about to come into the Kingdom so the Lord is patient to fulfill the fullness of His purpose. We have to see the eternal perspective like Peter and Paul did so that we can be patient for the Lord's purposes.

Let me state that I am not addressing people who have fallen into sin and immorality. I am not addressing those who have been in a ministry and have failed in holiness (although the good news for those is that we have all fallen short of the glory of God). That is a different subject. We are talking about those in the church who have been set apart to be ones who overcome in this generation and are going through a wilderness of God's proving love. Jesus went through this sort of wilderness and testing. This is not a wilderness of discipline for disobedience like the children of Israel, though both are important to understand.

God is after in a people, a quality of obedience that is based in the surrender to divine love of Christ. This will define the people He had foreknowledge of. These are His friends who have understanding of the reality of the cross and the resurrection by experiencing it in their own life.

The cross and resurrection can be confusing to an immature Christian who rides the current trends of the church and calls it a deep walk with the Lord. Those who have a deep walk are not dependant on conferences, books, television shows, radio programs, or even their local churches, these are just supplements if anything to a very deep and personal faith to one who is mature.

Many, whom God has been maturing, can't find any joy in the establishment of the church right now because the western church appeals and teaches towards the new believer and the novice. God's intention is to gather His remnant and not only save them but take them deeper into His heart. This is not the focus of many churches but it is the focus of the Kingdom. God wants mature lovers.

He wants those who eat the meat, the Hebrews 5:14 solid food of His nature.

"I Am Calling The Deep Deeper"

I heard the internal audible voice of the Lord last year and He said "I am taking the deep deeper." I had understanding that He is about to take those who have a relationship and depth in His heart to a whole new level of depth.

"And we who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into His likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit." 2 Corinthians 3:18

The mature of the church are getting their next installment of transformation which leads to the next increase of glory. We get to go from glory to glory. If we stay in one glory it means we don't have the evidence of Christ increasing in His church.

In 2 Corinthians 2 Paul tells us that the Holy Spirit is searching the depth of God and brings that depth into our very nature. He has to first prepare us to sustain what He brings, and this is why there is such a firing going on. A beautiful preparation when understood.

The Baptism Of Fire

It's no small thing that we are at the anniversary of the Azusa Street Revival where the baptism of the Spirit was reintroduced. I believe we are at another divine juncture in history. It's a time when those who have been being fired in the furnace of God's heart are about to be baptized by that very fire which is also when they are infused with everything they need from heaven to enter into their destiny for the greater works on their lives.

I believe these are commissioning years for many. People who have lived in obscurity for a time will start to be released into more anointing because they have been gaining a place of authority that is dependant on a relationship to eternity.

I remember our tennis coach in high school telling us it was the only sport that you could never get better in unless you played someone significantly better than yourself. This is reflected in Kingdom growth. God has created a dependency on unity. Some of the highest realms we can experience on this side of eternity of His glory come through the generations mingling their anointing so that we can all advance in love. This is why one age group is not more important than another in the Kingdom. If we continue to feed off the milk and never graduate to solid food we will stunt our growth.

Now back to my story about the pastor that I started this article with. As we spoke I could

see a man who was not satisfied with what was currently called anointed in the church. He was jaded, but not against God, but against the lesser forms of the ways in which spiritual gifting has been championed in his region as well as jaded by the lack of those who will pay a price for love. As I spoke to him it was a privilege because the wisdom that was in his pursuit with God was so obvious.

As we conversed, I realized that hidden in this man was the Spirit of Truth and that he is not settling for success but is longing for the fullness that was promised to Him. He asked me "How many of the greater works have you seen performed in or through your own life that you have longed to see?" By greater works he was speaking of the actual manifestation of the promise of Jesus that had been entrusted to be revealed through his life. I had to agree that I was not satisfied with my own answer.

He responded "I am longing for the greater works of the Kingdom that only come from Heaven and I am longing for the day when I am ready for the Lord to do these through me, until then I steward faithfully what He has given me. I get discouraged but I don't live in discouragement."

I loved his answer because I too am longing to see the greater works which is not just miraculous power of arms growing back where there were no arms. Greater works are also not just miraculous food provisions in places where there is no food. It's not just speaking in tongues of men and angels. These are a byproduct of the greater works.

The greater works are lives that have fully embraced the divine nature of Christ and can manifest this nature on the earth...lives that live in agreement to the Fathers plan, a full manifestation of His Sonship on the earth.

This is what Romans 8:22-24 talks about - that all creation is groaning for this manifestation of love. If you listen deeply enough when you look at the state of the church right now you will hear these very same groanings from those who have any depth or maturity.

We Are Almost There

I believe that our generation is about to walk into this place of being baptized by the Spirit AND by fire so that we can enter into the fullness. Paul prayed that the Ephesians would enter into the fullness of God's love in Ephesians 3:19 and I believe that they did for a season. What happens when a generation who is called to see the return of Jesus enters into the fullness of not just the revelation but the cooperation with eternity as mature vessels of honor? This is why we are being prepared, and this is why we are being baptized by fire.

YOUR PROPHETIC WORD HAS AN EXTENDED WARRANTY ON IT

(Bill Yount, Blowing the Shofar Ministries, www.billyount.com, theshofarhasblown@juno.com,
December 20, 2005)

SATAN LIED IN 2005! YOUR PROPHETIC WORD, THAT YOU BELIEVED FOR THIS PAST YEAR, HAS AN 'EXTENDED WARRANTY' ON IT. . . IT'S GOOD FOR THE NEXT YEAR, OR UNTIL IT COMES TO PASS!

I sense in the Spirit that many are troubled and confused over personal prophetic words that they have received in the past, including the year of 2005. Many thought these words would surely be fulfilled by the end of this year. The year is coming to a close and many are wondering, "What went wrong?"

HAVE YOU READ THE FINE *RED-BLOOD PRINT* ON YOUR WARRANTY?

I am not trying to get out of the responsibility of speaking forth words, but when God says, "This is the *day* of something to happen," prophetically the word *day* can represent a *season* that has started for that word to come to pass. Also, I sense with words such as "2005 - THE YEAR OF THE BRIDES," can mean that 2005 represents the year of the *season* beginning when singles will discover the one God has for them. I sense this word had its launching in 2005 and will continue into the future to be fulfilled in these last days.

I want you to know that if December 31 comes around and you are still single, this word is not over for you. You are still in the *season* of discovering the one that God has for you, for these are end-time weddings He is referring to. I have had many confirmations to this word through people finding their bride or groom this year and have personally attended some of these weddings.

EVEN IF YOUR PROPHETIC WORD SEEMS TO HAVE AN EXPIRATION DATE. . . "I'M EXTENDING THE 'WARRANTY' ON IT!"

Our God is unlimited. When we think it's over, it's just begun for God! Time gets in God's way

when He prepares us for the fulfillment of His word to us. We mostly use *alarm clocks* when we try to figure out His timing. We set a certain time, and when it doesn't happen, we get into the *alarm* mode. But He makes all things beautiful in His time.

You have probably heard the story of the man who asked God, "Lord, what is a thousand years like to you?" The Lord answered, "A thousand years to me is just like a second!" The man also asked the Lord, "What is a million dollars like to you?" The Lord answered the man, "A million dollars to Me is just like a penny!" The man then asked the Lord, "Lord, could I have a million dollars?" The Lord answered, "Just a second!"

I sense that Satan has lied to many in 2005, trying to convince them that their word, dream, or vision that was hoped for by the end of this year is not coming to pass after all, and therefore, it is too late. I want to encourage you. Read the fine red-blood print of your extended warranty on your prophetic word and know that you are closer to its fulfillment now than ever before!

But then again, December 31 is not here yet. . . is it?

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FIVE THINGS TO CHECK OUT WHEN ENCOUNTERING THINGS WE ARE SENSING

(Quotes from the book *Keepers of the Presence* by Murray Dueck, p 129)

(Five things to check out from the book *Keepers of the Presence* by Murray Dueck when you sense something going on in you. This is from the chapter on burden bearing and how it works)

(p. 129) I was doing well one day, just going about my normal routine of preparing for a class, when I hit a really rough spot; I was suddenly depressed, angry, and anxious, and I had no idea why. When I get like that (and it does happen from time to time), I begin to go through a checklist of probable causes (or sources) to figure out how to respond:

- Burden bearing
- Defilement
- The weight of discernment
- Wounding
- Warfare

When I (the author) start through my checklist, usually the first thing I do is to drive down to the local Starbucks coffee shop, get a cup of coffee, and go for a drive out into the country to a peaceful place. If what I am experiencing is warfare, defilement, or discernment, it usually clears up very quickly. But this time, these strong emotions didn't clear up, and I could find no rest.

(Then he proceeded with the rest of the story and how, in this case, it was burden bearing for someone he was to eventually pray for.)

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OVERCOMING WITH WORSHIP

(Quotes from *Keepers of the Presence* by Murray Dueck, pp. 131-179)

(P. 131) When I had driven out into the country to deal with the warfare, I was assuming that I was fighting through something to do with me and my personal situation. It never occurred to me that the Lord had actually given me a burden bearing assignment, that I was waging a war on behalf of someone else. I assumed that my battle was just about me and my little world. Spiritually sensitive sensor/feelers often make such mistakes. Because we sense or feel things so strongly, we automatically want to protect ourselves and to have whatever is going on stop! Often, our first reaction is to seek personal peace and survival, which makes it difficult for us to come to the right conclusion. I now see God wanted to start a dialogue with me about what I was feeling so that I could be aware of, and involved with, the burden He was carrying. I just needed to learn to ask whether what I was experiencing was about myself or someone else.

(132) We will always enjoy greater fruitfulness and blessing by living according to the truth that God is looking for co-laborers on the earth, so He can release His presence and glory through His people.

It is important to note that burden bearing does not always require that you minister to people, but it does call you to minister to the heart of God.

(134) As an act of intercessory prayer, burden bearing not only releases the power of God into the lives of people, but also into corporate meetings, and even regions.

(135) Burden bearing is a divine act that can release the presence of God into meetings, churches, and regions. We, as sensor/feelers, are uniquely positioned before the Lord to step into this calling. As keepers of the Lord's presence, we have been gifted to sense what is hindering the Lord, when those hindrances break, and when God's glory is released into situations. Thus, through burden bearing and prayer, we can pastor the presence of God in corporate settings.

