

NOTES  
AND  
QUOTES

7

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.

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## DREAMS AND VISIONS

(Notes From John Paul Jackson's 6 Tape Series On Dreams And Visions, February, 2003)

### **Tape 1, Side 1**

Dreams speak symbolically in metaphors

Visions are more literal, reveal God

OT word "cala" = to dream, "calam" = to cause to dream (God does it to you)

Why have dreams? Jesus spoke in parables - some given ability to understand, some not

Vision means going to have a hard test. Long hard test, hardship

Dream means you're going to have a test. Quicker & easier than vision

Opposite seems to happen before it is fulfilled

Greater the word the harder the test and the longer the time till fulfillment.

If what's to happen is opposed, hard, it means it is about to happen.

### **Tape 1, Side 2**

He seals their instruction in dreams to keep you from pride. Once it's in you, it will come to pass, even if you don't remember.

Series of dreams can be valuable

2 things dreams are about:

*intrinsic* = about you, your thoughts about others, etc. 95-98% of dreams are this

*extrinsic* = people, nations, something else rather than us...will increase as you are closer to Lord. 2-5%

The greater my peace the greater my dreams and the greater my understanding of them.

Dreams, visions take you to other dimensions

height

breadth

depth

spiritual (God operates in)

soul (occult operates in)

time (vision can transcend time)

light (where John was called up to)

### **Tape 2, Side 1**

Metaphors are meant to make you search for the answer. They overemphasize to get your attention so you take action.

#### **20 categories of dreams:**

1. healing - forgiveness, love, physical
2. flushing - showers off slime, soot in life so it doesn't take root in us
3. calling - what He's calling you to
4. warning - not to do certain dreams
5. false - from Satan
6. body - from physical illnesses, fighting illness, chemicals
7. chemical - drugs in body, even aspirin
8. self-conditioned - something in self you need to tend to
9. courage - to do opposite of usual
10. correction - tells you right way to go
11. direction - where to go

12. intercession - to pray
13. revelation - prophetic
14. dark - black and white, gray, muted, 2nd heaven dreams reveal Satan's plans, pray against, take action against, absence of light, darkness, (sin = absence of God), dark light, mute - what God is doing.
15. spiritual warfare - may seem like nightmares, enemy hates you. You must be doing something right

### **Tape 2, Side 2**

16. fear - come from own fears, especially fear as a child. Fear and bitterness are what Satan uses as legal ground to attack, nightmares
17. inventions - music, solutions, products
18. words of knowledge - solution of problem
19. deliverance - yanks demonic problems out of your life
20. soul dreams - mind, will, emotions, your soul causes, want it, demanding own way

Spirit = wisdom, communion, conscience

Need metaphoric thinking, right brain, random access, to interpret dreams

Pastor often linear thinking

Prophetic - metaphoric thinking

#### **Interpretation may come by:**

1. revealed by an angel
2. simultaneously speaking the meaning as the dream is going on
3. writing it down brings understanding
4. unfold as we mature in the ways of God. Learn more in process

### **Tape 3 Side 1**

You are not guaranteed an interpretation. All revelation comes from the Holy Spirit.

4 levels of interpretation:

1. Literal
2. Allegorical - this is that
3. Philosophical - your sons/daughters = in local church, my servants = go around world
4. Hidden

Most important part - ask God

Parables give metaphors

Sometimes different scenes/themes

If try to put too much detail into interpretation, you miss the main meaning

#### **Reduce it to its simplest form, build on that**

Context determines meaning of object, color, etc.

Make a list in columns of elements in dreams: colors, transportation, streams/water, etc.

### Tape 3, side 2

Individual ministry/prophecy

### Tape 4, side 1

Light (God) - 7 spirits (colors of light) flow from Him to us. Light exudes from us. If you have all 7 colors you exude white light (or amber)

3 spectrum of light/color

artist spectrum: red, yellow, blue (black light)

subtractive spectrum: see color not absorbed (cayenne, magenta, yellow (black light)

additive arena: white light (6 colors + white, put 6 together, makes white light)

To interpret dreams you need to understand metaphorical principles of God. Study Scripture to learn these, parables, etc

### Tape 4, side 2

First reduce dream to its simplest form

1. Where are you in the dream?

Observing: dream not about you. You are there as a witness

Participating, but not focus - other people. May impact you

You are the focus

2. What other objects, what feeling did you have about them

3. How objects parallel you.

### Tape 5, side 1

Context of dream

Names and meaning of names (Grace etc)

Flowers - fragrance - smell

#### **Foundational elements**

Colors (may be negative or positive for each color):

**red:** positive: power, redemption, anointing; negative: anger, war, destruction

**brown:** positive: compassion, pastoral color; negative: humanism, man-made compassion

**blue:** positive: revelation; negative: emotional lows

**gold, amber:** positive: hallowed, holy; negative: greed

**purple:** positive: authority

**orange:** positive: perseverance; negative: stubbornness

**yellow:** positive: mind; negative: fear

Person

male or female

leader, pastor, etc.

prophet: prophetic word

familiar: from Lord

stranger: not from Lord (uncomfortable)

#### Other questions to ask

Aggressive or friendly - what feelings did they provoke in you

Were there sexual encounters in dream, same sex, different sex, could mean flushing dream or going back to a former love

Naked: vulnerable, everyone can see what's going on in my life, transparent, being made transparent

#### Transportation

Bicycle: level of ministry/work doing today

Car: same

Bus: churches, larger areas of impact

Train: large area of work

Plane: large area of work

Ship: depends on size

#### Building (may mean church, family, work)

Size

Basement: below surface, hidden

Up stairway: transition, higher levels

Surface

Attic: past, old memories, accumulated

Dust: inactivity, neglect, atrophy

Office building: work, administrative function

High rise: status, level of calling, where going or at

#### Objects

Knife: attack, cutting off, Word of God

Fire:

Sword: Word of God, spiritual battle

Gun: dynamite, power

Battery operated: limited duration

Darts: attack

Water: Holy Spirit, masses of humanity, people

Tornado: if white, God, if dark, enemy

Furnace: refiner's fire

River: move of God

Swim pool: can get immersed in

#### Clothing

mantle-what going to be doing

coat-protection

cultural dress-about that country

#### Creatures

snake-long tale (being told about you) gossip

ants-irritation, unwanted guests

spiders-occult trying to harm you

mice & rats-larger demons that feed off things in your life

### **Tape 5, side 2**

#### Creatures cont.

Bees, hornets-demonic attack

Bear-unexpected attack, become volatile

Birds-

Horses-power  
White horse-may be of God, maybe not  
Black panther-enemy, cunning, sneaky  
Scorpion-black magic  
cockroach-going after  
alligators-big mouth  
elephants-wisdom, strength  
monkeys-harass, mock  
white monsters-things that seem righteous, holy, and religious, but not  
form of animal but can see through it: it's a spiritual issue  
moth-destroy things  
turtles-peace  
sharks-not peace  
eagles-prophetic  
flamingo and stork-they carry out God's purposes  
Chikwawa-friend that is talking all time  
dog-friend (I guess, he didn't say)  
turkey-wisdom or foolishness  
rabbits-multiplication, destructive  
armadillo-destroy, harassment  
worms in earth-humility  
black crows-mockers, harassers  
pigs-demonic, unclean, lead to destruction, messy situation  
hamster-running in circles, caged  
lady bugs-good, eat the harassers

### **Other dream situations/items**

Faceless or unseen person = Holy Spirit, or angel  
Stream represents ministry  
Seed can mean-faith, Word, kingdom  
losing teeth-biting off things, chew on things  
running with limb that doesn't work-something in your spirit not operating yet  
Chariot-represents something you're going to accomplish, destiny  
air balloon-peaceful rising in the Spirit  
covered wagon-a powerful tradition  
soaring, flying-high spiritual activity that God's taking you to  
falling & waking up-physiological condition, not spiritual, unwinding nerves  
flying with angel-more of a spiritual issue  
flowers & rainbow-check color, fragrant, the Lord  
underwater-deep things of the Spirit  
ribbon-check color, can be a reminder  
school-place of education  
platter-large food coming  
2 parallel gold ribbons-holiness, 2 things to accomplish  
city-circumstance in your life  
children-something new birthing  
bare feet-vulnerability to pain, humility  
sitting at desk with no pants on-God's going to make you spiritually productive  
roller coaster-instability  
dangerous situation where you try to scream and can't-check if color or black and white

circumstances are choking off your passion for prayer, you're not praying  
enough in your normal life  
mirrors-giving you a reflection of you or someone else, what's going on in you.  
dropped purse and stuff spills out-of control, everybody going to see what you are,  
great fear with that  
you dream that you dream-very important, double dream, usually destiny, life call, things  
God doesn't want you to miss  
house burned (all but picture)-out family issue  
bald tires-traction, air, cars represent ministry, Holy Spirit rides you there, not grasping  
what God has called you to do  
murdered or flogged-persecution, difficult time  
die-God using this to kill you and raise up new  
various rooms-various issues  
somebody standing off to side not doing anything-may mean spiritual apathy  
running in slow motion, limping-  
death-doesn't mean real death, maybe change  
name of street, town or area-find meaning of the name

### **Tape 6, side 1**

gymnasium-great discipline, do something over and over  
outer space-same as flying  
having vine-being connected  
going to bathroom with others watching-gonna clean you up  
as a child-God wants you to develop, mature  
corn-seed of hope, season to wait until harvest, yellow is hope  
storms  
thigh-faith  
nose-discernment  
hand-direction  
arm-strength  
money-favor or loss of favor  
flying-spiritual advancement is coming

### Remembering Your Dreams

1. Ask Holy Spirit to help you remember your dreams
2. Ask Holy Spirit why you're not remembering your dreams
3. Ask Holy Spirit to wake you up when you have a dream so you can write it down
4. The quicker you get up after having dream, the more you'll remember it.
5. Keep notepad by bed and pen that lights up
6. Write down-about my future and somebody else.
7. Short term memory-1 year or less
8. Long term memory-many years back, details

### **Tape 6, side 2**

#### 5 HINDRANCES TO DREAMING

1. Culture stole away relevance of dreaming
2. God will give us fewer dreams because we're not paying attention to the ones He gives.



3. Spirit of prophets is subject to the prophet

Utterance of dream- can do it wrong way to wrong person at wrong time

Reception of revelation - don't grieve the Spirit, don't go to sleep with anger, pride, drugs or alcohol can affect reception

Establish integrity which leads to credibility, which leads to character, which leads to favor, which leads to authority

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## TRANSITIONAL PRAYER-A PLACE OF PASSAGE

(By Catherine Brown Founder, Gatekeepers Global Ministries and Co-Founder  
Scottish Apostolic Networking Enterprise, Email: admin@gatekeepers.org.uk, Mar 20, 2010)

### **Transitional Prayer**

Prayer is the heartbeat of every born-again Believer that brings us before the throne of grace to experience the reality of God's love, authority, wisdom and power in our communion with Him. Without such divine encounters in prayer, we would miss out on the continuous process by which we mature in our comprehension of prayer and its affect in and through our lives. We would be like flowers without water and, in a spiritual context, we would quickly "wither" and become dry and lifeless.

Whilst in Uganda, I revisited the Garden of Gethsemane Scriptures and Christ's intercession there. Allow me to share some thoughts with you from my time of meeting with the Holy Spirit. The Garden of Gethsemane reveals a type of prayer that I will describe as "transitional prayer," which is prayer that causes a shift and a breakthrough, allowing us to pass from one stage of our God-given destiny and break through into another level. Transitional prayer serves as a place of passage in our lives.

Transitional prayer bridges from one season in our lives into the next. It may be described as prayer that flows from the heart of our Heavenly Father, with the mind of Christ to us. It is painful, powerful and a necessary type of prayer in the life of every Believer.

### **It is a Walk of One**

*Sit here while I go over there and pray. —Matthew 26:36*

Jesus had taken Simon and the two sons of Zebedee with Him to the garden of Gethsemane, but although they had accompanied Christ, when it was time to pray the Lord went off to be alone with His Father. There are some things in our Christian walk that we can share with others, but there are other times when it can only be a walk of one, whereby we stand alone before God. At the moment

of our conversion, at various significant milestones in our faith walk, and at the time of judgment/reward at the end of the Age, we stand alone before God. Transitional prayer is such a type of divinely-inspired, one-on-One spiritual encounter.

The disciples could not stay awake with Christ. He said to them, *"Will you not wait with Me one hour?"* The call to wait with the Master for one hour is still before the praying Church. As we transition from glory to glory, the principles of prayer in Gethsemane will help to enable the Church to pray and release God's apostolic end-time strategies.

### **It is Painful Prayer**

...He began to be sorrowful and troubled. Then He said to them, *"My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with Me."*—Matthew 26:37-38

Mark 14 records Jesus, *"began to be deeply distressed and troubled"* (verse 33).

Jesus Christ's intercession in Gethsemane was extremely painful on levels that we can barely begin to comprehend. He suffered physically, spiritually, mentally and emotionally as He prayed. Whilst our prayers and intercession cannot be compared to that of Christ's Gethsemane experience, nonetheless we understand that there are times when God grants us grace to pray and push through our own discomfort, in order that His purposes and plans may be released from Heaven to earth—both for us as individuals and also for a corporate faith application.

Have you ever prayed until it hurts? I recall when God placed a burden for Korea upon me and how He turned my heart inside out with His heart for the Believers who were being persecuted there. I wept for several days as God unfolded the atrocities they were suffering. Such prevailing intercession moves Heaven on behalf of earth. Ultimately, God used this time to release a powerful prophetic word and to mobilize many on behalf of North Korean Believers. The prophetic word was flown into North Korea in hot air balloons, whilst others risked their lives to deliver it across the North Korean border to Believers there.

On another occasion, I was in Uganda and had only one night before I was due to fly back home. I began to pray fervently and called out to God, saying I would not board the plane to return to the U.K. unless I saw at least one person become born again. With that prayer, God flooded my being in travail for souls, and I wept until there was only a quiet whisper remaining in me. The next day, God faithfully swept many new sons into the Kingdom and I baptised them right there in the little African prison!

*The spirit is willing, but the body is weak.* —Matthew 26:41b

Jesus counseled His disciples that they must watch, and pray, and stay alert, and avoid the temptation of allowing their flesh to rule over the leading of the Holy Spirit in their lives. As disciples today, may we receive this word of divine encouragement today and pray even when it hurts; pushing through until breakthrough comes down in the holy fire of God's presence and power.

## **It is Enduring Prayer**

*An angel from Heaven appeared to Him and strengthened Him. And being in anguish, He prayed more earnestly, and His sweat was like drops of blood falling to the ground. —Luke 22:43-44*

It is my firm conviction that the Father heart of God is supremely evident at Gethsemane. God released an angel to come and minister to His dear Son; God gave the gift of endurance to Christ to pass through Gethsemane and reach Golgotha.

Endurance is perhaps something we associate with athletes, as they work hard in training to prepare to compete in athletic events; or perhaps we associate endurance with passing through a trial or temptation of some kind. Indeed, both applications have spiritual comparisons in the place of prayer. We are continually being trained by the Holy Spirit in the things of God, and we are led through the valley into victory on the mountaintop as we pass through seasons of change. We are pressed down, and in the pressing we become more like our Beloved.

Paul instructed his spiritual son Timothy, *"Endure hardship with us like a good soldier of Jesus Christ" (2 Timothy 2:3)*, and went on to speak further of the athlete's victory crown attained in competition and the hard-working farmer being first to receive his share of the crops. All of these allegorical comparisons point us to the benefits of endurance—we receive a crown of glory because Jesus bore the crown of thorns; we share in the harvest rewards, because Christ is Lord of the Harvest; we serve the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, and follow Him onto the battlefield where He reigns victorious. May God open our eyes afresh to see the beauty and benefits of the gift of endurance and teach us to pray as though our lives depend on it, as they surely do; what a person is in the place of prayer is a reflection of the conformed inner man.