(136) From time to time, before I am to speak at a conference or preach at a church, travail and weeping will overwhelm me. I will begin to shake and cry. I was sure of one thing—I didn't want people to lay hands on me and pray for me! I knew I didn't need healing for what I was experiencing. I eventually figured out that what was really happening had nothing to do with my emotional condition—it was God's heart! I realized that such manifestations usually indicated that the presence and power of God was going to fall in my upcoming meeting. When I get all emotional before a meeting, it is as if God is pouring into me His heart for the people at that meeting. As I carry the burden of the Lord and weep, the presence of God begins to build within me, like water inside a dam. As I stay with the Lord in that state and carry that burden, I know the presence of God is going to show up in the meeting in a big way, just like a dam opening its floodgates! And the glorious thing is this—since I carried that burden, I know I will get to stand in the anointing and power of the presence of God as it pours out onto countless people in that meeting. As a sensor/feeler and friend of God, He gives me the honor of pastoring His presence so I can see the desires of His heart fulfilled.

Spiritual warfare and defilement have one very significant difference: while you can just wash off defilement, you can't rid yourself of the enemy quite as easily – he tends to resist and fight back.

Our enemy is just like that: his power over us depends on what we believe about him, and about the Father's love for us, and about our authority in Christ.

Focus on Jesus; step into God's presence; reflect the Lord's glory; and then rebuke the enemy. After all the enemy is just a turkey with his feathers all fluffed up.

I learned that my years of developing a lifestyle of worship had increased my spiritual authority and helped me to outgrow some of my fears. I also discovered that learning from Jesus, focusing my sensor/feeler gift on God through worship, and maturing spiritually had given me the authority to thrash the enemy. Warfare can be a lot of fun if we overcome the things in ourselves that cause fear and panic. The enemy is a defeated foe, but he stops by from time to time to see if we believe it. Therefore, if we are to defeat the enemy, we must first prepare to win. We need to put on the armor of God and stand firm. We must realize that we put on armor because we are warriors—warriors who clothe ourselves in the glory and presence of God through worshipping the Lord!

As warriors, when we find ourselves in a battle against the enemy and he is trying to make us feel fear, shame, weak, etc., we need to realize that God is sending us a message: "There is ground to be taken, the kingdom of heaven is advancing, and the army of the Lord is moving forward." In fact, when a big battle is raging, the Lord is revealing to us that we are about to graduate to a new level of authority and anointing in Him; our ministry is about to move forward. If you study the life of Jesus, you will see Him face big battles before big victories.

We, as sensor/feelers, submit to God by turning our sensing/feeling gift away from the enemy and onto God. We turn to God in worship, love on Him, adore Him, and humble ourselves before Him. Suddenly, God's presence comes and the enemy runs for it. To beat him, all we need to do is submit to God and resist the enemy; that's when he runs for the hills!

(179) In the midst of this battle, we need to spend time in worship, then check again and try to gauge the state of the battle by sensing or feeling – do we sense the enemy weakening? After getting a sense of the battle, we can worship and ask God's glory to come upon the enemy like artillery shells from heaven. Then we

gauge the battle again, rebuke the enemy, return to worship, gauge the battle again, and so on.

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SPIRITUAL WARFARE WITH TERRITORIAL SPIRITS

(Quotes from *Keepers of the Presence* by Murray Dueck, p 181ff)

“The Enemy is Territorial”

God has established certain boundaries that the enemy is often forbidden to cross. Our warfare can possibly be territorial.

Evil spiritual demonic beings occupy and wage wars in the heavenly realm over various geographic areas on earth.

Why do some areas feel different? It is because you are sensing the presence or absence of different spiritual powers and principalities that have legal right to operate in certain areas and not others.

Our spirits discern that we live in a spiritual reality unique to our geography.

In certain regions where success, status, and performance are highly valued, the spiritual environment often tends to trap people in a fast, business-oriented lifestyle, the feeling of needing to work harder, and the sense of being behind and having to catch up. Such spiritual defilement stirs up striving and driven-ness among people living under it. It creates a foothold for the enemy to increase tension, conflict, and a “looking-out-for-number-one” attitude, which contributes to a spiritual environment that is not about love but about possessions.

REVIVAL CHRONICLES: CHASING MANTLES AND RECEIVING ANOINTINGS

(Jim Wies, Itinerant Minister and Web Pastor, Extreme Prophetic Ministries, Email: jwies@xpmedia.com, June 7, 2008)

Intro by Patricia King:

Jim Wies is an Extreme Prophetic Webpastor and Itinerant Minister. He is a teacher and is very prophetic. He actively ministered in the Toronto Outpouring and engaged in the Pensacola Revival. He now writes an exciting prophetic overview of the progression of the Spirit unto the current revival in Lakeland. You will enjoy the Chronicles...I have.

Patricia King
Extreme Prophetic Ministries

THE IMPARTABLE ANOINTING

Awesome things are happening in these days of visitation. Revival fire has ignited in Lakeland, Florida, and has exploded into multiple thousands of people gathering each night in stadiums and arenas receiving healings, miracles and fresh fire from Heaven. Many from all over the world are being ignited with a fresh anointing of grace and taking the revival fire back to their homes and churches.

Much has been said about the "contagious" and "impartible" nature of the revival fire breaking out in Florida and other places, making these truly exciting times to be alive. Since there are some valuable lessons we can learn from some of the recent predecessors of this current outpouring, that will help us rightly respond to these current events, I pulled together what I am calling "chronicles of revival" from events I personally experienced and first person accounts I have heard from some of the primary people involved with the progression of revival over the last 20 years.

But long before there was the "Toronto Blessing" or the "Brownsville Revival" we see a story that exemplifies the reality of chasing mantles and catching anointings right from the Scriptures. The story is from 2 Kings 2:1-2; 9-15 and is about Elijah and Elisha:

"And it came to pass, when the LORD was about to take up Elijah into Heaven by a whirlwind, that Elijah went with Elisha from Gilgal. Then Elijah said to Elisha, 'Stay here, please, for the LORD has sent me on to Bethel.' But Elisha said, 'As

the LORD lives, and as your soul lives, I will not leave you!' So they went down to Bethel...

"And so it was, when they had crossed over, that Elijah said to Elisha, 'Ask! What may I do for you, before I am taken away from you?' Elisha said, 'Please let a double portion of your spirit be upon me.' So he said, 'You have asked a hard thing. Nevertheless, if you see me when I am taken from you, it shall be so for you; but if not, it shall not be so.' Then it happened, as they continued on and talked, that suddenly a chariot of fire appeared with horses of fire, and separated the two of them; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into Heaven.

"And Elisha saw it, and he cried out, 'My father, my father, the chariot of Israel and its horsemen!' So he saw him no more. And he took hold of his own clothes and tore them into two pieces. He also took up the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and went back and stood by the bank of the Jordan.

"Then he took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and struck the water, and said, 'Where is the LORD God of Elijah?' And when he also had struck the water, it was divided this way and that; and Elisha crossed over. Now when the sons of the prophets who were from Jericho saw him, they said, 'The spirit of Elijah rests on Elisha.' And they came to meet him, and bowed to the ground before him."

The lesson is obvious: Elisha pressed in and received not just the same anointing Elijah carried, but in fact, a double portion of the anointing his mentor had.

THE HISTORY BEHIND CURRENT LAKELAND, FLORIDA, OUTPOURINGS

The story of this current outpouring can actually be traced back 20 years ago to an obscure Bible College teacher in South Africa who felt called of God to surrender his life to become a missionary to America. His name was Rodney Howard-Browne.

He arrived in the USA in 1988 and started traveling as an evangelist preaching the Gospel. One of the earmarks of his life and his message was a deep and unquenchable hunger for God and the power of His Spirit. By the early 90's he began to experience an unusual level of anointing on his ministry and people began to receive powerful touches of refreshing and joy in his meetings, as well as healings and other miracles.

By 1993, he was gaining attention by what God was doing in his meetings; and in a series of meetings he held in Lakeland, Florida, there was such a powerful move that he went into extended meetings where thousands of people began to come and receive a fresh touch from God.

THE BUZZ IN 1993 CONCERNING LAKELAND REVIVAL MEETINGS

During that time, I was pastoring a church in the Florida Panhandle, and I remember all the buzz about the meetings. A number of people I knew flew in from across the USA to Florida to receive a fresh empowerment from Heaven. I also remember, to my chagrin, the thoughts that passed through my mind at the time, about how I had God in my life, and I had an anointing on what I was doing, and I certainly did not need to travel anywhere to chase after "more of God." (I was soon to radically change my mind on those issues.)

Not everyone held my opinion on the matter, and during those days in 1993, there was a certain burned-out Vineyard pastor in St. Louis, Missouri, who had, himself, seen seasons of visitation and healing in his past; he was so hungry to experience it again, that he chased Rodney Howard-Browne down and attended some meetings he was holding in Tulsa, Oklahoma. That man was Randy Clark. By his own admission, he tells about how he got into the prayer line for "impartation" five times in one night just because he was so hungry for more of God and His power in his life.

Randy left those meetings changed forever. He was healed of a nervous condition that had been plaguing him for a while, but more significantly, when he got home he discovered a whole new level of grace and anointing in his ministry. Randy has gone on since then to build an international, apostolic ministry that is touching nations with healing and impartation of revival fire.

Not long after that, another hungry Vineyard pastor named John Arnott heard of what had happened in Randy's life and invited him to come and do four nights of meetings at his church in Toronto, Canada, in the cold and snowy January of 1994. What happened next certainly changed my mind about the impartation and transferability of anointings and mantles. But way beyond that, it has had major impact on the Church worldwide. The impact felt from the visitation of God that occurred at the Toronto Airport Christian Fellowship is with us to this day, and there is much we can learn from it.

HUNGRY FOR MORE!

"O God, You are my God; early will I seek You; my soul thirsts for You; my flesh longs for You in a dry and thirsty land where there is no water. So I have looked for You in the sanctuary, to see Your power and Your glory. Because Your lovingkindness is better than life, my lips shall praise You. Thus I will bless You while I live; I will lift up my hands in Your name. My soul shall be satisfied as with marrow and fatness, and my mouth shall praise You with joyful lips." Psalm 63:1-5

God will accommodate the hungry with revival. Not long after Randy Clark received a fresh impartation at Rodney Howard-Browne's meeting in Tulsa, Oklahoma, another hungry Vineyard pastor named John Arnott invited him to his church in Toronto, Canada. When the meetings began on a cold Thursday night in January, there were about 120 people in attendance. But God showed up in a powerful way, and what was intended to be four nights of meetings quickly blossomed into extended meetings.