## **It is Prayer that Questions**

*...everything is possible for you. Take this cup from Me. —Mark 14:36*

By asking His Father to take the cup from Him, Jesus raised a question of the possibility of not having to drink the cup of suffering. Jesus was an obedient Son and understood His destiny, yet even Christ asked the Father if it was possible for the cup to be taken from Him.

At Golgotha, Christ called out again to His Father with a question that did not receive an answer this side of eternity: *"Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachtani?"—which means, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me" (Mark 15:34b)*.

Beloved, there are times in our lives when we call out to God when our hearts are full of pain, with questions that have no answers. I recall such a situation some years ago and the comfort I received when I realized that our dear Lord died on the Cross with an unanswered question. Jesus can empathize with us in every situation. He is the Light at the end of the tunnel and the Light in the middle! He is beautiful in every situation and brings peace to our troubled souls. May we rest in His sovereignty and in His ability to meet us in the place of pain and help us transition to healing and wholeness, so that we may be used to pray life-changing prayers that flow from His heart.

## **The Father's Gift—The Son's Choice**

Mark records, *"Going a little farther, He fell to the ground and prayed that if possible the hour might pass from Him. 'Abba, Father,' He said, 'everything is possible for You...'"* (v35-36a).

*My Father, if it is not possible...—Matthew 26:42a*

In Gethsemane—the place of silent encounter—Jesus did not feel abandoned by His Father. This time took Him deep into the place of covenant love, deeper still in His relationship with His Father. God is with us in the place of transitional prayer as we each face our own "Gethsemane" (where we pass from "groaning" to "glory"). God our Father is near to strengthen and encourage us. He grants us grace to choose the path He has ordained and placed before us, no matter what the cost of following that Kingdom destiny path may be.

## **It is Surrendered Prayer—A Time of Opening**

*...Yet not as I will, but as You will.—Matthew 26:39*

*My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, may Your will be done.—Matthew 26:42*

God enables us to surrender to His will at the appointed time. Surrender is about our ability to trust in God and obey Him. In love, He enables us to turn from self-reliance and become completely God-reliant. New places of surrender in us lead to in-breaking of new levels of anointing upon us. Holy boldness is always preceded by a fresh brokenness in God's servants, in which Christ is lifted up and exalted through our adoration of Him and obedience to Him.

## **It is Prayer that Embraces the Cross**

It is true to say that without Gethsemane, there could be no Golgotha; Golgotha may be described as the outward manifestation of the glory of the Lord's intercession at Gethsemane, in which Christ travailed to break through to the Cross. Similarly, there could be no Pentecost without the Cross—the Blood had to be poured out as a fountainhead of God's love at Calvary before the Spirit could be poured out at Pentecost. Every priest has an altar and every altar requires a sacrifice. The Cross is the altar upon which Christ, our High Priest, sacrificed His life once and for all for mankind, purchasing our redemption by His precious Blood. He ministers in the power of an indestructible life. The altar was sanctified by the Blood, and the Blood was acceptable as it was empowered by the sacrificial life of Christ given on the Cross.

The Cross must be central in our lives, for there we receive the revelation and impartation of the divine exchanges purchased by Christ's sacrifice and the enabling of the Holy Spirit to live our lives for God. Such divine exchanges include Jesus bearing our sin so that we might receive forgiveness; He was punished so that we might receive peace; He was rejected so that we might be accepted; He was made a curse so that we might enter into blessing and be restored in fellowship with God.

## **It is Breakthrough Prayer**

Transitional prayer is epiphany prayer, i.e. it is life-changing and transformational. Transitional prayer is prayer of encounter—the "garden" is the soil of our hearts and minds where God plants His purposes and meets with us to bring forth His will. And transitional prayer is prayer of exchange—where our flesh surrenders to the will and dominion of God by his Holy Spirit.

In the garden of Eden, the flesh of mankind was overcome by temptation and sin, and the first Adam fell from grace; in the Garden of Gethsemane the Lord prevailed in obedience to the Father's will, and the second Adam (Jesus Christ) broke through in redemptive glory to make a way for the Blood of Calvary to flow as an eternal river of cleansing and healing.

### **It is Birthing Prayer**

The travail and tears of Gethsemane preceded the triumph of the Cross over the power and penalty of sin, death and sickness.

When a woman is in labour pains, she enters a time of transition which precedes the imminent birth of her child. The birth of the child is inevitable, yet during this painful process, a woman must refrain from bearing down and pushing the baby out as the midwife examines the birth canal to check if the baby's airway is clear for a safe delivery. Once the examination is complete and the baby is declared safe, then the woman can give the final pushes and the much anticipated child comes forth.

Transitional prayer has similar stages within it. The Believers must rely on the Holy Spirit as the spiritual midwife to bring forth the purposes and plans of God at the appointed time and in the appointed way. God births His will in us through prayer; May we be a people who embrace this sovereign call to intercession, with no holds barred, to the glory of our God!

Yours because we are His,

Catherine Brown

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# WHY DO CHRISTIANS HAVE TRIALS?

(from Chuck Missler's email newsletter)

The Apostle Paul certainly knew sufferings (2 Corinthians 4:7-11, 16-18; 2 Corinthians 11:23-28; Hebrews 11:32-40). He regarded them as opportunities. There are many reasons why we face trials. Here are just a few:

- To glorify God (Daniel 3:16-18, 24-25)
- Discipline for known sin (Hebrews 12:5-11; James 4:17; Romans 14:23; 1 John 1:9)
- To prevent us from falling into sin (1 Peter 4:1-2)
- To keep us from pride. Paul was kept from pride by his "thorn in the flesh" (2 Corinthians 12)
- To build faith (1 Peter 1:6-7)
- To cause growth (Romans 5:3-5)
- To teach obedience and discipline (Acts 9:15-16; Philippians 4:11-13)
- To equip us to comfort others (2 Corinthians 1:3-4)
- To prove the reality of Christ in us (2 Corinthians 4:7-11)
- For testimony to the angels (Job 1:8; Ephesians 3:8-11; 1 Peter 1:12)

When faced with times of trouble remember that God loves you, He knows what is best for you, and He has a plan for your life.

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## FACEDOWN 40

(Written by Lou Engle, March 1, 2006)

Jesus' forty-day fast prepared the way for His messianic shout, "The Kingdom is at hand!" The redemption of the world depended on Jesus' abandonment to the Father as He fasted in the wilderness. Here was a focused man. Without failure, without faltering, He faced the strong man of the earth and bound him with His, "it is written." Then from His facedown 40, He returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit.

This 40-day fast, being trumpeted across the nation, must take on the dimensions of do or die. Spiritual awakening is not an option in America! All hell is bent to squeeze the Church into its mold, and muffle its' prayers that defy this present darkness.

The ongoing terrorism and bloodletting going on in Iraq must be challenged by a mightier power than that which is being fueled by the fasting and prayers of millions of Muslims. The nuclear threats and spiritual devotion of the President and ayatollahs of Iran are the manifestations of the ancient spirit, the Prince of Persia, arising again threatening to destroy Israel and dominate the world.

One man, Daniel, fasting with total focus, no side issues, refusing to take no for an answer, was the deciding factor in the heavenly war between the Arch Angels of Heaven and the Prince of Persia. In like manner, the great prayer movement in the earth today is being called once again to this holy place of influence in the heavens, and a fasting 40 fad will not do it! We must be all out for this one!

### **Reflection:**

Reese Howells and his praying band understood their place of intercession and its role in shaping history and withstood the spiritual powers that raged over Hitler and the Nazi regime. Listen to Howell's journal as he challenges his holy band:

*May 17th, 9:30 am*

"You are more responsible for this victory today than those men on the battlefield. You must be dead to everything else, but this fight."

*1 pm*

"Because you have committed yourselves, you are responsible. You will never have peace again until the world has peace, but you have a place in the cleft of the Rock."

Friends, there is no peace in America, and there is no peace in the Middle East. Will God find His Reese Howells' company again? I say yes and let it be now!

### **Prayer:**

Oh God, Ruler of nations, Lord of history, we set our face to seek you with prayer and fasting. Find in us the spirit of your own Son, the great intercessor, who loved not his life unto death. Call forth thousands now,

those who have found their place in the Rock, and out of that place are committed to war in the spirit for a great awakening in our universities, among our children, and in the cultural power centers of our nation. Arise oh God; contend with the spirit of Islam. Restrain the Prince of Persia. Loose Muslims by the thousands into the knowledge of the freedom of Christ Jesus. Protect and cover your people Israel until the day dawns and the Morning Star arises in their hearts. We pray for the sake of your Son, Jesus. Amen.

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## FOOTPRINTS---A NEW VERSION

(Author unknown)

Imagine you and the Lord Jesus are walking down the road together. For much of the way, the Lord's footprints go along steadily, consistently, rarely varying the pace.

But your footprints are a disorganized stream of zigzags, starts, stops, turnarounds, circles, departures, and returns.

For much of the way, it seems to go like this, but gradually your footprints come more in line with the Lord's, soon paralleling His consistently.

You and Jesus are walking as true friends!

This seems perfect, but then an interesting thing happens: Your footprints that once etched the sand next to Jesus' are now walking precisely in His steps.

Inside His larger footprints are your smaller ones, you and Jesus are becoming one.

This goes on for many miles, but gradually you notice another change. The footprints inside the large footprints seem to grow larger.



Eventually they disappear altogether. There is only one set of footprints; they have become one.

This goes on for a long time, but suddenly the second set of footprints is back. This time it seems even worse! Zigzags all over the place. Stops. Starts. Gashes in the sand. A variable mess of prints.

You are amazed and shocked.

Your dream ends. Now you pray:

"Lord, I understand the first scene, with zigzags and fits. I was a new Christian; I was just learning. But You walked on through the storm and helped me learn to walk with You."

"That is correct."

"And when the smaller footprints were inside of Yours, I was actually learning to walk in Your steps, following You very closely."

"Very good. You have understood everything so far."

When the smaller footprints grew and filled in Yours, I suppose that I was becoming like You in every way."

"Precisely."

"So, Lord, was there a regression or something? The footprints separated, and this time it was worse than at first."

There is a pause as the Lord answers, with a smile in His voice.

"You didn't know? It was then that we danced!"

*To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven: A time to weep, a time to laugh, A time to mourn, and a time to dance. Ecclesiastes 3:1,4.*

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## TAKING GOD'S WORD AS MEDICINE

(Quote from book *Atonement* by Derek Prince, p 25-30)

The work of the cross is "perfect in every respect, perfect in every aspect." It matters not from what point of view you look at the cross. It is perfect. Nothing has been omitted. "All things that pertain to life and godliness" (2 Peter 1:3) -- and that covers just about everything! -- are provided for in the sacrificial death of Jesus on the cross. Everything you will ever need, in time and eternity, whether spiritual or physical, financial or material, emotional or relational, has been provided by that one sacrifice. "He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified" (Hebrews 10:14). Notice again that word *perfected*.

So I set myself to understand what God did for me through Jesus on the cross. I began to see that on the cross Jesus bore not only my sins but also my sicknesses and pains, so that by His wounds I was healed. The message of Isaiah 53:4-5 was inescapable:

Surely He has borne our griefs [literally, *sicknesses*] and carried our sorrows [literally, *pains*]; yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes [or wounds] we are healed.

For some reason I had formed the conclusion that, as a Christian, you had to be prepared to be miserable for the rest of your life.

While I was arguing this way, the Lord spoke to me inaudibly but very clearly: *Tell Me, who is the teacher and who is the pupil?*

"Lord," I answered, "You're the teacher and I'm the pupil."

*Well, would you mind letting Me teach you?*

I got the message.

Then the Holy Spirit directed me to the Scripture that got me out of the hospital:

My son, give attention to my words; incline your ear to my sayings. Do not let them depart from your eyes; keep them in the midst of your heart; for they are life to those who find them, and health to all their flesh. (Proverbs 4:20-21)

"My son..." I realized God was talking to *me* as His child. This passage is not addressed to unbelievers; it is addressed to God's people. When I came to the phrase *all their flesh*, I said, "That settles it!" Not even a philosopher could make *flesh* mean anything but flesh! "All my flesh" means

my whole physical body. God has provided through His Word that which will impart health to my whole physical body.

I looked at the margin translation for *health* and it was "medicine," so the Hebrew word can be rendered either *health* or *medicine*.

*This is wonderful!* I said to myself. *I am sick and I need medicine. God has provided the medicine that will bring health to my whole body.*

Now I said, "That's it. I'm going to take God's Word as medicine."

When I said this, God spoke to me again inaudibly but clearly: *When a doctor gives a person medicine, the directions for taking it are on the bottle. Proverbs 4:20-22 is My medicine bottle and the directions are on it. You had better study them.*

I went back and saw that there were four directions.

Number one: *Give attention to my words.* We must give undivided attention to what God is saying.

Number two: *Incline your ear.* We must bow those stiff necks of ours and become teachable. We do not know it all, and some of the traditions we have inherited from our church backgrounds are not biblical.

The third direction: *Do not let [my words] depart from your eyes.* We must keep our focus unwavering on the Word of God.

And finally: *Keep them in the midst of your heart.*

The next verse of Proverbs says this:

[Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it spring the issues of life. \(Proverbs 4:23\)](#)

Whatever you keep in your heart, in other words, will determine the course of your life. You cannot hold the wrong attitude in your heart and live right, nor can you have the right attitude in your heart and live wrong. The course of your life is determined by what fills your heart. God was saying to me, *If you will receive My Word through your ear gate, through your eye gate and admit it to your heart, it will do everything I have claimed.*

I made up my mind that I would take God's Word as my medicine.

So I asked myself, *How do people take regular medicine?* Often the answer was, three times daily after meals. So after each main meal I went aside by myself, opened up my Bible, bowed my head in prayer and said, "God, You have promised that these words of Yours will be medicine to all my flesh. I'm taking them as my medicine now in the name of Jesus." I would then read the Bible with careful attention and listen to what God was saying to me.

Thank God, I was perfectly healed! I received not merely physical healing, but I became a totally different person. The Bible renewed my mind and changed my priorities, values and attitudes.

It is wonderful to be healed by a miracle, and I thank God I have seen many people healed miraculously and instantaneously. There is real benefit, however, in being healed by "taking the medicine" systematically over time. You obtain more than physical healing; you are changed in your inner being.

I did not receive healing immediately. It took three months before I was fully healed... Circumstances are not the decisive factor. God's promises do not depend on circumstances. They depend on *meeting the conditions*.

I could have sat in bed and said, "I believe," but nothing would have changed. I needed to *do* something to activate my faith. In His wisdom God showed me to take the Bible three times daily as my medicine.

The lesson is clear: Do not be passive, but enter by the appropriate action into the provisions of the cross.

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## GOD SAYS, "YOUR RESERVATIONS ARE ALMOST READY..."

(Internet article by Al Thomas, Celebrating His Life Ministries, [www.celebratinghislife.org](http://www.celebratinghislife.org),  
email: [a.thomas@myactv.net](mailto:a.thomas@myactv.net))

### **I WAS IN A RESTAURANT WAITING FOR OUR NAME TO BE CALLED.**

We had been waiting quite a while, but the restaurant was an old favorite, so we used our time to fellowship.

Then I saw one man become very agitated for having to wait so long. He went up to the hostess and gave his name again. She checked the reservation book, telling him he would be seated as soon as a table was available. The hostess then called another party's name and they were seated. Because the man thought someone was being seated ahead of him (which wasn't the case), the man got visibly angry, shouted something to the hostess, and stormed out with his wife and children.

Five minutes later, the manager of the restaurant came up to the front desk (not knowing what had happened), looked at the reservation book, and called the man's name, saying, **"YOUR RESERVATION IS READY..."** But, he was gone! He had waited for over an hour for that table. All he had to do was wait five more minutes and he would have been seated--ordering his meal.

When we pray and ask God to do something, it's like making a reservation on one of God's promises (**2 Corinthians 1:20**) and often, there is a time of waiting, **"I wait for the LORD, my soul doth wait, and in His word do I hope." (Psalm 130:5)**

### **God Says: "BE PATIENT, YOUR RESERVATION WILL BE CALLED."**

God says, "For many in the Church today, there is a heaviness, almost as if you are carrying an invisible weight of oppression, and you can find no one to comfort you (**Psalm 69:20**). People have been waiting for their prayers to be answered, but with no hope on the horizon, so they have fallen into a spiritual rut of despair. Joy and laughter seems to come rarely and then easily slips away. They feel all alone (**Psalm 142:4**), and just to get a grip on life is

difficult. Some have to press hard just to make it through the day...and then look forward to when it ends."

"This is the My word to you: 'I have your reservation...so rest and wait just a little while.'  
**(Psalm 37: 7-11; Matthew 11:28-30)**

## **God Says: "BE PREPARED, I COULD CALL YOUR NAME TODAY, SO DON'T STOP WAITING ON ME."**

"So many of My people are on the verge of giving up **(2 Timothy 4:10)**. Do not listen to the enemy; the voice speaking of defeat and failure is his, not Mine. That voice that says, 'There is no way out,' is the devil's voice, not Mine. My timing is always right. I am never late or too early **(Romans 8:28)**. Keep your eyes on Me and your heart steady. Do not look back...I am not there **(Luke 9:62)**, I am in front of you."

God says, "You cannot expect to be called for a blessing if you don't anticipate it **(Hebrews 11:1)**. If you are poor, start rejoicing as if you were a millionaire...look up, not down! If you feel discouraged, rejoice by faith **(Philippians 4:4)**. Everyone has setbacks, but only the righteous refuse to camp in the land of defeat **(Proverbs 24:16)**. Your time is coming; the question is: are you cultivating a sense of expectation **(Luke 3:15)** or gloom? Be ready in season and out of season to receive blessing. Always be ready."

## **God Says: "BE POSITIONED, STAND ON MY WORD...NOT ON WHAT YOU SEE OR FEEL...I ANSWER FAITH, NOT FEAR."**

God says, "I advise you to look for a good word, '**...a good word makes the heart glad**' **(Proverbs 12:25b)**. You find a good word in My scriptures, but also in My people. Many of you know other brethren who are positive and uplifting. Call them. Don't be a loner. My Son said, '**Man shall not live on bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God**' **(Matthew 4:4)**. Often My word (of encouragement) is spoken through My vessels...your brothers and sisters. Jesus said, '**My Words are spirit and they are life**' **(John 6:63)**. Feeding on My Spirit by consulting with others will cause you to see your problem from a different perspective. Others have been in the same predicament you now find yourself in" **(2 Corinthians 1:3-4)**.

"Be positioned for My blessing and trust Me **(Proverbs 16:20)**, not your feelings; trust My promises and you will see My hand about to move. What do you do while you are positioning yourself to receive...worry and complain? No. Walk in integrity and uprightness **(Psalm 25:21)** going about the business of My Kingdom. Don't get frustrated and walk out now just when things are about to change."

"So, child of Mine, get up and start looking for someone that you can bless. In the meantime, I'll be working on your problem...."

**"Wait on the LORD: be of good courage, and He shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the LORD."** **(Psalm 27:14)**

## THE CALL 7-7-07

(Lou Engle, The Call, [www.louengle.com](http://www.louengle.com), May 10, 2007)

### **"CALLING ALL MINISTRIES AND INDIVIDUALS--PLEASE PRAY ABOUT JOINING THIS GLOBAL 40 DAYS OF PRAYER AND FASTING"**

There are moments in history when a door for massive change opens, and great revolutions, for good or evil, spring up in the vacuum created by these openings. In these divine moments, key men and women and even entire generations risk everything to become the hinge of history--the pivotal point that determines which way the door will swing.

The rebellious generation of the 60's seized its moment, and history crashed into the deep abyss of drug addiction, sexual immorality, hatred for authority, and a rejection of the law of God. 1967 was a culminating and defining moment in that rebellion. In 1967, 100,000 young people, aged 15 to 25 flocked to San Francisco to experience the hippie movement. This mass convergence was sparked by the hit song, San Francisco (Wear a Flower in your Hair). Once there, they experimented with LSD, pot, casual sex and Eastern mysticism in what became known as the "Summer of Love."

When these newly recruited Flower Children returned home at the end of the summer, they brought with them new styles and ideas, flooding the cities of the US and Europe with a message that opposed authority and scorned conservative morals. This counterculture rebellion was fueled by music and art, and it rapidly shifted global culture.

### **40-Day Fasts in Scripture**

For 40 years we have been falling headlong into a black moral morass in America, and all through the West. We are reaping the waves of destruction in every sector of our post Christian society. Can America survive another 40 years? We are declaring NO! A thousand times NO! Unless a massive spiritual shift occurs at this moment, our children will live under an antichrist system and Godless enculturation that will bring about the demise of America, as we know it.

But God has a prescription for such a massive shift and it is revealed in the power of the great transitional 40-day fast. God, in His sovereign control over the parade of history, delivered the Israelites out of Egypt. Longing to release a moral code that would give foundations for righteousness, for time and eternity, God summoned Moses to a 40-day fast on Mount Sinai. In that fast all of history changed, and the law of God was delivered from Heaven to earth. If America is going to return to God, it must recover that law again as its foundation for truth.

Elijah, at the height of Jezebel's cultic dominion over Israel, fasted 40 days, broke the spell of Jezebel off of his own life and received a mandate to anoint the next generation. That fast unleashed a movement that toppled Jezebel's regime of hell, which perpetrated the destruction of family, the killing of innocent children, the silencing of the voice of God's people and the

widespread culture of sexual immorality. The fruit of that fast culminated in the utter destruction of Baal worship in Israel.

Also, in the fullness of time the glorious Gospel era was born when Jesus fasted 40 days, and those who sat in darkness saw a great light. Clearly the 40-day fast is Heaven's great transitional prescription, moving nations from failure to fulfillment of promise. Is it any surprise that when Jesus was to enter into His great sacrifice where death would be swallowed up in victory, Elijah and Moses appear with Him on the Mount of Transfiguration? All three of them were together as the 40-day fasters. They presided over the great transitions of history.

When the Israelites were poised to move into the Promise Land, spies were sent out for 40 days. When they returned carrying an evil report, a whole generation was infected with unbelief, and they turned their back on the Promise Land. God's sentence on that generation was, "And your sons shall be wanderers in the wilderness for 40 years and bear the brunt of your infidelity until your carcasses are consumed in the wilderness. According to the number of the days in which you spied out the land 40 days, for each day you shall bear your guilt one year, namely 40 years, and you shall know My rejection" (Numbers 14:33-34). It was 40 years of judgment for 40 days failure.

Conversely, the great prophet Ezekiel received a 40-day prayer assignment for a 40-year failure of Judah's iniquity. "Lie again on your right side, then you shall bear the iniquity of the house of Judah, 40 days I have laid on you a day for each year." (Ezekiel 4:6) It was clearly 40 days prayer for 40 years of failure.

When Jesus fasted 40 days and was tempted by the devil, He quoted from the book of Deuteronomy saying, "It is written, man shall not live by bread alone but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God." And again, "You shall not tempt the Lord thy God" and again, "You shall worship the Lord your God and Him only shall you worship." Jesus in His victory over Satan was quoting the book of Deuteronomy, the portion of Scripture delivered by Moses to the generation who failed in the desert.

Jesus in His 40-day fast was clearly identifying with that passage of Scripture and that generation that came out of Egypt. As an intercessor in His 40-day fast, He was fulfilling what a generation had failed in for 40 years.

### **The Call for the Church to Unite**

Forty years are up! Could the Church of America in a 40-day fast deliver a nation out of a 40-year curse? We have Scriptural precedent to believe for such a turning!

Therefore, we are trumpeting a call to 40 days of fasting--like Moses, like Elijah, like Ezekiel, and like Jesus. We must bear the iniquity in 40 days of fasting and intercession for the past 40 years of divorcing God in America, embracing a culture of sexual immorality, hedonism, materialism, abortion, and the rejection of Christ in the public place. But we are also calling for 40 days of fasting and prayer for the greatest outbreak of Kingdom power, in signs and wonders, and spiritual awakening in America that will collide with this present darkness and topple its cultural dominion over our people.

Thousands went on 40-day fasts in 1946 and in 1947 the great healing revivals broke out. In 1948 the latter rain outpourings began. Bill Bright's and Billy Graham's ministries were born at the same time, and Israel became a nation. Could it be that the 40-day fast preceded this explosion of power by the Spirit? After Jesus' 40-day fast, the Scripture says He returned in the power of the Spirit. Yes, the promise of Joel 2 is that after the fast, "I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh."

Forty years ago in 1967, the Jesus Movement broke out, a youth revival starting on the streets that swept across the country, exploding in college campuses and coffee houses. People were being saved everywhere. Now 40 years later we are crying, "Do it again, God," way beyond the Jesus movement!

In 1967, in a war and obviously by the supernatural Hand of God, Jerusalem was taken and once again brought under the control of the state of Israel. This was a monumental signpost in the shifting of eras. The dispensation of the times of the Gentiles was now beginning to shift to the times when Jerusalem will become the last days focus for God's activity in the earth. For 40 days we are joining Israel in a 40-day fast, crying out to God that they would see their Messiah and begin to receive their greatest spiritual awakening since the days of the Apostles.

Brothers and sisters, moments like these come only once in a lifetime. To miss such a moment could be to miss the purpose of God for a generation. The generation that refused to cross over the Jordan did not know that they had only one day to make the decision, and missing that day meant 40 years in the desert.

Even now we are receiving reports that other countries are calling 40-day fasts. Could we be in a global 40-day season of fasting like Jesus, to see a global outbreak of light when great darkness is covering the earth? Beginning the evening of May 28th, we are calling two generations to 40 days of fasting and prayer culminating on 7-7-07, the perfection of time, in a massive national gathering of fasting, intercession, repentance, and worship, declaring we want to remarry the Lord. We want to cross over into the promised land of national revival. We want to break this 40-year curse. May thousands seek God in water, juice, and Daniel fasts from May 28th through July 7th '07, The Call Nashville.

What would happen in America if for 40 days we sealed the electronic cultural sewer that flows nightly into our living rooms and spent our strength seeking the Lord? What if tens of thousands of fathers and mothers across our nation fasted for 40 days repenting and cleansing themselves of inward toleration of sexual immorality, pornography, addiction to food and entertainment, and materialism? What if they prayed daily for their spiritual and physical children to see them converted to Christ and freed from rebellion, from addictions, depression, and suicide? What if the young generation fasted for 40 days to be cleansed from lust, media addiction, rebellion toward their parents, believing that a double portion of the Holy Spirit would come upon their lives?

Moses fasted 40 days and mentored a spiritual son named Joshua, which means "the Lord saves." Elijah fasted 40 days and threw his mantle on a double portion son, Elisha, which means "the Lord saves." And John the Baptist fasted in the desert and prepared the way for a double portion son named Jesus, which means "the Lord saves."



Jesus fasted 40 days and unleashed the apostolic glory of the eternal Son of God into the earth. What if we are preparing a generation for the greatest day of salvation in history? And so, what if tens of thousands of both generations fast together and gather on 7-7-07 for The Call Nashville in LP Field, to cry out to God in a Joel 2 moment for a great, national returning to the Lord?

The parade of history has brought us into a profound generational landmark, and a great vacuum has opened again. If the Church does not seize this moment, someone else will! Antichrist rage will! Sexual perversion will! Anarchy will! But NOW is the time for key men and women, even an entire generation to risk everything to become the hinge of history, the pivotal point which determines which way the door will swing in America and in the nations of the earth. It's 40 Days or 40 Years! Seize the Day!

We will be launching this fast with a worldwide simulcast on God TV on May 26th. For all information on the 40-day fast and The Call Nashville, please visit [www.fastandpray.com](http://www.fastandpray.com) and [www.thecall.com](http://www.thecall.com).

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## PRAYER GUIDE / IDEAS FOR 7-7-07 FAST OF 40 DAYS

- Seek the Lord in quiet, music, and Bible reading.
- Acknowledge His character in worship
- Wait on the Lord and let Him examine my heart. Repent of sins He shows me and ask to be forgiven. Ask Him to reveal to me and cleanse me from the toleration of any spirit in me that is not of Him
- Yield myself to the Holy Spirit. Ask Him to come and fill me
- Take communion if I desire
- Fast from the media to cleanse myself from the effects of the spirit that seduces our malaise

Read a portion of Scriptures I have chosen (i.e. book of Joel or John) for the day and pray about it as the Lord leads.

Pray about things in our country that are wrong. Repent of them and ask God to intervene and change them.

1. Hatred for authority-rebellion
2. Sexual immorality
3. Drug addiction
4. Rejection of the law of God
5. Cults, false religions
6. Music and art that fuel these
7. Anti-christ system
8. Abortion
9. Destruction of family-divorce
10. Materialism
11. Pornography
12. Homosexuality
13. Spirit of Jezebel, witchcraft, suicidal thought, eating disorders

Pray for:

1. God to take over our country
2. A moral code of righteousness
3. Truth to prevail
4. God's people to speak out
5. All to see the light of God - a global outbreak of light
6. God to deliver us from the 40 year curse (1967-2007) of divorcing God in America and embracing a culture of sexual immorality, hedonism, materialism, abortion, and the rejection of Christ in the public place.
7. Greatest outbreak of Kingdom power, in signs and wonders, and spiritual awakening in America that will collide with this present darkness and topple its cultural dominion over people.
8. Read Joel 2 and see what God will do after the fast (Joel 2:28). Pray for this.
9. Revival to break out
10. Israel to see their Messiah and begin to receive their greatest spiritual awakening since the days of the Apostles.
11. People converted to Christ. The greatest day of salvation in history.
12. Our children's (physical or spiritual) freedom
13. Prodigals to come home

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## REARGUARD PRAYER

(From Chuck Pierce's book *Prayers That Outwit The Enemy*)

(p. 77 ff)

In order to secure our victory and outwit the devil in his attempts at backlash, we need to allow God's standard to rise behind us in rearguard prayer. Once we see breakthrough in a particular area, it is important for us to understand that the enemy may very well pursue us into our new place with a strategy of backlash against us. In order to secure our victory and outwit the devil in his attempts at backlash, we need to allow God's standard to rise behind us in rearguard prayer. This is a tremendous prayer strategy that I believe the Lord is teaching His people at this time.

**Then your light shall break forth like the morning, your healing shall spring forth speedily, and your righteousness shall go before you; the Glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. (Isa. 58:8)**

**The Lord will go before you, and the God of Israel will be your rearguard. (Isaiah 52:12)**

The rearguard is a detachment of troops detailed to guard the rear of a moving column. The rearguard is generally used for security during a forward movement, but it is also a detachment concerned with delaying the pursuit of a main military body in retreat. "Ground that is of great advantage to either side is contentious ground...On contentious ground, hurry up your rearguard." We live in contentious times and the ground that the Body of Christ has taken is very important.