John convinced Randy to stay on to help, and the meetings grew in intensity and in numbers. It seemed like overnight word got around that there was an unusual visitation of

God, and the hungry began to come from throughout the USA and Canada--then came the nations. Nightly meetings extended week after week, then month after month. The hungry kept coming, catching the fire, and taking it back with them to their homes and churches in nations all over the world. At one point, they said there were over 6,000 churches experiencing the outpouring in just England alone.

My first knowledge of the outpouring came in the Spring of that year (1994) when a friend named Steve Witt, who himself was a Vineyard pastor in eastern Canada, began to tell me stories of how he took a team from his church to the Toronto meetings. And when they got back to his church in New Brunswick, his church caught ablaze and was experiencing the same powerful visitation from God, with the accompanying signs and wonders.

Suddenly I got hungry. We immediately set up a series of meetings for Steve and his team to come to our rural church in the Florida Panhandle. They came, and sure enough, the same thing happened in our congregation. And my hunger became insatiable. I wanted MORE! So off I went with numerous visits over the next six months to Toronto, to Rodney Howard-Browne meetings, to Randy Clark conferences, etc., as did thousands and thousands of people over the next several years. Our small, rural church of 120 people caught the fire as well. We doubled in size over the next three years (but that is a different story).

The Toronto meetings grew from hundreds to thousands, and the fire spread. Healings and miracles were taking place, and people continued to be powerfully touched by the love of God and His presence. This truly was an impartible and contagious anointing. Smaller versions of the same outpouring began to occur in churches all over the world. One such place was an Anglican church in England called Holy Trinity--Brompton.

There was another church in the sleepy, gulf coast town of Pensacola, Florida, who had not heard of the Toronto outpouring at this point. But they were hungry for revival to such a degree that they had set Sunday nights aside for a solid two years just to pray for revival. After two full years of praying for revival at the Brownsville Assembly of God, some of the core staff heard about and decided to go check out the Toronto meetings, and they took a trip up in the Spring of 1995. They came home more hungry than ever for revival fire. Part of the group was the pastor's wife, Brenda Kilpatrick, and worship leader Lindell Cooley.

While that was going on, a friend of Brownsville pastor John Kilpatrick, who was a traveling evangelist named Steve Hill with the Assemblies of God denomination, had heard of what was happening at Holy Trinity Church in England. In one of his trips abroad he stopped into the church and talked to the vicar there, named Sandy Miller, and received prayer and a fresh impartation of fire for himself and his ministry.

In one of those divinely orchestrated events, it turned out that the Brownsville Pastor, John Kilpatrick, decided to invite evangelist Steve Hill to preach at his church on Father's Day Sunday in the Summer of 1995. It was like a match hitting gasoline. They exploded into nightly meetings, and suddenly this large, respectable Assembly of God church in Pensacola, Florida, became another hot spot for revival, as God poured out another powerful demonstration of His power and presence in that place.

REVIVAL PHENOMENA

"Everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles." Acts 2:43

Through the mid to late 90's there were revival "hotspots" burning all over the world, the most prominent of which was the "Toronto Blessing" and the "Brownsville Revival" in Pensacola, Florida. People were being saved, healed, delivered, encouraged, strengthened and refreshed. But it was not without controversy. Many signs and wonders were happening, and that alone received lots of attention. Much of the controversy centered on the signs and wonders "phenomena."

Common to many of these meetings, were people roaring and groaning, falling and shaking, and people wondered. One friend of mine astutely commented, "Of course, a sign is designed to make you wonder." Hmm...a common bush in the desert would not have captured Moses' attention. But a bush that was on fire but not consumed, made him wonder and caused him to turn aside to see what it was. So is the effect of the unusual signs of revival.

A "sign" is an abnormal, unusual attention-getter, designed to point to something. Where I lived for a while in Northwest Florida, there were lots and lots of trees. In fact, I lived in the midst of miles and miles of pine forests. If I were to tell someone to drive down the road for a few miles until they saw the pine tree on the left and turn there, they would most certainly become lost, since there are hundreds of pines, all looking pretty much the same. If, on the other hand, I said, "Look for the pine tree that has been sawed into planks, nailed together, painted white, and has an arrow on it pointing left" (i.e. a sign), it would be much easier to find the destination the sign points to.

The fact is, a sign is simply that--an unusual "something" that gets our attention. A sign is of necessity an unusual, abnormal phenomenon, otherwise it would not serve its purpose. The validity of the sign is found in not what the sign is, but what the sign points to. The sign phenomena itself cannot be the solo criteria by which we judge whether it is divine or counterfeit. A sign is meant to point to something--WHAT it points to makes all the difference.

THE SIGN SHOULD POINT TO JESUS

And that leads to another principle. The sign is not the destination, but points us to the destination. Which, in all cases, should be Jesus. THAT is the criteria by which to judge. The accuracy of a word, validity of a sign or anything else is not measured by whether it is an authentic or supernatural miracle, but rather, if it glorifies Jesus. In the meetings being described, is the name of Jesus being lifted up? Is the Gospel being preached? Are people being provoked to deeper devotion to Jesus? Are they recovering their first love for the Lord? These are the real criteria.

In Rodney Howard-Browne's meetings there was overwhelming joy and laughter. In Toronto, people shook and fell, or broke into what some called "exotic prophetic manifestations." Similar things happened at Brownsville. And people wondered.

But this kind of phenomena is not new to revival. One reporter observed about the famous Cane Ridge Revival in the 1800's that the scene looked more like a battlefield than an outdoor meeting--with people strewn all over the countryside and laid out under the power of God's presence. But history tells us that the Cane Ridge Revival had a significant and positive effect on the morality of the nation.

THE FRUIT SPEAKS FOR ITSELF

Of course, throughout Scripture there were occasions where the powerful presence of God caused people to fall under the presence of His glory. One clear example is in 2 Chronicles 5:13-14:

"...in unison when the trumpeters and the singers were to make themselves heard with one voice to praise and to glorify the LORD, and when they lifted up their voice accompanied by trumpets and cymbals and instruments of music, and when they praised the LORD saying, 'He indeed is good for His lovingkindness is everlasting,' then the house, the house of the LORD, was filled with a cloud, so that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud, for the glory of the LORD filled the house of God." (See also Genesis 17:17; 2 Chronicles 7:1-2; Numbers 22:31; Daniel 8:17,18; Acts 9:3-6.)

So the fruit speaks for itself. I knew a teenage girl whose mother attended our local church. She visited the Brownsville Revival one night, more out of curiosity than anything else. While there, she received prayer, fell down, then levitated about six inches off the floor while she was being delivered from demons. Needless to say, she was changed forever. And so was about half our youth group who was there and saw it.

John Arnott, the pastor at Toronto Airport Christian Fellowship, gave an interesting response when challenged about the shaking and quaking that often happened to people who received prayer in their meetings. Someone asked, "What if it is a demon?" To which he replied, "Even if it was a demon, the more important question is whether the demon was coming or leaving." It is in the overwhelmingly convincing results of the encounters people experienced in these meetings, that the answer was found. They consistently left more in love with Jesus, more passionate for God, more refreshed, encouraged and empowered for ministry. As John also commented, "Why would the devil want to do that?"

One such case was a certain tired, sick and discouraged woman who had been on the mission field in Africa for many years with little fruit. She went to the meetings in Toronto, was prayed for by Randy Clark, and fell down in a pile on the floor. She was so overwhelmed by the power and presence of God that she could hardly talk and was unable to walk for a week, or even get to and from the meetings without help.

After her week of power encounter, Heidi Baker returned to the mission field with a fresh empowerment from the Holy Spirit--and since then she and her husband Roland have set Africa on fire, planting somewhere close to 10,000 churches. They have seen many significant healings and miracles, including a number of resurrections from the dead, multiplications of food, and other notable miracles.

Another minister who was powerfully touched by the Toronto Revival was a woman who already had an effective ministry in Western Canada during that time. As a prophetic visionary and effective author and teacher, she took what she received and began to train people to experience their own ongoing personal revival through her "Glory Schools" and other seminars and materials. Her name was Patricia King.

CATCHING THE FIRE AND GIVING IT AWAY

The revival at the Toronto Airport Christian Fellowship had some distinctive aspects to it. One of the significant aspects of what happened there (in this writer's opinion), was that it was not so much "personality based" as it was "presence of God" based. The amazing feature of this outpouring of the Holy Spirit was that the power and presence of God was there night after night, regardless of who was speaking, who was leading worship and what else was happening. The "felt" love of God and intimacy with Him were the biggest features, although there were plenty of salvations, healings, prophetic ministry, excellent teaching and so on.

Many people acknowledge the Toronto Outpouring as a significant benchmark of revival for this generation. Through the wise apostolic leadership of John Arnott, the revival that happened there was stewarded and administrated in such a way that there has been an establishment of ongoing fruit. Many current ministries also trace their release into new levels of effectiveness to the fresh anointing they received from the Toronto Revival. One of those ministries was that of Patricia King.

Patricia became a "carrier" of the "renewal anointing" and took it back to her spheres of ministry in western Canada. It was there, during the late 90's, that she was in a meeting where she prophetically identified and called out a young man named Todd Bentley to launch out into an evangelistic ministry, and prophetically "commissioned" him into a ministry of signs, wonders and miracles.

Todd grabbed the mantle and ran with it. The next ten years saw growth in his effectiveness as an evangelist and healing minister, but also some grueling dealings with God, as God prepared the vessel--as He so adequately and lovingly does.

It was 10 years later, in the beginning of 2008 (February 20-23), that Patricia King invited Todd to be a keynote speaker at an "Extreme Prophetic" conference she held in Phoenix, Arizona, called "Raising the Dead." That conference turned out to be a significant milestone in the ongoing chronicles of revival. A man named Denny Cline, Pastor of the Vineyard Church in Albany, Oregon, who had been a friend to Todd and had hosted meetings with Todd in the past, came to the conference on a prophetic mission. He came

with the sole agenda of proclaiming to Todd that there were new angelic hosts being assigned to Todd and his ministry to assist in a new wave of healing and revival fire.