God promises not only to look out for us as we go into battle, but also to be our rearguard after the battle. Nevertheless, we need to bear in mind that when God has worked mightily, when God has used us significantly, when there has been great spiritual breakthrough, we cannot allow ourselves to be spiritually careless. After a successful battle, we must give ourselves that all-important order: "Shields up!"

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## PRAY FOR THE LOST

**For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ. (2 Corinthians 10:3-5 )**

1. Claim the lost person by name for the Lord's kingdom. (All mankind is already redeemed by Christ; some are spiritually blinded by Satan, or held captive.)
2. Claim him in the name of the Lord Jesus on the basis of Jesus' death and resurrection (use Jesus' authority).
3. Ask that the works of Satan be torn down in his life. Bind Satan. (Mark 3:27 below) Ask God to reveal to you what stronghold Satan has in that life. Works of Satan: intellect, procrastination,

church membership, possessions, pride, false doctrine, immoral life, fears, doubts, moral life, unbelief.

4. Claim his deliverance from Satan and the ways of the world in the name of Jesus.
5. Pray that his thoughts will be brought into the obedience of Christ.
6. Pray that God will grant him a repenting and believing heart when he hears or reads the Word of God.
7. Pray for God's will to be accomplished in and through him.

Bind Satan

**No one can enter a strong man's house and carry off his possessions unless he first ties up the strong man. Then he can rob his house. (Mark 3:27)**

Spiritual warfare

**For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. (Ephesians 6:12)**

We wage this warfare from a position of victory

**You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world. (1 John 4:4)**

**But thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumphal procession in Christ and through us spreads everywhere the fragrance of the knowledge of him. (2 Corinthians 2:14)**

Spiritual weapons

**For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ. (2 Corinthians 10:3-5)**

The battle is won through prayer. Personal evangelism is picking up the spoils.

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## HOW I LEARNED TO PRAY FOR THE LOST

(by Back to the Bible Broadcast)

We know that believers everywhere are burdened for unsaved or backsliding loved ones. However, many are praying in the spirit of fear and worry instead of in faith.

This has caused the writer to seek for definite light on how to pray, feeling the need of praying the right prayer, also the need for a definite promise or word from God upon which to base our faith when praying for the unsaved. Praise God, He never fails to give such needed help.

Perhaps because the salvation of some looked to us to be an impossibility, the first Scripture that was given us was Mark 10:27 **"With God all things are possible."**

The next Scripture had occupied our attention some time before but with new emphasis now: **"For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds. Casting down imaginations (margin - "reasonings"), and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ." (2 Cor. 10:4-5).** This shows the mighty power of our spiritual weapons. And we must pray that all this be accomplished in the ones for whom we pray; that is, that the works of the enemy be torn down.

Finally we were given the solid basis for our prayers--the ground of redemption. In reality, redemption purchased all mankind, so that we may say that each one is, actually, God's purchased possession although still held by the enemy. We must, through the prayer of faith, claim and take for God in the name of the Lord Jesus that which is rightfully His. This can be done only on the ground of redemption. We do not mean to imply that because all persons have been purchased by God through redemption they are thus automatically saved. They must believe and accept the gospel for themselves; this our intercession enables them to do.

To pray in the name of the Lord Jesus is to ask for or to claim the things which the blood of Christ has secured. Therefore each individual for whom prayer is made should be claimed by name, as God's purchased possession, in the name of the Lord Jesus on the ground of His shed blood.

We should claim the tearing down of all of the works of Satan, such as false doctrine, unbelief, Communist teaching and hatred which the enemy may have built up in their thinking, and that their very thoughts shall be brought into captivity to the obedience of Christ.

In the authority of the name of the Lord Jesus claim their deliverance from the power and persuasion of the evil one and from the love of the world and the lusts of the flesh. We should pray also for the quickening of their conscience, and that God might grant them repentance and hearing ears and believing hearts as they hear or read the Word of God. Pray that God's will and purposes be accomplished in and through them.

Intercession must be persistent, not to persuade God, for redemption is of God, but because of the enemy. Our prayer and resistance are against the enemy, the awful powers and rulers of darkness. It is our duty before God to fight for the souls for whom Christ died. Just as some must preach to them the good news of their redemption, just so others must fight back the powers of darkness on their behalf.

Satan yields only what and when he must, and he renews his attacks in subtle ways, therefore, prayer must be definite and must be persisted in, even long after definite results are seen. And we

must hold what is taken for God against the enemy until such time as that soul is firmly established in the faith.

We will find that as we pray the Holy Spirit will give new leads. Always follow His leads. We were interceding for a soul recently and felt that our prayers were not making contact. It seemed that there was nothing there. Then the Holy Spirit inspired us to begin to draw them up to God in the name of the Lord Jesus. As we obeyed this leading, repeating "I draw \_\_\_\_ unto God in the name of the Lord Jesus," we felt our prayers gradually take hold. It seemed that we were drawing that one from deep within the very camp of the enemy. Then we were able to proceed as usual, claiming every detail of that life for God, holding the blood against the enemy. This is true warfare in the spirit realm. Thank God that our spiritual weapons are mighty and that our authority in Christ is far above all the authority of the rulers, the principalities and powers of darkness, so that the enemy is obliged to yield. But it takes faith and patience and persistence.....

It is most important also that we keep ourselves and all that we have under the protection of the blood. The enemy will use every possible means to silence our intercession and block our advancement against him. We must not only understand our enemy, our authority in Christ, and how to use our spiritual weapons, but also how to wear the armor God has provided for our protection. Thus equipped and protected, we need have no fear. But let us always remember that we of ourselves have no power and no authority outside of Christ.

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## GOD'S FREE GIFT OF NEW LIFE SHARING THE GOSPEL

(From New Life: Living New Testament Paraphrased)

1. God's free gift is eternal life. God offers everyone eternal life--free! It is God's free gift. We cannot earn it, buy it, or even work hard enough to deserve it. Instead, God freely offers New Life to anyone who will accept his gift.

**"...but the free gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."  
(Romans 6:23)**

**"Because of his kindness you have been saved through trusting Christ. And even trusting is not of yourselves; it too is a gift from God. Salvation is not a reward for the good we have done, so none of us can take any credit for it.  
(Ephesians 2:8-9)**

**"And he himself has promised us this eternal life." (1 John 2:25)**

2. God shows his love by offering eternal life. God is LOVE. He is not some impersonal force or ethereal blob. He is a personal being, able to love us, communicate with us, and satisfy every need we have. God demonstrates his love by making it possible for us to receive and enjoy eternal life.

**"Dear friends, let us practice loving each other, for love comes from God and those who are loving and kind show that they are the children of God, and that they are getting to know him better. But if a person isn't loving and kind, it shows that he doesn't know God--for God is love. God showed how much he loved us by sending his only Son into this wicked world to bring to us eternal life through his death. In this act we see what real love is: it is not our love for God, but his love for us when he sent his Son to satisfy God's anger against our sins." (1 John 4:7)**

**"He made the world and everything in it, and since he is Lord of heaven and earth, he doesn't live in man-made temples; and human hands can't minister to his needs--for he has no needs! He himself gives life and breath to everything, and satisfies every need there is." (Acts 17:24-25)**

**"But God is so rich in mercy; he loved us so much that even though we were spiritually dead and doomed by our sins, he gave us back our lives again when he raised Christ from the dead--only by his undeserved favor have we ever been saved--and lifted us up from the grave into glory along with Christ." (Ephesians 2:4-6)**

3. Everyone is guilty--everyone falls short of God's ideal. God knows us. He knows what goes on inside our minds. He knows that no one has ever measured up to God's standard, and that no one has ever really wanted to. Even when we want to try to do what is right, it is easier to do the opposite. Everyone is guilty.

**"No one is good--no one in all the world is innocent. No one has ever really followed God's paths, or even truly wanted to. Everyone has turned away; all have gone wrong. No one anywhere has kept on doing what is right; not one. Now do you see it? No one can ever be made right in God's sight by doing what the law commands. For the more we know of God's laws, the clearer it becomes that we aren't obeying them; his laws serve only to make us see that we are sinners. Yes, all have sinned; all fall short of God's glorious ideal... (Romans 3:10-12, 20, 23)**

**"I know I am rotten through and through so far as my old sinful nature is concerned. No matter which way I turn I can't make myself do right. I want to but I can't. (Romans 7:18)**

**"If we claim we have not sinned, we are lying and calling God a liar." (1 John 1:10)**

4. God's solution for our failure is His Son--Jesus Christ. God in his love reaches out to a people who are doomed. There is nothing we can do to make things right with God. But because he love us, he provides the solution to our problem. God provided the solution by sending his Son--Jesus Christ--to live, to die on a cross, and to rise again from the grave, victorious over both sin and death. Jesus Christ paid the penalty for our failure and now makes it possible for us to have a personal relationship with God.

**"For God took the sinless Christ and poured into him our sins. Then, in exchange, he poured God's goodness into us!" (2 Corinthians 5:21)**

**"Jesus told him, 'I am the Way - yes, and the Truth, and the Life. No one can get to the Father except by means of me.'" (John 14:6)**

**"It was through what his Son did that God cleared a path for everything to come to him - all things in heaven and on earth - for Christ's death on the cross has made peace with God for all by his blood. This includes you who were once so far away from God. You were his enemies and hated him and were separated from him by your evil thoughts and actions, yet now he has brought you back as his friends. He has done this through the death on the cross of his own human body; and now as a result Christ has brought you into the very presence of God, and you are standing there before him with nothing left against you..." (Colossians 1:20-22)**

5. Our response is to turn from sin to God through faith. New Life is available to anyone. But like any other gift, it must be received. A gift isn't a gift until someone accepts it. We accept God's offer of eternal life by deciding to trust Jesus Christ to take away our sins. This kind of trust includes the willingness to turn from our sin and the willingness to become all that God intends us to be.

**"I have had one message for Jews and Gentiles alike - the necessity of turning from sin to God through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ." (Acts 2:21)**

**"But now God has shown us a different way to heaven - not by 'being good enough' and trying to keep his laws, but by a new way...Now God says he will accept and acquit us - declare us 'not guilty' - if we trust Jesus Christ to take away our sins. And we all can be saved in this same way, by coming to Christ, no matter who we are or what we have been like." (Romans 3:21,22)**

**"For God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son so that anyone who believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16)**

**"For it was through reading the Scripture that I came to realize that I could never find God's favor by trying - and failing - to obey the laws. I came to realize that acceptance with God comes by believing in Christ." (Galatians 2:19)**



**"When someone becomes a Christian he becomes a brand new person inside. He is not the same any more. A new life has begun." (2 Corinthians 5:17)**

6. We can be certain that we have eternal life. Some people say they hope they are going to heaven. Some say they are doing their best and trying hard. Still others say it is impossible to know for sure. God tells us we can know for certain. God's gift of eternal life is freely given, and when we receive his gift, he promises that we can know positively that his gift is ours. There will be times when we have doubts, but the witness of the New Testament is that our salvation is settled - eternal life is ours.

**"And what is it that God has said? That he has given us eternal life, and that this life is in his Son. So whoever has God's Son has life; whoever does not have his Son does not have life. I have written this to you who believe in the Son of God so that you may know you have eternal life. (1 John 5:11-13)**

**"I say emphatically that anyone who listens to my message and believes in God who sent me has eternal, and will never be damned for his sins, but has already passed out of death into life." (John 5:24)**

**"For you have a new life. It was not passed on to you from your parents, for the life they gave you will fade away. This new one will last forever, for it comes from Christ, God's ever-living Message to men." (1 Peter 1:23)**

7. Now that I have eternal life - what next? You've understood each point in this outline. And you've taken the step of accepting God's offer of eternal life by inviting Jesus Christ into your life. You've been born anew into God's family. You have New Life! Now what comes next? New Life brings with it a need for growth. God wants us to "...grow in spiritual strength and become better acquainted with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ." (2 Peter 3:18). He has provided several means of growth. One important way we grow is through our fellowship with other believers. This involves meeting together, teaching each other, and caring for each other.

**"Let us not neglect our church meetings, as some people do, but encourage and warn each other, especially now that the day of his coming back again is drawing near." (Hebrews 10:25)**

**"And all the believers met together constantly and shared everything with each other." (Acts 2:44)**

**"Share each other's troubles and problems, and so obey our Lord's command." (Galatians 6:2)**

This unique kind of Christian fellowship grows out of the study and understanding the Scriptures. It is a fellowship centered around God's Word. His Word becomes the yardstick for all of our thoughts and actions together.

**"Remember what Christ taught and let his words enrich your lives and make you wise; teach them to each other and sing them out in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing to the Lord with thankful hearts." (Colossians 3:16)**

**"The whole Bible was given to us by inspiration from God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives; it straightens us out and helps us do what is right. It is God's way of making us well prepared at every point, fully equipped to do good to everyone." (2 Timothy 3:16, 17)**

**"They searched the Scriptures day by day to check up on Paul and Silas' statements to see if they were really so." (Acts 17:11)**

Our fellowship with God is shared through prayer. God, in his love, asks us to share all of our worries and cares with him, and he promises to respond to our needs and requests.

**"Let him have all your worries and cares, for he is always thinking about you and watching everything that concerns you. (1 Peter 5:7)**

**"Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything; tell God your needs and don't forget to thank him for his answers. If you do this you will experience God's peace, which is far more wonderful than the human mind can understand. His peace will keep your thoughts and your hearts quiet and at rest as you trust in Christ Jesus." (Phil. 4:6,7)**

**"But if you stay in me and obey my commands, you may ask any request you like, and it will be granted!" (John 15:7)**

Another way our New Life is strengthened is by sharing with others what God has done for us through Jesus Christ. We have been chosen to tell his Good News to others. As we tell others of our faith, God confirms within us his salvation.

**"It is God himself, in his mercy, who has given us this wonderful work (of telling his Good News to others), and so we never give up. We do not try to trick people into believing - we are not interested in fooling anyone. We never try to get anyone to believe that the Bible teaches what it doesn't. All such shameful methods we forego. We stand in the presence of God as we speak and so we tell the truth, as all who know will agree." (2 Corinthians 4:1, 2)**

**"For if you tell others with your own mouth that Jesus Christ is your Lord, and believe in your own heart that God has raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is by believing in his heart that a man becomes right with God; and with his mouth he tells others of his faith, confirming his salvation." (Romans 10: 9, 10)**

**"But you are not like that, for you have been chosen by God himself - you are priests of the King, you are holy and pure, you are God's very own - all this so that you may show to others how God called you out of darkness into his wonderful light." (1 Peter 2:9)**

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## "PRAYER OF RELEASE FROM CHRONIC SPIRITUAL, EMOTIONAL, AND PHYSICAL DISORDERS"

(Paul L. Cox, Aslan's Place, [www.aslansplace.com](http://www.aslansplace.com), February 13, 2006)

Prophecies about the new move of God in increased physical healing have been widespread recently. It was not until last month that we have seen a dramatic increase in physical healings.

I was facilitating our Advanced Discernment Training and Exploration School in Sugar Hill, GA, when two ladies, at the beginning of the one-week school, spoke to the group about the need of healing from diabetes.

As we were discussing this with the school, and asking the Lord to reveal the roots behind the disease, we were led to Isaiah 59 which speaks of the spider webs and viper eggs associated with gossip and slander. We then led the two ladies in a generational repentance for issues tied to the tongue based on Isaiah 59. Then we asked the Lord to remove the spiritual spider, spider webs, and viper eggs. The next day the ladies reported that their insulin numbers had improved dramatically. By the end of the week, they reported that the improvement had been sustained. As others had prayed the same way, there were testimonies of other healings.