A DAWNING OF A NEW DAY

It was on one of the last nights of that conference that a prolonged and holy silence settled in upon the meeting at the end of a time of worship. After a long pause, a prophetic word came forth over the meeting, declaring the following: "For those in this place who sense that you have crossed over a new threshold, the Lord declares,

'Surely you HAVE crossed over a new threshold and have, as it were, turned the corner into a new day, says the Lord. For surely this is a new day, not only for you, but also for the entire Body of Christ. And even as there have been times in which historians looked back and said, "That was the dawning of a new day for the Church," even so, those with spiritual perception will look back upon these meetings and this time as the time when a new day dawned and a new level of breakthrough occurred for the Body of Christ.'

A few short weeks later, Todd began what was supposed to be a short series of meetings in Lakeland, Florida. They began with about 700 in attendance, but God poured out a glorious gusher of His glory and healing power, and the crowds quickly swelled into thousands. Many signs and wonders and dramatic miracles are taking place.

As of the time of this writing, there have been 12 reports of RESURRECTIONS FROM THE DEAD. Many are heralding this as the often-prophesied and long-awaited beginning of an end time harvest that will spread to arenas and stadiums all over the world.

Once again, there is a tangible and transferable anointing of power and glory that is spreading to revival hotspots all over the world. And with the Divine providence of a prophetically sensitive satellite TV station--GOD TV, founded by Wendy and Rory Alec--broadcasting the meetings over much of the world, along with the advance of internet technology, there is a rapid spread of the knowledge of this outpouring that has resulted in thousands of saints and leaders converging from all over the world to catch the fire and then take it back and give it away.

As exciting as it is that there is a portal of open heavens occurring in Lakeland, Florida, even more exciting is the fact that it is contagious and transferable and available wherever hungry believers are crying out for more of God's revelation, power and presence. These are truly wondrous days of glory and grace.

Jim Wies, Itinerant Minister and Web Pastor, Extreme Prophetic Ministries, Email: jwies@xpmedia.com

Jim and Marcella Wies are carriers of the revelation, power and presence of God. They are available to speak at House Revival meetings, conferences and churches; and can provide equipping seminars for your group on a number of topics including personal prophecy, revelatory gifts, healing seminars, and leadership training, etc.

Jim received his Bachelors degree in Theology from Christian International School of Theology in Florida, and has served the Lord as a pastor, counselor, seminar teacher and itinerate prophet throughout the USA and Canada during his 20+ years of full-time service. He is an insightful teacher and proficient prophetic minister. As an equipper, he currently oversees the training and development of prophetic teams for Extreme Prophetic, and gives oversight, along with Marcella, to a growing network of House Fellowships in the Phoenix area. Marcella also has a beautiful singing voice and can minister powerfully in song.

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GENUINE FAITH

(From *Streams In The Desert* by L. B. Cowman, p 326)

*By faith Abraham...obeyed and went,
even though he did not know where he was going.
(Hebrews 11:8)*

This is faith without sight. *Seeing* is not faith but reasoning. When crossing the Atlantic by ship, I once observed this very principle of faith. I *saw* no path marked out on the sea, nor could I even see the shore.

Yet each day, we marked our progress on a chart as if we had been following a giant chalk line across the water. And when we came within sight of land on the other side of the Atlantic, we knew exactly where we were, as if we had been able to see it from three thousand miles away.

How had our course been so precisely plotted? Every day, our captain had taken his instruments, looked to the sky, and determined his course by the sun. He was sailing using heavenly lights, not earthly ones.

Genuine faith also looks up and sails, by using God's great Son. It never travels by *seeing* the shoreline, earthly lighthouses, or paths along the way. And the steps of faith often lead to total uncertainty or even darkness and disaster, but the Lord will open the way and often makes the darkest of midnight hours as bright as the dawning of the day.

Let us move forth today, not knowing or seeing, but trusting. (Days Of Heaven Upon Earth)

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THE SEVEN RAPTURES OF THE FIRST RESURRECTION

(Internet article by Maurice Sklarr, www.mauricesklarr.com)

“And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him.” (Jude 15-16)

“...Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come and his wife hath made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints. And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb...” (Revelation 19:7-9a)

“And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called, Faithful and True...And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean.” (Revelation 19:9a)

“But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection. Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of the Messiah (Christ), and shall reign with him a thousand years.” (Revelation 20:5-6)

For the past three years, the Holy Spirit has had me in meditation in the book of Revelation. As I have done with the sermon on the mount, the book of Proverbs, and all the Epistles of the New Testament, I read it prayerfully through fifty times while praying in other tongues. I started this practice of meditation of books of the Bible about 15 years ago under the ministry of Pastor Dave Roberson. The Lord has always blessed me and rewarded me by feeding each book into my spirit with tremendous revelation. I highly recommend this way of “eating the Word of God.”

The book of Revelation, however, was much more challenging for me and took the most time of all. I just couldn’t go quickly. Sometimes I waited several months on the Lord in between readings. By God’s grace, He has always visited me in a supernatural way during these times of waiting upon Him in meditation. After my 34th time through Revelation last summer in August, I was allowed to visit heaven, which I documented and wrote about on my website. But, since then, I have had to wait for the Holy Spirit to release me to write on this subject. Two weeks ago, while ministering in Kansas, I finally finished my fiftieth reading. Then “she dawned”! The question that I had was finally made clear in my spirit.

What was the question? It was this: Why is there so much confusion and contrary teachings in the Body of Messiah concerning the rapture(s) (catching away of the Bride of Messiah and the Tribulation saints to come to heaven)? Who is right? What is “rapture” anyway?

Now, I refused to read any commentaries or teachings on this subject. I wanted the Holy Spirit to show me. After all, isn’t He the Teacher sent to lead us into all truth?

Of course, I do not claim any infallibility. I am only sharing what I have gleaned. You, dear brothers and sisters, must judge for yourself.

So, hear is what He revealed to me:

There are seven instances of people being “caught up” to heaven while still living (what is called being “raptured” by some) in the Bible.

The **first** is found in Genesis 5:24:

“And Enoch walked with God: and he was not; for God took him.”

Now Enoch is an interesting figure. He actually has an ancient book attributed to him. In Jewish writings from the beginning of our history, as well as in the days of Yeshua and the early church, it was considered by many Jewish scholars and Rabbis to be a part of the canon of scripture. The letter of Jude (quoted above) is actually from this book of Enoch. I tried to read it, but found it to be difficult to understand and confusing. It is basically about angels, demons, fallen angels, and other prophecies about pre-Adamite history and also the end of the world. But, the important thing is this man Enoch was unique in all the men in ancient times before the flood. God took him to heaven in his body. This is the first man to be raptured to heaven in the scriptures. He did not die.

The **second** is found in 2 Kings 2:11:

“And it came to pass, as they still went on, and talked, that, behold, there appeared a chariot of fire, and horses of fire, and parted them both asunder; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven.”

The **third** is found in Acts 1:9-11:

“And when he (Yeshua, Jesus) had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight. And while they looked toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.”

So our Lord Yeshua the Messiah ascended in His resurrection body to heaven. But notice the phrase, *“and a cloud received him out of their sight.”* This is an idiom that is found several times in the prophetic scriptures concerning rapture. I believe, in this instance, it refers to other Old Testament saints that go with Yeshua at the same time. That is why those watching were told that He would

come again *“in like manner”* as He ascended. Who is in the cloud? There were the Old Testament believers that were waiting for the coming of Messiah. Yeshua said that they were in a place called Paradise or Abraham’s bosom. They were waiting so they could be born again and go to heaven.

Paradise is found in a place called “Sheol” which was an upper level above the abyss of hell found in the spiritual realm located in the center of the earth. When Yeshua rose from the dead, the scriptures say that he went and preached to “the spirits in prison”. (1Peter 3:19) The price had been paid for their full salvation and they were able to be born again spiritually. It is interesting to note that when Yeshua died on the cross – other Old Testament saints also came back from the dead, as it is written:

This is the **fourth** rapture: the **Old Testament saints that ascend with Yeshua**.

“And the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints which slept arose, And came out of the graves after his resurrection, and went into the holy city, and appeared unto many.” (Matthew 27:52-53)

Very likely, these actually rose with Jesus – not when He died, but three days later, when He rose from the dead. These all gave witness with Yeshua to His resurrection in Jerusalem. Yeshua also spent forty days after he arose appearing unto many and teaching them. (Acts 1:2-3) I believe that those resurrected saints arose with Yeshua when He ascended and perhaps all the other Old Testament saints with him. That is “the cloud” that received Him and went with Him to heaven.

The Apostle Paul calls the **fifth** rapture “a mystery” in 1Corinthians 15:51-54, as it is written:

“Behold, I show you a mystery; We shall not all sleep (die), but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.

So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.”

A second witness in the letters of Paul is found in 1Thessalonians 4:13-18, as it is written:

“But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep (have died), that ye sorrow not, even as others, which have no hope. For if we believe that Yeshua (Jesus) died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. For the Lord himself shall descend for heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Messiah shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words.”

(Note: “The last trump” should not be confused with the seventh trumpet judgment in Revelation – these are two different shofar/trumpet blasts)

This is still awaiting us in the near future. This refers to the time when the **true church of Yeshua** the Messiah (Jesus Christ) will be instantly raptured to meet the Lord in the air. Paul says that all those that have died in faith, as true believers will first rise and then those that remain and are alive will not die, but go to heaven to be with the Lord during the last seven years of tribulation.

Now, Yeshua warned us repeatedly that we must “watch and pray” so that we will be ready when He comes in the midnight hour for His Bride. Not all professing Christians will be raptured at this time. Only those that are ready spiritually and are a part of the overcoming bride will be taken.

The Book of Revelation.

Here are some truths:

1. There are at least three raptures in the book of Revelation. The first one occurs between Revelation chapter 3 and chapter 4. That is the fifth rapture as written above. The second is the bodily ascension of the two witnesses along with their harvest of souls. The third occurs when the “man-child” of chapter twelve is caught up to heaven. There may be others that are not specified, but these three are clear. I will come back to this.