During the last day of the school, the Lord led us to construct a prayer. I had first felt it was going to be a prayer of healing for diabetes, but the group came into agreement that the Lord was revealing a much larger truth about spiritual, emotional, and physical healing. Through the effort of about fifty of us, including two medical doctors, our eight-hour session resulted in the following Prayer of Release from Chronic Physical, Emotional, and Physical Disorders.

It is our prayer that the Lord will use this revelation to minister in a profound way to the Body of Christ.

### **Prayer of Release from Chronic Physical, Mental, and Spiritual Disorders**

Lord, I repent and renounce, and I ask You to forgive me and my generational line for

coming into agreement with gossip, slander, critical judgment, envy, strife, holding offenses, accusation, and jealousy.

Lord, I repent for myself and those in my generational line who came against You by lying, denying You, speaking accusations against You, conceiving and uttering falsehoods from the heart, speaking oppression and revolt, and entering into witchcraft.

Lord, I ask You to break the generational curse and agreement when accusations came into the generational line. Lord, I break and renounce assignments and agreements with any lying spirit and the generational curse resulting from that. I ask Your forgiveness Lord, and I repent on behalf of myself and my forefathers. I ask You to break the generational curse and loose a blessing. I choose to bring my spirit, soul, and body into agreement with the Spirit of Truth.

Lord, would You make null and void and cancel any reinforcement of curses and their assignments in their allotted time. Lord, would you disconnect me from all ungodly heavenly places. Lord, will You now seat me in Your heavenly places.

Lord, I repent and ask forgiveness for operating in an independent spirit when I came into agreement with gossip, slander, accusation, and when I walked away from You and the Body of Christ, causing disunity and isolation in the Body of Christ. Today, I choose--by Your mercy--to be reconciled and to be restored into the unity of Your Body.

Lord, I repent for coming into agreement with slander that has been spoken against me and receiving the offenses and not blessing my enemy.

Lord, I ask that I not conceive trouble. Please destroy the viper and spider eggs that have been placed into me: slander, hatred, self-rejection, and gossip. May no adders or spiders be allowed to come forth from this generation forward.

Lord, would You remove all cobwebs of false clothing and nesting places that may be covering my body. Lord, will you also remove the cobwebs of false identity from my body and soul, and remove all deception that clouds my perception of my true identity. And where my past generations and I have allowed the enemy to weave within me a web of false identity, coming into agreement with this illness as who I am, forgive me for gaining my identity from diseases and not from You. Release me, for You wove me in my mother's womb, and I agree that I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Lord, give me Your revelation of my true identity in Christ, which I now receive.

**Lord, would You completely restore my ability to receive all that I need from You, including healing, revelation, and restoration of my spirit, soul, and body.**

Lord, I forgive the Body of Christ for reacting in judgment and rejection against those

who are being wounded by witchcraft and curses that are being empowered and reinforced over time. Lord, forgive me for making bitter root judgments against those who have harmed me in any way. I forgive the Body of Christ for not accepting, understanding, and protecting me.

For those who have rejected me and in doing so have further empowered the curses already against me, Lord, I choose to forgive them.

Lord, forgive me and my generational line for not having the strength to resist the enemy's assault on my mind, day and night, and therefore, accepting the feeling of helplessness in stopping this demonic flow. Lord, would You renew my mind so that I can have Your mind, and know that I can take every thought captive to the Lord Jesus Christ. [Lord, would You renew my mind] to know that You are my sure defense, and that I am safe in the shelter of Your wings.

Lord, I ask You to raise up a standard, based upon Ephesians 4:31; remove all effects of bitterness, rage, anger, brawling, and slander, along with every form of malice. Lord, break off all generational curses, the reinforcement of curses in their allotted times in all heavenly places, and all spiritual, mental, and physical retribution. Lord, please protect those who repent and turn from their generational sin, witchcraft, and idolatry.

Lord, would You realign me with Your purpose and heal the receptors of the cells that make up my being so my divine calling and destiny will be fulfilled.

I receive the promise that I am no longer a prey of the enemy. You are my shepherd. You feed me, and I receive Your covenant of peace that I may dwell safely. I choose to be a blessing around Your Holy hill and receive the showers of blessings You promise in season that there would be fruitfulness and increase in my life. I know that the bands of the yoke are broken, and I am delivered from the hands and words of those who have made me a prey. I know that I belong to You and that You are with me. I embrace my restoration within the Body of Christ and the restoration of receptor sites of my own body.

Lord, thank You for considering my cause and my affliction and delivering me and my generations--past, present, and future--for I do not forget Your law. Lord, thank You for pleading my cause through the generations and reviving me and my family line according to Your Word. Because I trust You, Lord, I am like Mt. Zion which cannot be moved, but abides forever. So I thank You, Lord, for delivering me and my [family's generations]--past, present, and future. Thank You for redeeming me and reviving me and my family line throughout the generations, according to Your Word. For as the mountains surround Jerusalem, so You, Lord, surround me and my [family generations]--past, present, and future from this time forth and forever.

Thank You, Lord, that the scepter of wickedness shall not rest on the land allotted to the righteous because the entirety of Your Word is Truth and every one of Your righteous judgments endures forever. Lord, thank You for restoring the Scepter of Righteousness.

Lord, will You forgive me and my generational line for closing the doors of Your anointing and blessing. Lord, will You now bless me and open the doors of Your anointing and blessing and release the generational blessings, gifts, callings, and goodness that my generational line did not receive.

**Scripture references for this word:**

Isaiah 59; Proverbs 18:21 (tongue); Isaiah 54:17 (tongue); Genesis 15:11; Ezekiel 34:22-28; Psalm 139 (similar to Ezekiel one); Job 8:14 (spider's web); Psalm 119:153-160; Psalm 125:1-3 (Mt. Zion, scepters of the wicked); Psalm 89:28-29 (covenant of love, establish His line forever); Ephesians 1:3, 17-19; 4:29; 4:31 (inheritance, blessing, unwholesome talk, one body & one spirit, get rid of all bitterness and rage); Isaiah 55:6-13; II Chronicles 7:14-16 (turning from wicked ways, humbling); James 3 (evil parts of the body, tongue praising God..)

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## INTERCESSION

### INTERCESSION OF CHRIST

(Luke 23:34) Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."

(Romans 8:34) Christ Jesus, who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.

(Hebrews 7:25) Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them.

(1 John 2:1) My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have one who speaks to the Father in our defense—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.

## INTERCESSION PREDICTED

(Isaiah 53:12) Therefore I will give him a portion among the great, and he will divide the spoils with the strong, because he poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors. For he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

## INTERCESSION OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

(Romans 8:26) In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express.

## INTERCESSION TO BE MADE FOR ALL MEN

(1 Timothy 2:1–2) I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone—for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.

(Ephesians 6:18) And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.

## INTERCESSION ASKED FOR BY PAUL

(Romans 15:30) I urge you, brothers, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to join me in my struggle by praying to God for me.

(2 Corinthians 1:11) As you help us by your prayers. Then many will give thanks on our behalf for the gracious favor granted us in answer to the prayers of many.

(Col. 4:3) And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains.

(1 Thess. 5:25) Brothers, pray for us.

(2 Thess. 3:1) Finally, brothers, pray for us that the message of the Lord may spread rapidly and be honored, just as it was with you.

(Hebrews 13:18) Pray for us. We are sure that we have a clear conscience and desire to live honorably in every way.

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## TURNING ON THE LIGHT

**(From the book *The Healing Light* by Agnes Sanford, p 20-24)**

The power that causes light to shine within the electric light bulb is part of the electric light. In fact, although that force itself cannot be seen, it is as much a part of the electric light as the wire and the glass that make its framework. The spiritual force that flows through us is the "breath of God" breathed into the "dust of the earth" of which our frames are made. It is the eternal Being dwelling for a moment in a home of flesh.

"Ye are the light of the world," said that amazing carpenter whose light still shines down through the centuries. This is literally true. We are the electric light bulbs



through whom the light of God reaches the world. Thus we are "part God." This does not belittle God, any more than it belittles the sun to know that a square of sunlight on the floor is part of its infinite and eternal shining.

Knowing then that we are part of God, that His life within us is an active energy and that He works through the laws of our bodies, let us study to adjust and conform ourselves to those laws. When we do this with understanding and common sense, we can speed up the natural healing forces of the body.

One does not need to be a saint or a scientist in order to do this. I once worked as a volunteer in an army hospital, and I found that the ordinary G. I. could learn to speed up the healing processes of the body if he wanted to do so.

"What's the matter, Sammy?" I once asked a boy in an orthopedic ward. "You look sort of down in the mouth this morning."

"Oh, I'm sick of this business. The darn leg isn't mending at all, and now they tell me they're going to do another bone graft."

"Well, what's wrong with that? I think it's wonderful, the things they can do with bone grafts."

"Oh yeah? Well, you wouldn't if you'd been in traction for six months. They're going to wait another month before they even do it. Then they're going to take another X-ray. Then they're going to stick in two inches of bone and that'll mean another eight weeks in a cast."

"They must hope that nature will do it without a bone graft, or else they wouldn't wait."

"Oh, sure," grumbled Sammy. "But they've been figuring that way for about six months now. And every time, nature lies down on the job and they do another bone graft and then the bone graft don't take."

"I could tell you a way of getting nature back on the job, if you'd like to hear it," said I.

"Oh, there isn't any way. It's just a matter of time."

"That's not right, Sammy. There is a way of hurrying nature up. I know, because I've done it and I've seen other people do it. Want me to tell you?"

"Sure."

So I explained to Sammy that there was a healing energy in him that the doctors call "nature," that this same healing life was in the world outside him too, and that he could receive more of it by asking for it.

"Who'll I ask?" Sammy wondered.

"Ask God. Because He is the one who made nature, and He's in nature, and He is nature."

"But I don't know anything about God."

"You know there's *something* outside of yourself, don't you? After all, you didn't make this world. There's *some* kind of life outside of you."

"Oh, sure. When you're scared enough, you feel like there must be something."

"Well, then, ask that Something to come into you. Just say 'Whoever you are or whatever you are, come into me now and help nature in my body to mend this bone, and do it quick. Thanks, I believe you're doing it.' Then make a picture in your mind of the leg well. Shut your eyes and see it that way. See the bone all built in and the flesh strong and perfect around it. And play like you see a kind of light shining in it – a sort of a blue light, like one of those neon signs, shining and burning and flowing all up and down the leg."

"Why do I do that?"

"Because that's the way you make it happen. No matter what you want to make, you first have to see it in your mind, don't you. Could you make a table if you didn't first see in your mind the kind of table you're going to make?"

"I get it."

"Good. Then after you see the leg well, give a pep talk to all the healing forces of your body. Say, 'Look here, I'm boss inside of me and what I say goes. Now get busy and mend that leg.' And then congratulate them and tell them they're doing a good job, because they won't work for you unless you encourage them. And after this, forget them and think of the life outside of you again, and say, 'Thank you, God. I believe it's going to be O. K.'"

"How often must I do this?"

"Once a day at least, three times a day if it doesn't get tiresome. And always at the same time every day, because then you get in the habit of thinking like that at that time and it helps a lot. And don't work too hard at it! Before you start doing anything, get comfortable and relax. And just play it like a game. You can think of lots of other ways to play it. Imagine yourself running and jumping over fences and all kinds of things."

Three weeks later the boy was still in traction, but there was a pleased smile on his face.

"Come night when everybody's asleep," he told me under cover of a very noisy radio, "I unfasten this darn thing and get my leg out. Turn on my side, too. And it doesn't hurt."

"Oh, you shouldn't do that!" I cried. "Didn't I tell you not to try anything until the doctor gave the word?"

"Well, but I do, though," replied Sammy calmly. "And it doesn't hurt, either."

The following week he was in a wheel chair. "They took an X-ray," he grinned, "and the next day they said I could get up."

A month or so later I met him in the recreation hall, walking with a cane.

"Do you still do what I told you to do?" I asked him.

"Yep," he replied, "and I can walk, too, with a brace."

"Then you'll soon walk without a brace," I told him.

"I know it," he grinned, and a light flashed from his eyes to mine.

I wondered, as I went on my way to the PX, how much he knew now about God. Certainly he knew something that made him very happy!

After replenishing my stock of potato chips I saw him again, walking across the PX – without his cane – and very carefully not seeing me, like a little boy showing off.

For those who, like Sammy, have not been introduced to God, I will sum up the prayer of faith:

1. *Choose the same time and the same place every day, make yourself comfortable and relax.*
2. *Remind yourself of the reality of a life outside yourself.*
3. *Ask that life to come in and increase life in your body.*
4. *Make a picture in your mind of your body well.*

Think especially of the part of the body that most needs to be well. See it well and perfect and shining with God's light. And give thanks that this is being accomplished.

## "TO DO" LIST - BY GOD

- Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind (Matthew 22:37)
- Love one another (John 13:34; 15:17)
- Love your neighbor as yourself (Matthew 19:19; 22:39; Romans 13:9)
- Do everything in love (1 Corinthians 16:14)
- Serve one another in love (Galatians 5:13)
- Love your wives (Ephesians 5:25)
- Love the brotherhood of believers (1 Peter 2:17)
- Love your enemies and pray for them (Matthew 5:44)
- Do not love the world or anything in the world (1 John 2:15)
- Be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect (Matthew 5:48)
- Have no other gods before the Lord your God (Exodus 20:3)
- Do not make for yourself an idol and worship it (Exodus 20:4)
- Do not misuse the name of the Lord your God. (Exodus 20:7)
- Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. (Exodus 20:8)
- Honor your father and mother (Exodus 20:7)
- Do not murder (Exodus 20:13)
- Do not commit adultery (Exodus 20:14)
- Do not steal (Exodus 20:15)
- Do not give false testimony against your neighbor (Exodus 20:16)
- Do not covet your neighbor's house, wife, servants, animals, or belongings (Exodus 20:17)
- Worship the Lord in the splendor of His holiness (1 Chronicles 16:29)
- Praise the Lord (Psalm 106:1)
- Ascribe to the Lord glory and strength (1 Chronicles 16:28)
- Bless the Lord (Psalm 103:1)
- Declare the Lord's glory and His marvelous deeds (1 Chronicles 16:24)
- Bring an offering and come before the Lord (1 Chronicles 16:29)
- Tremble before the Lord (1 Chronicles 16:30)
- Give thanks to the Lord for He is good (1 Chronicles 16:34)

- Call on the Lord's name (1 Chronicles 16:8)
- Make known among the nations what the Lord has done (1 Chronicles 16:8)
- Sing to the Lord, sing praise to Him (1 Chronicles 16:9)
- Glory in the Lord's name and rejoice (1 Chronicles 16:10)
- Look to the Lord and His strength (1 Chronicles 16:11)
- Seek the Lord's face always (1 Chronicles 16:11)
- Remember the wonders, miracles the Lord has done, and the judgments the Lord has pronounced (1 Chronicles 16:12)
- Proclaim the Lord's salvation day after day. (1 Chronicles 16:23)
- Look after widows and orphans (James 1:27)
- Fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith (Hebrews 12:2)
- Throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles (Hebrews 12:1)
- Run with perseverance the race marked out for us (Hebrews 12:1)
- Consider Him (Jesus) who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart (Hebrews 12:3)
- Do not be wise in your own eyes (Proverbs 3:7)
- Repent and believe the good news (Mark 1:15)
- Believe all that the prophets gave spoken (Luke 24:25)
- Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved - you and your household (Acts 16:31)
- Stop doubting and believe (John 20:27)
- Believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead (Romans 10:9)
- Believe that God exists (Hebrews 11:6)
- Believe God rewards those who earnestly seek him (Hebrews 11:6)
- Trust in the Lord with all your heart (Proverbs 3:5)
- Don't lean on your own understanding (Proverbs 3:5)
- In all your ways acknowledge the Lord (Proverbs 3:6)
- Offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God (Romans 12:1)
- Do not conform to this world (Romans 12:2)
- Be transformed by the renewing of your mind (Romans 12:2)
- Be patient until the Lord's coming (James 5:7)
- Do not swear by heaven or earth or anything else (James 5:12)
- Let your yes be yes and your no be no. (James 5:12)
- If you lack wisdom, ask God for it (James 1:5)
- When you ask for wisdom, believe and not doubt (James 1:5)
- Give a cup of cold water in Jesus' name (Matthew 10:42)
- Feed the hungry (Matthew 25:35)

- Invite in strangers (Matthew 25:35)
- Give clothes to those in need (Matthew 25:35)
- Help the needy (Proverbs 14:21, 31)
- Visit those in prison (Matthew 25:35)
- Look after the sick (Matthew 25:35)
- Fear the Lord your God and serve Him (Deuteronomy 10:20)
- Hold fast the Lord your God and take your oaths in His name (Deuteronomy 10:20)
- Watch because you do not know the day or hour of His return (Matthew 25:13)
- Feed My lambs (John 21:15)
- Feed My sheep (John 21:17)

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## THE SPIRIT OF JEHU IS RISING

(Victoria Boyson:, Speaking Life Ministries, Email: victoria@boyson.org, Website: www.boyson.org)

Aug 18, 2016

Have you looked around you and thought, "What's wrong with everybody?" Have you seen the injustices in the world and wondered, "Why doesn't someone do something about it?" Are you looking at society like the little boy in the story of The Emperors New Clothes, saying "But he isn't wearing anything at all!"