2. There are three witnesses of God during the Tribulation period. The first are the 144,000 Jewish men from the twelve tribes that are sealed and anointed after the fifth rapture. The second are the two witnesses, most likely Enoch and Elijah. The third is at the very end of the Tribulation when three angels fly across the earth in the atmosphere. The first angel preaches the gospel to all those that still remain on earth. The second warns of the fall and judgment of Babylon. The third warns of eternal damnation to all that receive the mark of the beast.

3. The book of Revelation has cycles of judgment and harvest of the souls on earth during the last seven years before Yeshua comes back and establishes his Kingdom. It goes back and forth from heaven to earth, showing and contrasting the events from God's view and man's. It is entirely possible that some or all of these could be other raptures. This is not specified. I am certain, however, that many millions will be killed/martyred and then come to heaven this way and are then given their resurrected bodies.

4. It is actually showing how merciful God is with sinful man. The Holy Spirit is NOT taken from the earth ever. In fact, it is God's glory that brings judgment on the sin of Man. The fires of revival and glory will increase more and more until men will either fall on their faces and repent, or they will curse God and shake their fists at Him. One thing for sure, God and His glory will be clearly seen, recognized and experienced. He cannot be ignored. None shall be able to deny or escape. There will be millions and millions that will be saved during the Tribulation. Many will be martyred for their faith in Messiah. God will defend and save Israel and the Jewish people, gather them to the land of Israel, purify them, protect them, and reveal Messiah unto them. However, not every individual Jew will believe and be saved. Israel as a whole (the nation) will be.

5. Babylon will be destroyed by God Himself by fire. For an explanation of the six Babylons in the Bible, go to my teaching "The Wine of Babylon" and "Visions from the Dallas, Texas Revival 1985" on my web sight.

Note: I did receive additional revelation on the two "cities": called Mystery Babylon and Babylon the Great. (Revelation chapters 17-18) I went to Italy last month to perform and minister for the first time. The last place I ministered in Italy was Rome. As we were being driven into the city, I had a vision. I saw the principality over Rome. It was like nothing I have ever seen before. It looked exactly like the woman described in Revelation chapter 17. I believe that there may be more than one city that God calls "Babylon" in the tribulation time. There is financial Babylon, which may be New York City, which Satan uses as

his throne over the end time global economic system. The city of Rome might be the city/throne where Satan rules of the global religious system called "Mystery Babylon". Finally, there may be a city that will be built over the ruins of ancient Babylon where the anti-Messiah will rule from. However, this is only conjecture, because the Bible, in my opinion, does not clearly show these cities. Perhaps there will be three different cities from which Satan will control the world. It does say that the antichrist will go to Jerusalem and enter the temple and proclaim he is God during the last half of the Tribulation. A "living and speaking" image, perhaps holographic, will be put there and those that take his mark will be forced to worship him.

6. In the immediate future, there will be a regional Middle-east war in which Israel will defeat radical Islam. This will happen directly surrounding the nation of Israel. Israel will be victorious, though damaged and hurt. Then after this, a Jewish temple will be rebuilt in Jerusalem in its' rightful place on the temple mount. The Jewish people will once again establish animal sacrifice, the Levitical priesthood, and will have total control of the temple mount for a short time – perhaps the first three years and a half of the Tribulation. However, I personally do not believe that God builds this temple. The Temple that he builds is found at the end of Ezekiel. It will be built at the start of the Messianic Kingdom and after the terrible tribulation period of seven years. Yeshua will rule and reign from there for a thousand years on the throne of David. All this must soon come to pass.

The **sixth** rapture is the most clear and open of all in the book of Revelation. It is found in Revelation chapter 11 concerning the **two witnesses**, as it is written:

"And I will give power unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days, clothed in sackcloth...and when they have finished their testimony, the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit shall make war against them, and shall overcome them, and kill them...And after three days and a half the Spirit of life from God entered into them, and they stood upon their feet; and great fear fell upon them which saw them.

And they heard a great voice from heaven saying unto them, come up hither. And they ascended up to heaven in a cloud; and their enemies beheld them." (Revelation 11:3,7,11-12)

These two witnesses are not named, but I believe that they are Enoch and Elijah. I believe also that the phrase, "in a cloud" refers to all those who are

alive that they have won to God through their ministry. They ascend with them. (Note: I do not think that the book of Revelation is entirely chronological. This may very well happen in the last 3 and half years. But, because it appears in chapter 11, I have put it as number six.)

The **seventh** rapture is found in Revelation 12:5, as it is written:

“And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and to his throne.”

It took me a long time to see it, but on my 48th time through Revelation I finally saw it. Chapter 12 was a difficult chapter until the Holy Spirit illuminated my mind. Chapter 12 is the story of the woman who gives birth to a son who rules with a rod of iron over the nations. This is a dual prophetic reference. It is certainly referring to Yeshua as the Messiah, judging and ruling from His throne over all the nations with Torah during the thousand years, as it is written in Psalm 2. There is no question that the woman is the nation of Israel/the Jewish people if you recognize the imagery of the sun clothing her, the moon under her feet, and the crown of twelve stars. This is found in Genesis 37:9 in the dream of Joseph.

But, the problem is, that in the context of chapter 12, immediately following is two end time events of the Tribulation. One is describing the fall of Satan with his angels to the earth and being cast out of heaven. You see, Satan at the present time has access to the throne of God still and is accusing the saints before God in the court of heaven. But at this time he is finally thrown out and never allowed back into heaven. So he goes to try to destroy the Jews (what else is new?). They flee into Petra where God protects them for the last half of the Tribulation. This is also a dual prophetic reference. It does refer to the fall of Lucifer before Adam and Eve with the third of the angels who fell with him. But, in the context it is most definitely speaking of this end time persecution of Israel. So, the “man child” cannot refer exclusively to Yeshua. It must also be during the tribulation. I believe that the Man Child of Revelation chapter 12 refers to the **144,000 Jewish believers** who win millions to the Lord during the first half of the Tribulation period.

When they have finished their ministry they are also raptured into heaven. We see them there in Revelation 14:1-5, singing before the throne of God and playing harps. In Revelation 15:2-4, as well as in Revelation 12:10-12, we see the harvest of souls from their ministry. They are also in heaven. Some will have died and been martyred, but I also believe that many that are still alive are

also raptured to heaven with the 144,000 at the same time. So, if this is true, there is a “mid Tribulation rapture” after all! It is hidden though, and I would not preach it as doctrine, because it is only implied in the scriptures.

Finally, a great event takes place in heaven, as it is written in Revelation 19:7-9:

“Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints. And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb...”

All of God’s people – the Old Testament believers, the believers of the church age, and the Tribulation saints are all gathered in heaven. At that time there is a great wedding in heaven. The heavenly Bridegroom now eternally marries his Bride. He prepares us to return to earth with Him which immediately follows, as it is written in Revelation 19:11-16. He returns on a white horse with all the saints following “as a cloud, or in a cloud” as it is perceived from earth. Yeshua destroys the ungodly armies gathered against Jerusalem from all nations with the sword of His mouth. He then sets up His eternal Kingdom upon earth, ruling forever and ever from Jerusalem.

There is an additional group of people that are alive and remain at His coming to the earth. Not all will be killed and damned to hell and the lake of fire. **Some will see Him at His second coming and will cry out for mercy. Even then, the Lord will hear and pardon them. They will be rescued at the very last moment. These will be those in their natural bodies that will populate the earth during the one thousand years’ paradise and perfection on the earth.** They will live and die at a very old age, have children, and live in a perfect world without evil. We will see what it should have been like if Adam hadn’t fallen. This is the final seventh Day: the Day of the Lord...the Sabbath of rest for the entire earth. All of us that live in their resurrected bodies as His Bride will rule and reign with Messiah.

“But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years be finished. This is the first resurrection. Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Messiah and shall reign with him a thousand years.” (Revelation 20:5-6)

The first resurrection are all those that have been saved from Adam until the marriage supper of the Lamb. We shall be given our eternal bodies and we will rule and reign forever with our Messiah. Blessed be He forevermore!

May the Lord bless and keep you faithful in this midnight hour.

Shalom and love in our Messiah,

Maurice Sklar

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THREE DIFFERENT MINDSETS IN THE WORLD

(From the book *A Time To Advance* by Chuck Pierce, Robert and Linda Heidler, p 20-28 by Robert Heidler)

To comprehend the mind war, we must grasp the concept of mindsets.

You have a mindset that controls and directs the way you think and act. How you react to the world is determined by your mindset which functions unconsciously, and yet drives your actions determining subsequent results in your life.

The Bible divides the human race into three categories: Barbarian, Greek and Jew (Hebrew). I believe these represent three different mindsets anyone of us can have. First is the Barbarian mindset. Secondly, there is the Greek mindset, and thirdly, there is the Hebrew or biblical mindset. We need to understand each of these and how they operate.

THE BARBARIAN MINDSET

Most of the Old Testament world had a Barbarian mindset. The basic operating principle of this mindset is fear. For example, to a barbarian the strength of a government is measured by the ability to hold people in fear. Under the Barbarian mindset, the form of government is tyranny, which manifests as a ruthless

dictatorship, whose success is measured by absolute control over the people. Terrorism is birthed from such a mindset, because people who are filled with fear can be easily dominated.

The Barbarian mindset is Satan's favorite way of operating, because he is an oppressor that comes to steal, kill, and destroy. He holds mankind, even many Christians, in such fear that they will not resist him.

If your life is dominated by fear, you are held captive by a barbarian warlord named Satan. Fear is his favorite tool. You cannot walk in fear and in faith at the same time because fear is the opposite of faith. God does not want you to live in fear. God wants you to know you have a loving, heavenly Father who cares for you.

THE GREEK MINDSET

The ancient Greeks gave us a whole new way of looking at the world. Basically, they worshipped man. Those with a Greek mindset said, "We have the power in ourselves. We are our own gods. We can make the world perfect if we all work together."

The Greeks invented a new form of government known as democracy. They believed that utopia comes when people rule themselves. Many people in the political realm today have unfounded faith in democracy. Operating out of a Greek mindset, America tried to impose democracy on people who operate with a Barbarian mindset, and the plans for peace went awry.

The operating principle of a Greek mindset is pride that filters through a humanistic intellect. The Greeks believe knowledge is power. If you can understand how something occurs, then you can control and manipulate outcomes. So those with a Greek mindset always want to make sure everything lines up intellectually and "by-the-book."