If that's you, understand that God is calling out a gifting He put inside you. He's placed in you the spirit of JEHU and it's rising up inside you calling out for the justice of God!

In the land of Israel, Jezebel and Ahab were literally getting away with murder. Without conscience, they believed themselves to be above God's power to bring retribution against their many offenses. But God saw their sin and His response against them was - Jehu.

Through His prophets, God warned Ahab of the judgment that would come against his entire household because of the death of righteous Naboth (2 Kings 9:26) and Lord's prophets and servants (2 Kings 9:7). Naboth was an innocent man who was targeted by Ahab and Jezebel because he owned a vineyard Ahab wanted and was accused of a crime he didn't commit by Jezebel's lying nobles and subsequently killed.

Corrupted by power, this horrid couple terrorized the true Church and attempted to annihilate the prophets of God. Obsessed with themselves, Ahab and Jezebel felt no fear for their actions and

would flaunt their rebellion against God by consuming His people. Confidently, they spread their Baal worship as they attempted to subvert the worship of the one true God.

In response to their rebellion, as prophesied, God ordained Jehu to become the new king of Israel and destroyer of the entire household of Ahab!

Indeed, when Jehu was anointed as king of Israel, he was told, "You are to destroy the family of Ahab, your master. In this way, I will avenge the murder of My prophets and all the Lord's servants who were killed by Jezebel" (2 Kings 9:7 NLT).

So, the woman who'd seemed invincible and unstoppable, the tyrant of Israel, an overwhelming intimidating figure would be killed just like that. But, surely, since she was seemingly so "all-powerful" it would be difficult to kill her, right?

Without Hollywood dramatics, Jehu went to her palace and as she screamed out her usual disparaging accusations against his character, he paid little attention to her at all. Calling instead to her attendants he cried out simply, "Who is on my side?" And two or three eunuchs looked out at him. "Throw her down!" Jehu yelled. So they threw her out the window, and her blood splattered against the wall and on the horses. And Jehu trampled her body under his horses' hooves" (2 Kings 9:32-33).

Just like that... she was gone.

After years of Jezebel's tyranny, she could no longer hurt anyone. She assumed she was invincible and yet, when God decided the time had come for her destruction, she was gone - simply and absolutely.

### **Hickory Dickory Dock**

In 2007 the Lord gave me a word about the Hour of Darkness in which He explained that for some time the enemy would appear to gain a foothold in this world and it would seem that darkness was winning and indeed it would, but, only for a moment. During this time, the Father would uncloak the shroud that had covered the evil growing in our midst all along and, truly, it would be revealed to all.

Earlier this year I sought the Lord for a conclusion of that word. "How would it end?" I wanted to know.

Reminding me of an old nursery rhyme, "Hickory Dickory Dock. The mouse ran up the clock. The clock struck one, the mouse ran down, Hickory Dickory Dock" (Mother Goose's Melody 1765) - the Lord poured understanding into my spirit through this simple rhyme.

He showed me that in the night time hours, the mice or evil of the world feels emboldened by the veil of darkness and, truly, for a few hours it feels it can get away with climbing boldly to the top of the clock where everyone can see it. However, when the clock strikes the hour appointed by God and morning breaks in upon the mouse, he's caught and scampers in fear for his life.

So it will be with our world: The moment of darkness is near ending and the light of the morning is drawing near. The Father is about ready to strike the clock and send His Kingdom to dispel the darkness sending it running.



Indeed, Jezebel had her day, and what a day she had. Everyone respected her and feared what she would do or say. She was feared by the prophets of the Lord as she flaunted her worship of Baal and instituted her false prophets in place of the Lord's true prophets. Yet, in a moment, suddenly this fearful woman was gone and all her power and dread was trampled under the hooves of Jehu's horses and dogs ate her body.

What a disrespectful ending for a woman who'd held the world in her hands, making the saints fear her and chasing prophets with her threats. It was, indeed, the hour when God decided her end. It was the moment God swept in and showed His great power to those who thought they were gods themselves, and snubbed their noses at the one true God feeling omnipotent in their arrogance.

### **Jehu's Moment Was God's Divine Justice!**

Created by the Father, the world thinks it can snub its noses at its Creator and simply decide to invent their own maker, deciding an accident of creation would be their god. Worshiping themselves, they are blinded by each other looking to humans as though they were divine. Yet, our Father, in His mercy, allows them only so much time to run up the clock, before He reminds them of Who He is!

And that is where we are right now...

The spirit of Jehu is rising amongst the Lord's people. We are no longer living in fear of what people think of us. We've been burned by Jezebel's tyranny and have had our fill of it. Whereas before we would have felt overjoyed to even be noticed by the seemingly great and powerful lords of our world, now we see we are the ones who've possessed the power to rule all along. The justice of God has stripped away the veil of humanism that's blinded us to the dangerous path we've trod. Having once been controlled and taken advantage of, we've decided nothing is more important than God's truth.

### **Beloved's Awakening**

The beloved of the Lord is opening her eyes and awakening to who she is, who her Father is, and how the enemy has taken advantage of her. As she calls out to the Lord for justice, He moves swiftly to her aid and casts out those who would be her captors and tormentors. Once again God sets her on the throne He's prepared for her, convincing her of the beauty she alone possesses and of the Kingdom she must rule.

Indeed, my friends, the spirit of Jehu is rising... in YOU!

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## THE HARNESS OF THE LORD

(Author unknown)

There is a terrific operation of the Spirit going on today to bring the sons of God into an absolute confinement to the perfect will of God. This is the Day of His Preparation, the day in which He is preparing the channel through which He shall pour forth His glory for all the world to see. This channel is His Body in the earth, that glorious company of people who are being conformed through much tribulation and fiery tests into the image of the Son of God. This is His "Battle-Axe" and "Weapons of War" with which He shall subdue Kingdoms and overcome all His enemies. This is His "mighty and strong one" to whom He shall commit the work of judging the world. This is His Overcomer, His "Great Army," with which He shall bring the nations into submission. The weapons of their warfare are not carnal, natural weapons, but they are mighty weapons, mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds. These are those who shall "be strong and do exploits."

But before God can commit this great and tremendous ministry into their hands, they must submit themselves to the discipline of the Lord, letting Him truly be the Lord of their lives. We have long since dealt with the question of open sin, but now God is dealing with the inward rebellion of our own wills. Some good Christians are not now being dealt with, for they are not in this Firstfruits Company, but nevertheless there is a real dealing of God going on within those who are called in the High Calling of God. This is a very real thing, and is the work of the Refiner's Fire. To those who are going through it, some of its aspects are horrible, but very necessary, and the end result thereof is glorious as we are brought into absolute and complete submission to the will of the Lord.

It was in a Minister's Conference, and Convention in Tulsa, Oklahoma that God gave me a vision which I want to share with you concerning this harnessing of our wills. There were more than thirty ministers present in this particular Thursday morning service, and God, the Father of spirits, was present to deal with His sons, to correct them and discipline them to absolute obedience to His Will.

There was such a stern dealing in the Spirit that no one could go to the pulpit and minister, there was a reluctance among the ministers to say anything except that which was directly ordered by the Spirit. And as those men of God sat there in the awesome presence of Almighty God, some of them having many years of ministry, some missionaries, all of them capable of getting up and preaching a powerful sermon, I was impressed by the way they responded to the discipline of the Spirit. And in the midst of this terrific dealing of God with our spirits, the Holy Ghost gave me a vision...

### **I SAW THE KING'S CARRIAGE**

On a dirt road, in the middle of a wide field stood a beautiful carriage, something on the order of a stagecoach, but all edged in gold, and with beautiful carvings. It was pulled by six large chestnut

horses, two in the lead, two in the middle, and two in the rear. But they were not moving. They were not pulling the carriage, and I wondered why. Then, I saw the driver underneath the carriage, on the ground on his back, just behind the last two horses' heels, working on something between the front wheels of the carriage. I thought, "My, he is in a dangerous place! If one of those horses kicked, or stepped back, they could kill him, or if they decided to go forward or got frightened somehow, they could pull the carriage right over him." But, he didn't seem afraid, for he knew that those horses were disciplined and would not move till he told them to move. The horses were not stamping their feet nor acting restless and though there were bells on their feet, the bells were not tinkling. There were pom-poms on the harness over their heads, but the pom-poms were not moving. They were simply standing still and quiet, waiting for the voice of the Master.

### **THERE WERE TWO YOUNG COLTS IN THE FIELD**

As I watched the harnessed horses, I noticed two young colts coming out of the open field, and they approached the carriage and seemed to say to the horses, "Come and play with us, we have many fine games, and we will race with you, come, catch us.... " And with that the colts kicked up their heels, flicked their tails and raced across the open field. But when they looked back and saw the horses were not following, they were puzzled.

They knew nothing of the harnesses, and could not understand why the horses did not want to play. So they called to them, "Why do you not race with us? Are you tired? Are you too weak? Do you not have strength to run? You are much too solemn; you need more joy to life!" But the horses answered not a word, nor did they stamp their feet or toss their heads. But they stood quiet and still, waiting for the voice of the Master.

Again the colts called to them, "Why do you stand so in the hot sun? Come over here in the shade of this nice tree. See how green the grass is? You must be hungry; come and feed with us, it is so good. You look thirsty; come and drink of one of our many streams of cool water." But the horses answered them not so much as a glance, but stood still, waiting for the command to go forward with the King.

### **COLTS IN THE MASTER'S CORRAL**

And then the scene changed, and I saw lariat nooses fall around the necks of the two colts, and they were led off to the Master's corral for training and discipline. How sad they were as the lovely green fields disappeared, and they were put into the confinement of the corral with its brown dirt and high fence.

The colts ran from fence to fence, seeking freedom, but found that they were confined to this place of training. And then the Trainer began to work on them with His whip and Bridle. What a death for all those who had been all their lives accustomed to such freedom! They could not understand the reason for this torture, this terrible discipline! What great crime had they done to deserve this? Little did they know of the responsibility that was to be theirs when they had submitted to the discipline, learned to

perfectly obey the Master, and finished their training. All they knew was that this process was the most horrible thing they had ever known.

### **SUBMISSION AND REBELLION**

One of the colts rebelled under the training, and said, "This is not for me. I like my freedom, my green hills, my flowing streams of fresh water. I will not take any more of this confinement, this terrible training." So he found a way out, jumped the fence, and ran happily back to the meadows of grass.

I was astonished that the Master let him go, and went not after him, but He devoted His attention to the remaining colt. This colt, though he had the same opportunity to escape, decided to submit his own will, and learn the ways of the Master. The training got harder than ever, but he was rapidly learning more and more how to obey the slightest wish of the Master, and to respond to even the quietness of His voice. I saw that had there been no training, no testing, there would have been neither submission nor rebellion from either of the colts.

For, in the fields they did not have the choice to rebel or submit, they were sinless in their innocence. But, when brought to the place of testing, training and discipline, then was made manifest the obedience of one and the rebellion that lay hidden in the heart of the other. And though it seemed safer not to come to the place of discipline because of the risk of being found rebellious, yet I saw that without this there could be no sharing of His glory, no Sonship.

### **INTO THE HARNESS**

Finally, this period of training was over. Was he now rewarded with his freedom and sent back to the fields? Oh no. But a greater confinement than ever now took place, as a harness dropped about his shoulders. Now he found there was not even the freedom to turn about in the small corral, for in the harness he could only move where and when the Master spoke. And, unless the Master spoke, he stood perfectly still.

The scene changed, and I saw the other colt standing on the side of the hill, nibbling at some grass. Then, across the fields, down the road came the king's carriage, drawn by six horses! With amazement, he saw that in the lead, on the right side, was his brother colt, now made strong and mature on the good corn in the Master's stable. He saw the lovely pom-poms shaking in the wind, noticed the glittering gold-bordered harness about his brother, heard the beautiful tinkling of the bells on his feet...and envy came into his heart!

Thus he complained to himself, "Why has my brother been so honored, and I am neglected? They have not put bells on my feet, nor pom-poms on my head. The Master has not given me the wonderful responsibility of pulling His carriage, not put about me the golden harness. Why have they chosen my brother instead of me?"

And by the Spirit the answer came back to me as I watched. "Because one submitted to the will and discipline of the Master, and one rebelled, thus one has been chosen, and the other set aside."

### **A FAMINE IN THE LAND**

Then I saw a great drought sweep across the countryside, and the green grass became dead, dry, brown, and brittle. The little streams of water dried up, stopped flowing, and there was only a small muddy puddle here and there. I saw the little colt (I was amazed that it never seemed to grow and mature) as he ran here and there, across the fields looking for fresh streams and green pastures, finding none. Still, he ran, seemingly in circles, always looking for something to feed his famished spirit. But there was a famine in the land, and the rich green pastures, and the flowing streams of yesterday were not to be had.

And one day the colt stood on the hillside on weak, wobbly legs, wondering where to go next to find food, and how to get strength to go on. It seemed like there was no use, for good food and flowing streams were a thing of the past, and all the efforts to find more only taxed his waning strength.

Suddenly he saw the King's Carriage coming down the road, pulled by six great horses. He saw his brother, fat and strong, muscles rippling, sleek and beautiful with much grooming. His heart was amazed and perplexed, and he cried out, "My brother, where do you find the food to keep you strong and fat in these clays of famine? I have run everywhere in my freedom, searching for food, and I find none. Where do you, in your awful confinement find food in this time of drought? Tell me, please, for I must know!"

And then the answer come back with a voice filled with victory and praise, "In my Master's House, there is a secret place in the confining limitations of His stables where He feeds me by His own hand, and His granaries never run empty, and His well never runs dry."

With this, the Lord made me to know that in the day when people are weak and famished in their spirits in the time of spiritual famine, that those who have lost their wills and have come into the place of the Most High, into the utter confinement of His perfect will, shall have plenty of corn from Heaven, and a never-ending flow of fresh streams of revelation by His Spirit. Thus the vision ended.