Living under a society with a Greek mindset is much more pleasant than one with a Barbarian mindset. If you have a choice between the two, choose the Greek every time but understand God thinks differently. The Greek mindset is Satan's "Plan B." Satan would rather oppress you because he is a barbarian at heart, but he will use a Greek mindset to make you think you're okay while keeping you from God's best.

Much of the Church today is operating in a Greek mindset. If you go into many churches and start talking about the Holy Spirit, spiritual gifts, and speaking in

tongues, you'll get shut down real quick. Many Christians don't believe any of that because they don't understand the way God thinks. To a Greek mindset, human reason is supreme and won't accept what is incomprehensible. In most cases, the denominational leaders have taught against the spiritual gifts and convinced everyone that such gifts are not for today.

If you're going to walk with God, you're going to have to accept some things you don't understand because God will confound the mind to test the heart. That means He will do things you do not understand just to see if you will love Him and trust Him anyway.

THE HEBREW MINDSET

The third mindset is the Hebrew mindset, which is a biblical mindset. You don't have to be Jewish to have a Hebrew mindset. A Hebrew mindset is the mind of one who has been transformed by the truth of God.

God took the offspring of Abraham, and for 2000 years He shaped their understanding and culture to bring them into line with His truth. He gave them a revelation of His nature that there is only one God, and He is a jealous God who will not share His glory with idols. He revealed that He is a holy, loving, and righteous God. He gave them a prophetic view of history. They learned where history started and where it was headed and what Messiah would come to do. Through Torah, the first five books of the Bible given to Moses, He shaped their daily lives and taught them about holiness, as well as about holy days, holy people, and holy places.

He taught them righteousness and repentance. He divided their world into clean and unclean to teach them about the defilement of sin and what being set apart to God really means. He introduced them to covenant and instilled in them a biblical cycle of life. Sabbaths and feasts formed a rich tapestry against which life was played out, teaching and reminding them each year of the principles of life with God.

He gave them practical wisdom for success and illustrated how to prosper and demonstrate to the world the blessing of being God's people. And through all of that, God established a new mindset in the earth. He taught a people to think in a way that no one else on earth had thought. Still today, most Jews, even if they are in unbelief, have a mindset different than other people in the world.

The Hebrew mindset operating principle is this trust in God. When you understand that God has chosen you and is watching over you, you are led into a totally different way of thinking and living, which may seem foolish to the world.

Here are some interesting comparisons of the three mindsets in various categories:

IN RELATIONSHIP TO GOD:

Barbarian Mindset: Make war and conquer those who are weak.

Greek Mindset: Study theology and doctrine to reason out questions with human intellect, argue, and get the right answers at all costs.

Hebrew Mindset: We may not understand God but we will love, worship, and obey Him.

HOW DO YOU GET AHEAD IN LIFE?

The Barbarian oppresses others and wins by intimidation.

The Greeks get more education because knowledge is power.

The Hebrew learns to walk in God's favor, which is the true key to success.

God is restoring a Hebrew mindset to the Church today, and to do that His Word says that our minds must be transformed. He doesn't want us to walk in fear or pride but rather to trust Him. We must break off our faith in human intellect, so we can draw close to Him and learn to hear His voice and walk in His ways.

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TOMMY HICKS' VISION OF THE FUTURE

(From book *To Heal The Sick* by Charles and Frances Hunter)

This is a vision received by Tommy Hicks, noted evangelist, in 1961, and published in a book entitled *Pertinent Prophecies I* by John M. and Dorothea M. Gardner, and reprinted by permission in the Hunters' book.

VISION OF THE BODY OF CHRIST AND THE END-TIME MINISTRIES

My message begins July 25, about 2:30 in the morning at Winnipeg, Canada. I had hardly fallen asleep when the vision and the revelation that God gave me came before me. The vision came three times, exactly in detail, the morning of July 25, 1961. I was so stirred and so moved by the revelation that this has changed my complete outlook upon the body of Christ, and upon the end-time ministries....

As the vision appeared to me after I was asleep, I suddenly found myself in a great high distance. Where I was, I do not know. But I was looking down upon the earth. Suddenly the whole earth came into my view. Every nation, every kindred, every tongue came before my sight from the east and the west, the north and the south. I recognized every country and many cities that I had been in, and I was almost in fear and trembling as I beheld the great sight before me; and at that moment when the world came into view, it began to lightning and thunder.

As the lightning flashed over the face of the earth, my eyes went downward and I was facing the north. Suddenly I beheld what looked like a great giant, and as I stared and looked at it, I was almost bewildered by the sight. It was so gigantic and so great. His feet seemed to reach to the north pole and his head to the south. Its arms were stretched from sea to sea. I could not even begin to understand whether this be a mountain or this be a giant, but as I watched, I suddenly beheld a great giant. I could see his head was struggling for life. He wanted to live, but his body was covered with debris from head to foot, and at times this great giant would move his body and act as though it would even raise up at times. And when it did, thousands of little creatures seemed to run away. Hideous creatures would run away from this giant, and when he would become calm, they would come back.

All of a sudden this great giant lifted his hand toward the heaven, and then it lifted its other hand, and when it did, these creatures by the thousands seemed to flee away from this giant and go into the darkness of the night.

Slowly this great giant began to rise and as he did, his head and hands went into the clouds. As he rose to his feet he seemed to have cleansed himself from the debris and filth that was upon him, and he began to raise his hands into the heavens as though praising the Lord, and as he raised his hands, they went even unto the clouds.

Suddenly, every cloud became silver, the most beautiful silver I have ever known. As I watched this phenomenon it was so great I could not even begin to understand what it all meant. I was so stirred as I watched it, and I cried unto the Lord and I said, "Oh, Lord, what is the meaning of this," and I felt as if I was actually in the Spirit and I could feel the presence of the Lord even as I was asleep.

And from those clouds suddenly there came great drops of liquid light raining down upon this mighty giant, and slowly, slowly, this giant began to melt, began to sink itself in the very earth itself, and as he melted, his whole form seemed to have melted upon the face of the earth, and this great rain began to come down. Liquid drops of light began to flood the very earth itself and as I watched this giant that seemed to melt, suddenly it became millions of people over the face of the earth. As I beheld the sight before me, people stood up all over the world! They were lifting their hands and they were praising the Lord.

At that very moment there came a great thunder that seemed to roar from the heavens. I turned my eyes toward the heavens and suddenly I saw a figure in white, in glistening white--the most glorious thing that I have ever seen in my entire life. I did not see the face, but somehow I knew it was the Lord Jesus Christ, and he stretched forth his hand, and as he did, He would stretch it forth to one, and to another, and to another. And as he stretched forth his hand upon the nations and the people of the world--men and women--as he pointed toward them, this liquid light seemed to flow from his hands into them, and those people began to go forth in the name of the Lord.

I do not know how long I watched it. It seemed it went into days and weeks and months. And I beheld this Christ as he continued to stretch forth his hand; but there was a tragedy. There were many people as he stretched forth his hand that refused the anointing of God and the call of God. I saw men and women that I knew. People that I felt would certainly receive the call of God. But as he stretched forth his hand toward this one and toward that one, they simply bowed their head and began to back away. And each of those that seemed to bow down and back away, seemed to go into darkness. Blackness seemed to swallow them everywhere.

I was bewildered as I watched it, but these people that he had anointed, hundreds of thousands of people in all the world, in Africa, England, Russia, China, America, all over the world, the anointing of God was upon these people as they went forward in the name of the Lord. I saw these men and women as they went forth. They were ditch diggers, they were washerwomen, they were rich men, they were poor men. I saw people who were bound with paralysis and sickness and blindness and deafness. As the Lord stretched forth to give them this anointing, they became well, they became healed, and they went forth!

And this is the miracle of it--this is the glorious miracle of it--those people would stretch forth their hands exactly as the Lord did, and it seemed as if there was this same liquid fire in their hands. As they stretched forth their hands they said, "According to my word, be thou made whole."

As these people continued in this mighty end-time ministry, I did not fully realize what it was, and I looked to the Lord and said, "What is the meaning of this?"

And he said, "This is that which I will do in the last days. I will restore all that the cankerworm, the palmerworm, the caterpillar--I will restore all that they have destroyed. This, my people, in the end times will go forth. As a mighty army shall they sweep over the face of the earth."

As I was at this great height, I could behold the whole world. I watched these people as they were going to and fro over the face of the earth. Suddenly there was a man in Africa and in a moment he was transported by the Spirit of God, and perhaps he was in Russia, or China or America or some

other place, and vice versa. All over the world these people went, and they came through fire, and through pestilence, and through famine. Neither fire nor persecution, nothing seemed to stop them.

Angry mobs came to them with swords and with guns. And like Jesus, they passed through the multitudes and they could not find them, but they went forth in the name of the Lord, and everywhere they stretched forth their hands, the sick were healed, the blind eyes were opened. There was not a long prayer, and after I had reviewed the vision many times in my mind, and I thought about it many times, I realized that I never saw a church, and I never saw or heard a denomination, but these people were going in the name of the Lord of Hosts. Hallelujah!

As they marched forth in everything they did as the ministry of Christ in the end times, these people were ministering to the multitudes over the face of the earth. Tens of thousands, even millions seemed to come to the Lord Jesus Christ as these people stood forth and gave the message of the kingdom, of the coming kingdom, in this last hour. It was so glorious, but it seems as though there were those that rebelled, and they would become angry and they tried to attack those workers that were giving the message.

God is going to give to the world a demonstration in this last hour as the world has never known. These men and women are of all walks of life; degrees will mean nothing. I saw these workers as they were going over the face of the earth. When one would stumble and fall, another would come and pick him up. There were no "big I" and "little you," but every mountain was brought low and every valley was exalted, and they seemed to have one thing in common--there was a divine love, a divine love that seemed to flow forth from these people as they worked together, and as they lived together. It was the most glorious sight that I have ever known. Jesus Christ was the theme of their life. They continued and it seemed the days went by as I stood and beheld this sight. I could only cry, and sometimes I laughed. It was so wonderful as these people went throughout the face of the whole earth, bringing forth in this last end time.

As I watched from the very heaven itself, there were times when great deluges of this liquid light seemed to fall upon great congregations, and that congregation would lift their hands and seemingly praise God for hours and even days as the Spirit of God came upon them....

And then again, as these people were going about the face of the earth, a great persecution seemed to come from every angle.

Suddenly there was another great clap of thunder, that seemed to resound around the world, and I heard again the voice, the voice that seemed to speak, "Now this is my people. This is my beloved bride." And when the voice spoke, I looked upon the earth and I could see the lakes and mountains. The graves were opened and people from all over the world, the saints of all ages, seemed to be rising. And as they rose from the grave, suddenly all these people came from every direction. From the east and the west, from the north and the south, and they seemed to be forming again this gigantic body. As the dead in Christ seemed to be rising first, I could hardly comprehend it. It was so marvelous. It was so far beyond anything I could ever dream or think of.

But as this body suddenly began to form, and take shape again, it took shape again in the form of this mighty giant, but this time it was different. It was arrayed in the most beautiful gorgeous white.

Its garments were without spot or wrinkle as its body began to form, and the people of all ages seemed to be gathered into this body, and slowly, slowly, as it began to form up into the very heavens, suddenly from the heavens above, the Lord Jesus came, and became the head, and I heard another clap of thunder that said, "This is my beloved bride for whom I have waited. She will come forth even tried by fire. This is she that I have loved from the beginning of time"

As I watched, my eyes suddenly turned to the far north, and I saw seemingly destruction: men and women in anguish and crying out, and buildings in destruction.

Then I heard again, the fourth voice that said, "Now is My wrath being poured out upon the face of the earth." From the ends of the whole world, the wrath of God seemed to be poured out and it seemed that there were great vials of God's wrath being poured out upon the face of the earth. I can remember it as though it happened a moment ago. I shook and trembled as I beheld the awful sight of seeing the cities, and whole nations going down into destruction.

I could hear the weeping and wailing. I could hear people crying. They seemed to cry as they went into caves, but the caves in the mountains opened up.

They leaped into water, but the water would not drown them. There was nothing that could destroy them. They were wanting to take their lives, but they could not.

Then again I turned my eyes to this glorious sight, this body arrayed in beautiful white, shining garments. Slowly, slowly, it began to lift from the earth, and as it did, I awoke. What a sight I had beheld! I had seen the end-time ministries--the last hour.

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UNDERSTANDING DREAMS

(From the book *Understanding The Dreams You Dream* by Ira Milligan and from the book *Every Dreamer's Handbook* by Ira Milligan)

For God does speak - now one way, now another - though man may not perceive it. In a dream, in a vision of the night, when deep sleep falls on men as they slumber in their beds...God does all these things to a man - twice, even three times - to turn back his soul from the pit, that the light of life may shine on him. (Job 33:14-16, 29)

The Scriptures were written by the same God who talks to us in dreams. His language has not changed. Our dreams, like those described in the Bible, use word pictures or symbols to convey

their concealed messages. Therefore, we can study the way symbols are used in Scripture as a guide to the way they are used in our dreams.

If the interpretation of a dream is to be accurate, the dream must be left in its setting. The dream and its symbols must be interpreted in light of the life circumstances of the person to whom it is given...Without an understanding of symbols, we are greatly limited in our ability to navigate through the complex world of dreams...Hasty dream interpretations should be avoided...Taking time to write down a dream usually causes one to remember it in greater detail. It also provides a permanent record to come back to.

Sometimes one dream by itself does not provide enough keys to know for certain what God is trying to say. But by comparing several successive dreams, we often find a progressive message unveiled before us...God is faithful to speak to us again and again if we are really trying to hear what He has to say.

When recording your dreams, be sure to include each dream's date, your location (home, on vacation, etc.), the feelings that you experienced while dreaming as well as anything important that is going on in your life at the time of the dream.

There is a difference between a dream and a night vision. A night vision requires little or no interpretation...a night vision usually has a voice speaking that gives the primary meaning and message of the vision (as in Acts 16:9-10).

A dream seldom lends itself to self-interpretation. The most common type of dream contains more than one scene; a progressive message unfolds as the dreamer is carried along, either as an observer or as a participant...the scene changes in a dream sometimes give different viewpoints of the same subject or express the same idea in different ways rather than reveal a progressive message.

In a dream with more than one scene, the first scene usually gives the setting.

God usually reveals the subject of His message in the first scene of our dreams. Then, once the subject has been established, the subsequent scenes enlarge upon the plot and carry it forward.

Because dreams can cover several different subjects and areas of our lives, it is important to correctly discern the subject matter to which the dream refers if we are to utilize the message properly. If we don't do this, we may easily apply a dream to the wrong area of our lives, or even incorrectly apply it to another person when God is really speaking to us about ourselves.

This is especially true when a dream contains people we can identify. Friends and family members are often used as symbols. Sometimes they represent ourselves; sometimes they represent another friend or family member; and sometimes they simply represent themselves.

To determine what the dream is about, and apply the message correctly, first ask yourself these questions:

1. *Who* does this dream refer to?
2. *What* is it really about?

3. *What* is the dream's setting?
4. *What* are the people saying and doing?

Always examine yourself to see if the dream can apply directly to yourself. A dream is usually both for and about the one who dreams it. Because we do not know our own heart, God uses dreams to reveal its deep, dark secrets to us...So, God often has to use other people to represent different aspects of ourselves...Their words and actions will reveal hidden virtues, faults, or sins about ourselves that we are simply ignoring or have completely justified.

God speaks to us concerning our relationship with Him, our jobs, our health, and our relationships with others.

Once we know the particular subject God is talking about and who He is referring to, proper dream interpretation is usually not difficult. But if these two things are not determined correctly, any interpretation we may venture will be misguided or incorrect.

As a general rule, if after substituting the symbols in a dream with the key words or thoughts they symbolize, one still finds no recognizable message, then the dream is probably just junk mail, proceeding from somewhere in the confused or troubled regions of the soul. It is not from God...because some of our dreams are not from God, we should exercise reasonable caution when we apply them...information and instructions obtained from dreams should be confirmed in other ways before we act upon them.

God's timing is another factor that must be taken into consideration when we are working out His will in our lives. Sometimes He tells us what He will do for us, but we have to wait for Him to do it. (Joseph)

Sometimes a dream simply confirms instructions that one has already received from a different source. (Gideon: Judges 7:9-15)

There is one obvious way of checking a dream to see if it is from God. *God's messages are always consistent with His written Word.* A dream may seem like a fable, or even include wrong or sinful actions, but when properly interpreted the message it contains will always be in accordance with the righteous principles of the Bible...the dream content may *appear* very negative, yet contain beautiful, positive truth. A dream from God will never instruct us to do something evil.

Understanding sexually explicit and violent dreams is especially helpful for enabling us to walk in righteousness. Dreaming of an illicit, intimate sexual encounter often reveals the need of deliverance from a spirit of lust...such a spirit often makes his presence known by taking advantage of a person's unconscious state (sleep) to act out his desires in that person's dreams. (see 2 Cor. 11:4)

A terrifying dream of being stabbed or killed often reveals the presence of a spirit of fear from which one needs deliverance...dreaming of personally hurting or killing someone can alert us to the presence of a spirit of jealousy or hate lurking somewhere beneath our consciousness.

In R- and X-rated dreams, *sometimes* the individual symbols do not reveal anything specific within themselves; rather the *feelings* of lust, rage, hatred, or overwhelming fear give us the information we need to understand the significance of the dream. I stress *sometimes* because there is another type of "nightmare" that everyone should be aware of, and in these dreams, the symbols *are* important. These terrifying dreams come straight from God. (see Job 7:13-14). In these dreams, the symbols are significant, but concentrating on them can sometimes cause one to overlook the main point. Instead of trying to identify the symbols and interpret them, first pay attention to the action of the dream.

Our emotions (as they are felt while we are dreaming) are significant. The emotional response to the message after we wake up can be misleading...the key to understanding what a dream is saying is always found in the emotions we feel *while* we are dreaming.

Although most of our dreams are in black and white, sometimes certain colored objects appear in them. *Colors are symbolic, supplying additional information about the objects that are colored.*

Discerning when a dream is symbolic (a parable) and when it is literal. *As a general rule, if a dream can be taken literally, it should be.* If there is something in a dream that is not literal, however, then the entire dream should be interpreted as if the objects, and sometimes even the people it contains, are symbols.

There will normally be a key - a clue - something in each dream that will reveal whether it is literal or symbolic. As a rule, if there is an object or person in a dream that cannot be taken literally, then the entire dream should be viewed as symbolic or as a parable. However, if everything in a dream is as it actually is in real life, the dream is usually literal.

Regardless of whether a dream is literal or a parable, there are several scriptural examples that show us that, when necessary, we can change the outcome from that in the dream. The situation a dream reveals or foretells can usually be changed through prayer (See Amos 7:1-6)

Sometimes as we meditate on a dream we realize that we have dreamed the same thing before. The second dream may not always use the same objects or people, yet the same hidden message is apparent.

Jesus gave an example for understanding symbols in the parable of the sower. Because most dreams are parables, the method He used to decipher this parable is also the proper way to unravel the mystery of dreams. Jesus said that the parable of the sower explains the way to interpret *all* parables. (Mark 4:3-13)

One can see that He simply replaced each symbol in the parable with its respective meaning. Usually one word, or the thought contained in that word, was sufficient to give them the understanding He wanted them to have.

Symbols can be used both positively and negatively...the context of the dream must determine which meaning to use in your interpretation.

Sometimes a symbol has a meaning to one person that would not fit another...when we are trying to decipher a symbol, the first question we should ask is: What does this symbol mean to *me*?"

God will use names that rhyme, puns, riddles, proverbs, almost anything imaginable to hide the truth from our "old man" when He speaks to us in the night. God has boundless imagination. If we are going to keep with Him, we must stretch ours...There are objects that are common to everyone, and God uses these to speak to each of us at one time or another.

(From the book *Every Dreamer's Handbook* by Ira Milligan)

Numbers are the very highest form of symbolism; therefore, their meanings are seldom understood...because there are endless meanings for every number, of necessity everyone must use a common reference before numbers can be considered useful in dreams. God has provided just such a reference tool for us - the Bible.