(Wade Taylor, Parousia Ministries | Wade Taylor Publications, Email: nancy@wadetaylor.org,  
Website: www.wadetaylor.org, September 4, 2016)

None of us are exempt from problems. These problems are neither accidental nor coincidental, but rather, an integral part of the Lord's program. He will have a people who choose to choose Him, not because it is easy, but because they are determined to push through life's problems in order to apprehend Him.

Many, however, take the easier route and give up when trials come their way. Thus, the promise and reward is to those who rise above the pressures of life and overcome.

Through redemption, we have become a "new creation."

[As newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby. I Peter 2:2, NKJ](#)

### **The Growing Process Into Spiritual Maturity**

The Lord desires to bring into spiritual maturity this new creation that we have become, so that His calling and purpose for us might be fulfilled. There are two primary steps that we must take in order to do this. First, we must place our old pattern of life (the works of the flesh) upon the Cross and "**reckon ourselves to be dead to sin and alive to God**" (Romans 6:11). Second, we are to fully commit our lives to the Lord.

**As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can you, except you abide in Me. I am the vine, you are the branches: He that abides in Me, and I in him, the same brings forth much fruit: for without Me you can do nothing. John 15:4-5**

This growth process requires that we are to set apart time to be with Jesus for fellowship and communion, and wait on Him in His presence, that His life might flow into our lives to become a personal reality within us (as being a branch that receives its life from the vine).

**If you be willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land. Isaiah 1:19**

This opportunity is given to all who are saved, but not everyone is willing to adjust to a "diet" that is conducive to spiritual growth. Therefore, Jesus said, "**For many are called, but few are chosen**" (Matthew 22:14).

In other words, "Few will pay the price in order to be chosen." This process of qualifying begins after we have received the gift of salvation, which has been freely provided for us by Jesus upon Calvary's Cross.

The outworking of this gift of salvation requires us to acknowledge that we will face problems and difficulties in our life experience, and of greater consequence, that we will view them rightly. Only then will we be able to appropriately respond to the Lord in the midst of them.

We will mature spiritually as we become actively involved with the Lord in the outworking of this process.

**Come, My beloved, let us go forth into the field; let us lodge in the villages. Let us get up early to the vineyards; let us see if the vine flourish, whether the tender grape appear, and the pomegranates bud forth: there will I give you My love. Song of Solomon 7:11-12**

There are levels in our spiritual growth, and in our identification with the Lord in the outworking of His purposes. For this process to be accomplished, we must develop a sensitivity to the Lord's presence, that we might rightly respond to Him as He seeks to guide us toward spiritual maturity.

### **Overcoming Our Struggles**

Our problems and difficulties come from two main sources, human and satanic. Because we have embraced the Cross, died to our own ways, and have submitted ourselves to His governmental Kingdom rule, each of these problem areas will be tested in some form or way, so a correction might be made. Only then can we be changed (experientially) into His image and likeness, and become compatible with His will and purpose for us.

**To him that overcomes will I grant to sit with Me on My throne, even as I also overcame, and am sat down with My Father in His throne. Revelation 3:21**

We will never be qualified to rule nations until we have first brought into subjection the "nations" that reside within us. As we overcome in our struggles with the problems created by our Adamic nature in everyday life situations, we will be experientially seated with Jesus in heavenly places.

This will result in our being caught up (as overcomers) to the Throne (seated with Him in His Throne, Revelation 3:21) to "wrestle" in intercessory authority. As these principalities are brought down, they will vent their rage on mankind, and the end-time calamities and judgments mentioned in Revelation will begin to unfold.

### **Present, Active Warfare**

While the children of Israel were in Egypt, it was easy for them to exercise positive thinking and say, "Canaan is ours, a land that flows with milk and honey." But, upon their arrival, they encountered giants and walled cities. The walls of Jericho were brought down through obedience to a divine directive; this was a type of the spiritual warfare that results in a mighty defeat of principalities.

**That through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places. Ephesians 3:10**

This is the wisdom of the Lord – He will use the very humanity that satan defeated in the Garden of Eden to bring down satan's kingdom. Christians often recite **Ephesians 2:6: "And has raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus."**

But the enemy is entrenched in the heavens and must be confronted through actual warfare before we will be able to "experientially" enter into our place with the Lord – to be seated with Him above all principalities and powers.

For us to wrestle against these principalities means that there is to be a present, active warfare. Just reciting that we are seated with Jesus in heavenly places will not transport us there. We must have an overcoming quality in our lives wherein we enter into a relationship with our Lord in prophetic

intercessory authority – a "wrestling authority" whereby victory may be won in our present circumstances.

Today, our Lord is looking for those who will actively seek to grow into a level of spiritual maturity, which will enable them to assume this prophetic role of spiritual authority. Just as the children of Israel walked together around Jericho in obedience to the Word of the Lord, so also, we must become part of a prophetic army that will function in total harmony and unity.

Then, principalities will be brought down, and the heavens will open to the release of His glory and presence. This will result in a moving of the Spirit of God on the earth in visitation as never before.

The Lord is calling us to arise and come up into the heavenlies with Him. Only as we reject the path of least resistance, and begin to walk in the Spirit, will this be possible.

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## INVITING THE LORD WITHIN: SEEKING HIS MANIFEST PRESENCE

(Wade Taylor, Wade Taylor Ministries / Parousia Ministries, Email: nancy@wadetaylor.org,  
Website: wadetaylor.org, April 16, 2013)

At this present time, the Lord is especially dealing with those who have been seeking "something more" without understanding what they are searching for. Many of these are thinking, "What is happening to me?" This is because they are being drawn away from any dependence upon, or satisfaction with, that which is less than the Lord's best.

Many have been content with only knowing the Lord as their Savior, and are satisfied knowing that someday they will be in Heaven. Some have gone further and know Him as the One who provides their needs and uses them in ministry. However, the Lord greatly desires to take us beyond these levels of experience. He is, through intervention, beginning to make Himself known to us as a



Person who desires both our fellowship and our cooperation with Him in the outworking of His present-day purposes.

All too often we become satisfied with the "things of God" rather than going beyond this and coming to know the "God of the things." All too often, we get so taken up with our involvement in working for the Lord, or in being concerned about our problems and needs, or the needs of others, that we fail to notice when He comes to seek a time of personal fellowship with us.

We become satisfied with abiding in the fact of His Omni-Presence rather than taking time to seek His Manifest Presence. Our Lord is a seeking God who will draw us into a personal, intimate relationship with Himself, if we will respond to His seeking after us.

**Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear My voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with Me. Revelation 3:20**

In the past, the Lord graciously allowed us to remain satisfied with our own ways. However, the hour is late and the need is so urgent that the Lord is moving in intervention to bring about a correction. In order to accomplish this, He may intentionally withdraw Himself from our spiritual activities, and stand in the shadows, outside of the "room" of our present spiritual experience. This truth can be found in Song of Solomon 2:9-10:

**My Beloved is like a roe or a young hart: behold, He standeth behind our wall, He looketh forth at the windows, shewing Himself through the lattice. My beloved spake, and said unto me, "Rise up, My love, My fair one, and come away." Song of Solomon 2:9-10**

### **The (Seeming) Withdrawal of the Lord's Presence**

It is important for us to understand that the (seeming) withdrawal of the Lord's presence from us, and from anything that we attempt to do for Him, is a blessing meant to draw us up into a higher realm of relationship with Him.

In order to bring about this ability within us, the Lord will begin to make Himself known to us as a Person, trusting that we will notice Him. He, the Lord of Glory, will reluctantly remain apart from us because He desires something better for us. He longs to manifest Himself to us and spend time with us in fellowship and communion. If we will notice and respond, it is here that we will begin to intimately know Him and come to understand His ways. Only then will we be able to rightly serve Him.

The Lord is grieved when we do not recognize and quickly respond to His desire to make Himself known to us. Many of us fail to respond because we are satisfied to remain within our past spiritual experience, sufficiently satisfied with all of the blessings that He has provided.

The Lord will patiently continue to wait without until we begin to recognize that we need something more than all these things that He has been amply providing, and invite Him to come within our spiritual experience to abide with us.

**Because thou sayest, "I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing"; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked. Revelation 3:17**

The Lord is not satisfied for us to be content with all these things alone. He longs to bring us into the experiential reality of personally knowing Him, and abiding in His manifest presence. This relationship transcends anything that He could ever do for us.

### **Experiencing His Presence**

**He that hath My commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth Me: and he that loveth Me shall be loved of My Father, and I will love him, and will manifest Myself to him. John 14:21**

This experience of "His manifest presence" is conditional upon our having and keeping His commands. Only as we relinquish our self-nature to the Cross, and come into an experience of oneness with the Lord, will our obedience be possible. As we die to our self-will and respond to Him in obedience, He will be released to manifest Himself to us, and then to others through us.

The word "manifest" means that He causes us to become aware of His revealed presence through one, or a combination of, our five natural senses. His manifest presence begins at the point where we pass from the "letter" of the Word into the "Spirit" of the Word. When we enter into His manifest presence, He will make Himself experientially known to us.

He may lead us to quietly wait upon Him in His revealed presence. He may make known to us something that He desires to accomplish and our part in its outworking. He may quicken us in a special understanding of His Word. He may share with those who have experienced in some measure the "Fellowship of His Sufferings" a specific burden of prayer or intercession.

The possibilities are manifold, and they are marvelous to experience. The Lord greatly desires to reveal Himself to us as a Person having feelings and desires. "Manifestly" means that He does this, not in type and shadow, but as a present reality, made known to one or more of our physical senses. The Lord cannot remain satisfied with our continuing to relate to Him only as the One who produces within us a feeling of anointing, or power.

### **"Rise Up, And Come Away"**

**My Beloved spake, and said unto me, "Rise up, My love, My fair one, and come away." Song of Solomon 2:10**

The Lord has something far better to offer us if we will respond to His call to "rise up" with Him into a higher realm of spiritual reality. To this urgent call, He adds a word of encouragement.

**For, lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone; the flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds is come, and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land. Song of Solomon 2:11-12**

We are living in the time of the birthing of a new day. Herein is the cause of our wondering, "What is happening?" as we feel the birth pains of this new day. All that Jesus did in a single body during His first coming, He will again do through a corporate Body. Presently, he is preparing those who have been called apart for this purpose.

Winter speaks of a time of barrenness in our spiritual experience. It is a period of time during which the Lord is (seemingly) absent from us, and in which there is little or no moving or

quickenings of His presence within us, or in our ministry. The "winter being past" speaks of a present opportunity for us to be birthed into a new realm of spiritual life and experience.

The "flowers appearing" speaks of our spiritual growth with the resultant fruit of the Spirit. Our repentant response to the withdrawal of His presence from us has produced a spiritual breakthrough within us – the initiative for our life and ministry has passed to Him. We are abiding in Him and He in us. Our lives and ministry are producing results that were never before seen, as we are being lifted from the gift realm into the spirit realm.

The singing of birds speaks of "worship" that flows up to the Lord from deep within us. The voice of the turtle speaks of our becoming "prophetic" and speaking forth His Word with substance and power. This especially applies to prophetic worship that will release the manifest presence and glory of the Lord.

This experience will not come through an intellectual comprehension or understanding of His Word alone. It requires the anointed impartation of His life to us, as we fellowship (sup) with Him.

He is presently without, looking through the window of our spiritual experience, waiting for us. We must quickly respond to His call to "Rise up, My love, My fair one, and come away." It is essential that we invite the Lord to come within, and give Him full control over our lives and all that pertains to us.

Nothing that we could obtain, while remaining in a lesser realm, could compare with this.

**"Come, My beloved, let us go forth into the field; let us lodge in the villages. Let us get up early to the vineyards; let us see if the vine flourish, whether the tender grape appear, and the pomegranates bud forth: there will I give thee My love." Song of Solomon 7:11-12**

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# OF GOD

(Wade Taylor, Wade Taylor Ministries / Parousia Ministries, Email: nancy@wadetaylor.org,  
Website: wadetaylor.org, February 27, 2012)

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## **Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience... I Peter 1:2**

"Elect...unto obedience." Our "election" is the result of the inner spiritual potential that the Lord sees to be within us. In "foreknowledge," He knows those who will respond to Him in submissive, willing obedience.

## **If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land. Isaiah 1:19**

He then chooses, or "elects," those who, in foreknowledge, He sees to have the capacity and fortitude to fulfill the potential that is hidden deep within them.

The Lord is at work, preparing those who, with a pure heart toward Him, willingly "choose" to rise above all of the pressures and problems of their life circumstances. This requires of us a determined "set of spirit" and "heart obedience."

## **A Company of Horses in Pharaoh's Chariots**

**For the Kingdom of Heaven is as a man travelling into a far country, who called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods. And to one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his several ability; and straightway took his journey. Matthew 25:14-15**

Through "foreknowledge," the Lord knew before we were born the choices that we would make (to every man according to his several ability). Therefore, He quietly guides us accordingly toward His will and purpose for us.

## **I have compared thee, O my love, to a company of horses in Pharaoh's chariots. Song of Solomon 1:9**

This becomes a very powerful and penetrating compliment when it is properly understood. Pharaoh was the greatest of the world's rulers at that time. His agents were sent throughout the known world to seek immature ponies with "potential." From among these, the horses that would pull Pharaoh's chariot were prepared through intense, progressive training and discipline.

Then at special times, these carefully chosen horses were harnessed to the chariot of Pharaoh, and in a resplendent demonstration of earthly beauty, power, and harmony, they brought forth the King into full view, displaying him in his regal glory.

So also, the Lord is preparing those whom He sees (foreknowledge) to have a potential to be "harnessed" to the chariot of the King of all kings, and then in a resplendent demonstration of heavenly beauty, power, and harmony, they will bring Him forth "in that Day" in all of His regal glory to be openly displayed before the nations.

**But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses to Me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. Acts 1:8**

Notice that this "witness" is not what we are doing, but rather, what we have become.

### **My "Election"**

**For many are called, but few are chosen. Matthew 22:14**

In 1944, I entered a small chapel in an Army Camp west of Savannah, Georgia. When I was sure no one was there, I knelt and prayed, "God, if you will get me through this war alive, I will go into the ministry when I get out of the army."

This deeply affected me, as I had no intention of saying this, but when I left the chapel I felt that something tremendous had happened. I ran to the PX (Army base post exchange) to listen to the news, because I thought that maybe Hitler had surrendered. I was disappointed when there was nothing different.

I had no ability at that time to understand that something very important did happen. I had opened my life to the Lord and He responded. In "foreknowledge," He saw my life committed to Him and this article being written many years later.

While praying alone in this chapel, an "election" had taken place, and from that day, my life was altered and directed by the Lord even though I was not aware of it. The circumstances or things that could have frustrated or hindered His plan and purpose for my life were being channeled or altered by the Lord.

Through "foreknowledge," the Lord saw that I would choose Him and rightly respond, and therefore His "election" was established upon my life.

The Lord knows the intent of our heart (all that we desire to be and have), and "if" we will yield this to His higher purpose for us. Thus, His "election" is not an arbitrary choice that is made by Him, but rather, it is the result of the fact that He sees the end from the beginning in each of our lives. He is the Alpha and the Omega.

**I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God. Romans 12:1-2**

There is much that will be required of us, and the Lord knows whether we will rightly respond or not.

**"You Forgot, But I Didn't"**

### **To him that overcometh will I grant... Revelation 3:21**

For us to "overcome" means that we will rightly respond to the Lord and "rise above" all that could hinder our walk with Him.

**Now therefore, if ye will obey My voice indeed, and keep My covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure to Me above all the people: for all the earth is Mine: and you shall be unto Me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel. And Moses came and called for the elders of the people, and laid before their faces all these words...And all the people answered together, and said, "All that the Lord has spoken we will do..." Exodus 19:5-8**

The intention of the people was good, but they did not do as they had said. Good intentions are not enough. I had told the Lord that I would serve Him if He would protect my life. I was discharged from the Army in the fall of 1945, and hardly went to church for the next five years, totally forgetting the promise that I had made.