Symbols acquire their meanings by four primary ways:

1. their inherent character or universal character
2. a dreamer's personal experience
3. through society, culture
4. by the way it is used in Scripture

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NAMES OF CHRIST

Adam (the second) – 1 Corinthians 15:45

Advocate – 1 John 2:1

Alpha and Omega – Revelation 1:8; 22:13

Amen – Revelation 3:14

Angel of the Lord – Exodus 3:2; Judges 13:15-18

Branch – Jeremiah 23:5

Bread of Life – John 6:35, 48

Chief cornerstone – Ephesians 2:20; 1 Peter 2:6

Chief Shepherd – 1 Peter 5:4

Counselor – Isaiah 9:6

Dayspring – Luke 1:78

Deliverer – Romans 11:26

Door – John 10:7
Immanuel – Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:23
Eternal Life – 1 John 1:2; 5:20
Everlasting Father – Isaiah 9:6
Faithful Witness – Revelation 1:5; 3:14
First and Last – Revelation 1:17; 2:8
God – Isaiah 40:9; John 20:28
Good Shepherd – John 10:14
Great High Priest – Hebrews 4:14
Holy One – Psalm 16:10; Acts 2:27; 3:14
I Am – Exodus 3:14; John 8:58
Jehovah – Isaiah 26:4 (KJV)
Jesus – Matthew 1:21; 1 Thessalonians 1:10
Just One – Acts 7:52
King – Zechariah 9:9; Matthew 21:5
Lamb of God – John 1:29, 36
Life – John 14:6; Colossians 3:4
Light of the Word – John 8:12
Lion of Judah – Revelation 5:5
Lord God Almighty – Revelation 15:3
Lord of Glory – 1 Corinthians 2:8
Messiah – Daniel 9:25; John 1:41
Mighty God – Isaiah 9:6
Morning Star – Revelation 22:16
Nazarene – Matthew 2:23
Our Passover – 1 Corinthians 5:7
Prince of Life – Acts 3:15
Prince of Peace – Isaiah 9:6
Prophet – Luke 24:19; John 7:40
Redeemer – Isaiah 59:20; 60:16
Resurrection and Life – John 11:25
Rock – 1 Corinthians 10:4
Savior – 2 Peter 2:20; 3:18
Servant – Isaiah 42:1; 52:13
Son of God – Luke 1:35; John 1:49
Son of Man – John 5:27; 6:27
Sun of Righteousness – Malachi 4:2
True God – 1 John 5:20
True Light – John 1:9
True Vine – John 15:1

Truth – John 14:6
Way – John 14:6
Witness – Isaiah 55:4
Wonderful – Isaiah 28:29; 9:6
Word – John 1:1
Word of God – Revelation 19:13
Word of Life – 1 John 1:1

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BIBLE WRITERS (AND JESUS HIMSELF) SAY JESUS IS

- An advocate who pleads our case before the Father – 1John 2:1
- The sacrifice that atones for our sins – 1 John 2:2
- Alpha and Omega, who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty – Revelation 1:8
- I am coming soon, bringing my rewards with me to repay all people according to their deeds – Revelation 22:12
- What he opens, no one can close and what he closes, no one can open – Revelation 3:7

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WHO JESUS SAYS HE IS

What Jesus is like, how He thinks, what He desires, what His hopes and dreams are - in His own words - from the book of John.

You believe because I told you I saw you under the fig tree.

I tell you the truth, you shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man.

My time has not yet come.

How dare you turn my Father's house into a market!

Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days.

I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again.

No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven--the Son of Man.

The Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life.

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God's one and only Son.

This is the verdict: Light has come into the world,

Whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.

Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth.

My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work.

My Father is always at his work to this very day, and I, too, am working.

I tell you the truth, the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does. For the Father loves the Son and shows him all he does.

For just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, even so the Son gives life to whom he is pleased to give it.

Moreover, the Father judges no one, but has entrusted all judgment to the Son, that all may honor the Son just as they honor the Father.

He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father, who sent him.

I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life.

I tell you the truth, a time is coming and has now come when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God and those who hear will live.

For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son to have life in himself.

And he has given him authority to judge because he is the Son of Man.

A time is coming when all who are in their graves will hear this voice and come out--those who have done good will rise to live, and those who have done evil will rise to be condemned

By myself I can do nothing; I judge only as I hear, and my judgment is just, for I seek not to please myself but him who sent me.

I have testimony weightier than that of John. For the very work that the Father has given me to finish, and which I am doing, testifies that the Father has sent me.

And the Father who sent me has himself testified concerning me.

These are the Scriptures that testify about me.

I do not accept praise from men,

I have come in my Father's name

If you believed Moses, you would believe me, for he wrote about me.

The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent.

It is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.

I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty.

All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away.

For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of him who sent me.

And this is the will of him who sent me, that I shall lose none of all that he has given me, but raise them up at the last day.

For my Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day.

No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him, and I will raise him up at the last day.

No one has seen the Father except the one who is from God; only he has seen the Father.

I tell you the truth, he who believes has everlasting life.

I am the bread of life. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.

I tell you the truth, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in him.

Just as the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so the one who feeds on me will live because of me.

The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life.

The world - hates me because I testify that what it does is evil.

I am not yet going up to this Feast, because for me the right time has not yet come.

My teaching is not my own. It comes from him who sent me.

I am not here on my own, but he who sent me is true.

You do not know him, but I know him because I am from him and he sent me.

I am with you for only a short time, and then I go to the one who sent me.

Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him.

I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.

I know where I came from and where I am going.

I pass judgment on no one. But if I do judge, my decisions are right, because I am not alone. I stand with the Father, who sent me.

I am one who testifies for myself; my other witness is the Father, who sent me.

If you knew me, you would know my Father also.

I am going away, and you will look for me, and you will die in your sin. Where I go, you cannot come.

You are from below; I am from above. You are of this world; I am not of this world.

When you have lifted up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am the one I claim to be and that I do nothing on my own but speak just what the Father has taught me.

The one who sent me is with me; he has not left me alone, for I always do what pleases him.

If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.

I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave to sin.

If the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

If God were your Father, you would love me, for I came from God and now am here. I have not come on my own; but he sent me.

Why is my language not clear to you? Because you are unable to hear what I say. You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desire.

He who belongs to God hears what God says. The reason you do not hear is that you do not belong to God.

I am not seeking glory for myself; but there is one who seeks it, and he is the judge.

I tell you the truth, if anyone keeps my word, he will never see death.

My Father, whom you claim as your God, is the one who glorifies me.

I tell you the truth, before Abraham was born, I am!

As long as it is day, we must do the work of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work.

While I am in the world, I am the light of the world.

For judgment I have come into this world, so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind.

The man who enters by the gate is the shepherd of his sheep.

The watchman opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice.

He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice.

I tell you the truth, I am the gate for the sheep.

I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. He will come in and go out, and find pasture.

I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me --just as the Father knows me and I know the Father--and I lay down my life for the sheep.

I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd.

The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life--only to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father.

The miracles I do in my Father's name speak for me, but you do not believe because you are not my sheep.

My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.

I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish;

No one can snatch them out of my hand.

My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand.

I and the Father are one.

Why then do you accuse me of blasphemy because I said, 'I am God's Son'? Do not believe me unless I do what my Father does. But if I do it, even though you do not believe me, believe the miracles, that you may know and understand that the Father is in me, and I in the Father.

(About Lazarus) This sickness will not end in death. No, it is for God's glory so that God's Son may be glorified through it.

I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die.

Father, I thank you that you have heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me.

The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds.

Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me.

Now my heart is troubled, and what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. Father, glorify your name!

Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out.

But I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to myself.

When a man believes in me, he does not believe in me only, but in the one who sent me. When he looks at me, he sees the one who sent me. I have come into the world as a light, so that no one who believes in me should stay in darkness.

As for the person who hears my words but does not keep them, I do not judge him. For I did not come to judge the world, but to save it. There is a judge for the one who rejects me and does not accept my words; that very word which I spoke will condemn him at the last day.

For I did not speak of my own accord, but the Father who sent me commanded me what to say and how to say it. I know that his command leads to eternal life. So whatever I say is just what the Father has told me to say.

Unless I wash you, you have no part with me.

You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and rightly so, for that is what I am.

I know those I have chosen.

I tell you the truth, whoever accepts anyone I send accepts me; and whoever accepts me accepts the one who sent me.

Now is the Son of Man glorified and God is glorified in him. If God is glorified in him, God will glorify the Son in himself, and will glorify him at once.

My children, I will be with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and just as I told the Jews, so I tell you now: Where I am going, you cannot come.

A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.

Where I am going, you cannot follow now, but you will follow later.

Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me.

In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.

You know the way to the place where I am going.

I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

If you really knew me, you would know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him.

Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father.

The words I say to you are not just my own. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work.

Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the miracles themselves.

I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father.

And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.

If you love me, you will obey what I command.

And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever - the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.

Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me.

Because I live, you also will live. On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you.

Whoever has my commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves me.

He who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love him and show myself to him.

If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him.

He who does not love me will not obey my teaching.

These words you hear are not my own; they belong to the Father who sent me.

But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives.

Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

I will not speak with you much longer, for the prince of this world is coming. He has no hold on me, but the world must learn that I love the Father and that I do exactly what my Father has commanded me.

I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful.

You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you.

Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

I am the vine; you are the branches.

If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned.

If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you.

As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love.

If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love.

I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends.

You are my friends if you do what I command.

I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.

You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit - fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name.

This is my command: Love each other.

I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you.

When the Counselor comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father, he will testify about me.

But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you.

He will bring glory to me by taking from what is mine and making it known to you. All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will take from what is mine and make it known to you.

I tell you the truth, my Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete.

I came from the Father and entered the world; now I am leaving the world and going back to the Father.

I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.

I have brought you glory on earth by completing the work you gave me to do. And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began.

I have revealed you to those whom you gave me out of the world.

For I gave them the words you gave me and they accepted them. They knew with certainty that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me.

I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours.

All I have is yours, and all you have is mine.

And glory has come to me through them. I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you.

While I was with them, I protected them and kept them safe by that name you gave me.

I am coming to you now, but I say these things while I am still in the world, so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them.

I have given them your word and the world has hated them, for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world.

My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. They are not of the world, even as I am not of it.

Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth.

As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified.

I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me.

I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one. I in them and you in me.

Righteous Father, though the world does not know you, I know you, and they know that you have sent me.

I have made you known to them, and will continue to make you known in order that the love you have for me may be in them and that I myself may be in them.

My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jews. But now my kingdom is from another place.

You are right in saying I am a king. In fact, for this reason I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me.

Peace be with you!

As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.

Receive the Holy Spirit.

If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.

Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.

You must follow me.