But today, I am serving the Lord, because He remembered what I had forgotten. Except for His foreknowledge and election, I would not be in the relationship to Him that I presently have.

### **For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works... Ephesians 2:10**

I was now "His workmanship," and the Lord was very busy working deep within my life circumstances. I had come into the ownership of a very prosperous business, but somehow I was feeling that there must be something more to life. I began to feel a "tug" at my heart to sell this business, submit my life to the Lord, and go to Bible school.

The Lord had placed this desire within me, as He knew that when the right time came, I would give Him specific permission to break into my life and do as He pleases. He is the "workman," but He will not work within our personal lives unless we give Him permission to do so.

I had totally forgotten the commitment that I had made while in the army. But I had responded to His tug on my spirit and placed Him first in my life. The same day, after I sold the business, the Lord quickened my memory and said, "You forgot, but I didn't." In that day in the army chapel, the Lord saw that I would choose Him above a prosperous business.

Each one of us has a testimony as to how the Lord apprehended our lives and how His "election" brought us to where we are at this present time.

May our Lord's "election" upon your life have its full outworking, as you give Him permission to take you beyond your present spiritual experience, so you can have your part in being harnessed to the chariot of the King of all kings, to bring Him forth into open view, as every knee bows.

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## END TIME BAPTISM IN HOLY SPIRIT FIRE

(Wade Taylor, Wade Taylor Ministries / Parousia Ministries, Email: nancy@wadetaylor.org,  
Website: wadetaylor.org, January 14, 2012)

### **Progression in What the Lord Desires to Say**

**And they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. Genesis 3:8**

It was not "while they were walking" that Adam and Eve heard the voice of the Lord. Rather, they heard "the voice walking." This profound statement reveals two things:

First, the fact that they "heard" the voice tells us that the Lord desires to communicate with us.

**Who has ears to hear, let him hear! Matthew 13:9**

Secondly, the fact that He is "walking" tells us that there is a progression in what the Lord desires to say, beyond all that He said yesterday, and is saying today.

**I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now. Howbeit when He, the Spirit of truth, is come, He will guide you into all truth: for He shall not speak of Himself; but whatsoever He shall hear, that shall He speak: and He will shew you things to come. John 16:12-13**

Tomorrow, the Lord will speak beyond that which He has already spoken.

**After this I looked, and, behold, a door was opened in Heaven: and the first voice which I heard was as it were of a trumpet talking with me; which said, "Come up hither, and I will shew thee things which must be hereafter." Revelation 4:1**

### **The Lord's Prophetic Calendar**

Creation was accomplished in six days, and the Lord rested the seventh day. Peter tells us that these segments of time can be understood as being "one thousand year days." These days can be divided

as four Old Testament days, two New Testament days, and the seventh, as the Millennial, thousand-year day.

This is prophetic time, not necessarily calendar time. The following Scripture can be understood in this way:

**And He said unto them, "Go ye, and tell that fox, 'Behold, I cast out devils, and I do cures today and tomorrow [Church Age] and the third day [Millennial Age] I shall be perfected.'" Luke 13:32**

Near the end of each of these six "thousand-year days" of human history, there was a direct intervention of the Lord in which He revealed Himself to an individual, who, as a result of this act of divine intervention, was able to greatly affect the conditions of that day and time.

The Lord walked with mankind through the first "thousand year day," at the end of which the flood came and removed all from the earth, except Noah and his family. The Lord had visited Noah in order to prepare him for this event.

The Lord walked through the second "thousand-year day," and Abram was called out from Ur of the Chaldees. Through divine visitation, he became Abraham, the friend of God and the father of faith. A personal relationship was established between the Lord and a man, and Abraham reasoned with God concerning the judgment of the "Sodom and Gomorrah" of that day.

The Lord walked within Israel during the third "thousand-year day." At the height of this time, the Lord so revealed Himself to Solomon that he was able to record "The Song of Songs," and the Temple that he built was dedicated in a display of manifest glory.

During the fourth "thousand-year day," Israel gradually departed from the Lord. Toward the end of this day, the angel Gabriel appeared to Mary and told her that God desired to use her body to bring His Son into this world. Mary submitted herself, and Jesus was born. Later, John the Baptist was called apart to become "the voice of One crying in the wilderness" who introduced Jesus as being "the Lamb of God."

At the beginning of the fifth "thousand-year day," redemption was accomplished for mankind through the crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus. The Holy Spirit was poured out upon the one hundred and twenty who tarried in the upper room, and the Church was born. As the Holy Spirit descended, cloven tongues of fire rested upon each, and they were filled with the Holy Spirit, speaking forth the glory of the Lord in "tongues" that were unknown to them.

The Lord continued to walk in apostolic power through the fifth "thousand-year day, or the first "thousand-year day" of the Church Age, and the world of that day was greatly affected. Gradually, the Nicolaitans (those who rule over the laity) gained control and substituted religious form and ritual in place of the supernatural, which resulted in the "Dark Ages."

During this time, around 1150 AD, Bernard of Clairvaux received a revelation of grace. This beam of light continued to expand until it shone brightly within the life of Martin Luther, a Roman Catholic priest.



As the sixth "thousand-year day" of divine history, or the second "thousand-year day" of the Church Age began, the Lord continued to walk, and the light of redemption again began to shine in the darkened Church.

In order to raise money to build the Vatican, the Roman Church sold indulgences, by which it claimed an escape from "purgatory" could be obtained. Martin Luther received the understanding that "salvation was a free gift of grace that could not be purchased," and in 1517 nailed his theses on the door of the Church. This led to the restoration of true "teachers" who were burdened for the Church, and great persecution followed.

As the Word of God began to be printed and circulated during the 1600s, the Baptists received the revelation that "if we are freely justified by grace, we should communicate this to others who would be established in local fellowships." The "pastor" was restored to the Church, and again these were persecuted.

As the Lord continued to walk through the 1700s, the Wesley brothers received a revelation that "if we are declared to be righteous, there should be the visible evidence of a committed life." The revival that resulted continued through the 1800s, and the "evangelist" was restored to the Church.

On New Year's Eve in 1901, in a small Bible School in Topeka, Kansas, a young lady received the baptism in the Holy Spirit. Others also began to receive this baptism, and soon this visitation spread to the Azusa Street Mission in Los Angeles. The revelation began to form that "if we are justified, sanctified, and communicating the Gospel, we should be empowered for this purpose."

Thus, Acts 1:8 became a present word.

**But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto Me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and to the uttermost part of the earth. Acts 1:8**

As this Pentecostal visitation moved throughout the world, persecution again followed.

**But as then, he that was born after the flesh persecuted him that was born after the Spirit, even so it is now. Galatians 4:29**

It can be seen in the written Word and through Church history, that the recipients of each of these visitations had received revelations that were beyond that which was presently known and accepted. Because of this, those who had received the previous revelation became the persecutors of the next level of revelation and visitation.

This happened because they had become both satisfied and settled with their particular level of spiritual experience. Thus, there are still Lutherans, Baptists, Methodists, and Pentecostals who have gone no further.

But the Lord continued His onward walk, and forty years later, during the "Latter Rain" visitation, a further revelation was received. "If we are empowered to communicate the Gospel, there should be supernatural gifts in operation with signs following." This resulted in the "prophet" and the "prophetic gifts" being restored to the Church.

Persecution again followed, as the Pentecostal movement rejected the "Latter Rain" visitation. But, there were those who were willing to pay the price of misunderstanding and rejection in order to continue in the gradual restoration of truth.

After another forty years, the "Charismatic" visitation brought the Baptism in the Holy Spirit into the main line denominational churches. So far, the teacher, pastor, evangelist, and prophet have been restored.

During the Charismatic visitation, the "apostle" should have been restored. John the Baptist spoke of a "Holy Spirit Fire Baptism." This Baptism did not happen when the Baptism in the Holy Spirit took place in the upper room, because this baptism in fire must specifically be invited to come within.

**I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but He that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire: whose fan is in His hand, and He will thoroughly purge His floor, and gather His wheat into the garner; but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire. Matthew 3:11-12**

### **End-Time Baptism in Holy Spirit Fire**

We have experienced the baptism in the Holy Spirit with speaking in tongues, along with empowered ministries and gifting. However, we have yet to come to this baptism in "Holy Spirit fire," which purges and purifies the individual in preparation for the restoration of the Apostolic office, and also an apostolic enabling with power within individual members of the Body of Christ. This will take the Church beyond all past and present attainments.

This end-time "apostolic" visitation will impart "Holy Spirit fire," which will prepare the way for the restoration of the Lord's shekinah (glory). This will result in a true purity of life and spiritual unity, in which the "creative word" will be spoken with authority.

**Truly the signs of an apostle were wrought among you in all patience, in signs, and wonders, and mighty deeds. II Corinthians 12:12**

The manifestation of the supernatural is an indication of a true apostolic ministry. This apostolic restoration of the creative word, in manifested glory, will again greatly affect the nations in preparation for the Millennial Kingdom to be established.

**Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee. For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the Lord shall arise upon thee, and His glory shall be seen upon thee. And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising. Isaiah 60:1-3**

In transgression, Adam lost the "shekinah" as his covering, which then became an enemy – a flaming sword that prevented all from coming to the Tree of Life. However, on the day of Pentecost, as one hundred and twenty tarried in the upper room, this "shekinah fire" became a friend who returned and sat upon each of their heads.

**And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from Heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. Acts 2:1-4**

Notice that they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, but the "tongues of fire" sat and remained on their heads. Something more had to take place so this "fire" could come within.

In the progression of each of these visitations, which resulted in a gradual restoration of spiritual life and ministry, the "Charismatic" visitation should have brought the restoration of the apostolic.

Instead, this visitation remained a surface movement with an emphasis on gift ministries, especially healing and personal prophecy. Room was not made for the "fire" to come within and thoroughly purge individuals in preparation for the restoration of the "Apostolic Office" with apostolic anointing and power functioning within the Body of Christ.

Therefore, at this present time, the Charismatic visitation is fading. When some well-known leaders failed, their failure was an indication that the visitation, which they represented, had come short of the "fire," which would have so completely purged and cleansed that the failures that took place would not have been possible.

The fullness of the "apostolic" requires our seeing and being in the presence of the Lord. Only through an inner purging and cleansing will the Lord be able to come within His temple to restore the apostle to the same level of power (and greater), as in the early Church.

We are living in the time of the "parousia" of the Lord – His presencing, or appearing, to those who are being prepared to have a part in His end-time purposes. As Jesus appears to these, He will impart a true apostolic anointing with power and confirming signs.

Therefore, the present Word of the Lord is: "Because those who were bidden to the feast did not respond (denominational and charismatic ministries), the Holy Spirit is presently reaching out into the highways and by-ways, bidding ungifted individual members of the Body of Christ to enter and be clothed in apostolic anointing and power."

**And sent forth his servants to call them that were bidden to the wedding: and they would not come. Again, he sent forth other servants, saying, "Tell them which are bidden, 'Behold, I have prepared my dinner: my oxen and my fatlings are killed, and all things are ready: come unto the marriage.'" But they made light of it, and went their ways, one to his farm, another to his merchandise... Then saith he to his servants, "The wedding is ready, but they which were bidden were not worthy. Go you therefore into the highways, and as many as ye shall find, bid to the marriage." So those servants went out into the highways, and gathered together all as many as they found, both bad and good: and the wedding was furnished with guests. Matthew 22:3-10**

At this present time, the "spotlight" of divine activity is beginning to move from the pulpit into the pew. As those within the Body of Christ who have no "apparent" abilities or giftings respond, they are being quickened by the manifested presence of the Lord to prepare them to function in the restoration of the apostolic.

A new wave of apostolic authority will again greatly affect the nations as they are shaken by the power of God.

**And he that overcometh, and keepeth My works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron... Revelation 2:26-27**

The result will be the Kingdom of God established in righteousness and peace, and great joy will be manifest throughout the world, as Jesus is revealed as the King of all kings and the Lord of all lords.

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## WAITING FOR THE LORD

(From the book *Streams In The Desert* by L. B. Cowman, p 344-5)

**Blessed are all who wait for him!**

**Isaiah 30:18**

We often hear about waiting *on* God, which actually means that He is waiting until we are ready. There is another side, however. When we wait *for* God, we are waiting until He is ready.

Some people say, and many more believe, that as soon as we meet all His conditions, God will answer our prayer. They teach that He lives in an eternal *now*,

that with Him there is no past or future, and that if we can fulfill all He requires to be obedient to His will, *immediately* our needs will be met, our desires satisfied, and our prayers answered.

While there is much truth in this belief, it expresses only one side of the truth. God *does* live in an eternal *now*, yet He works out His purposes over *time*. A petition presented to God is like a seed dropped into the ground. Forces above and beyond our control must work on it until the actual accomplishment of the answer. (THE STILL SMALL VOICE)

I longed to walk along an easy road,  
And leave behind the dull routine of home,  
Thinking in other fields to serve my God;  
But Jesus said, "My time has not yet come."

I longed to sow the seed in other soil,  
To be unshackled in the work, and free,  
To join with other laborers in their toil;  
But Jesus said, "It's not My choice for thee."

I longed to leave the desert, and be led  
To work where souls were sunk in sin and shame,  
That I might win them, but the Master said,  
"I have not called you, publish here My name."

I longed to fight the battles of my King,  
Lift high His standards in the thickest strife;  
But my great Captain had me wait and sing  
Songs of His conquests in my quiet life.

I longed to leave the hard and difficult sphere,  
Where all alone I seemed to stand and wait,  
To feel I had some human helper near,  
But Jesus had me guard one lonely gate.

I longed to leave the common daily toil  
Where no one seemed to understand or care;  
But Jesus said, "I choose for you this soil,  
That you might raise for Me some blossoms rare."

And now I have no longing but to do  
At home, or far away, His blessed will  
To work amid the many or the few;  
Thus, "choosing not to chose," my heart is still.

(SELECTED)

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## WAITING UPON THE LORD

(Wade Taylor, Wade Taylor Ministries / Parousia Ministries, Email: nancy@wadetaylor.org,  
Website: wadetaylor.org, February 9, 2011)

**I love them that love Me; and those that seek Me early shall find Me... That I may cause those that love Me to inherit substance; and I will fill their treasures. — Proverbs 8:17, 21**

The "approbation" or favor of the Lord rests upon those who have fully yielded their lives to Him, who desire to intimately know Him and are willing to spend time in His presence. The result is that these will be able to recognize His presence and will have "understanding" concerning His ways.

If these qualities are to become a reality in our lives, we also must first learn to "wait upon the Lord."

**Blessed is the man that heareth Me, watching daily at My gates, waiting at the posts of My doors. For whoso findeth Me findeth life, and shall obtain favour of the Lord.—Proverbs 8:34-35**

When the Lord responds to our waiting for Him, and He manifestly comes into our midst, we then begin to wait on Him.

**There is an Urgent Need that We Become Capable of Hearing a "Present" Word**

As we wait on the Lord, it is important that we approach Him with a deep reverence in a spirit of worship, acknowledge His presence as being with us, and then tell Him how much we appreciate His coming to be with us. Now we can begin to flow in a cooperative relationship with Him in whatever way that He may lead or direct.

We have become a wheel (us) within a wheel (Jesus). That is, as being a wheel within a wheel, we will be in the right place at the right time, and with the right word.

**Whithersoever the spirit was to go, they went, thither was their spirit to go; and the wheels were lifted up (opposite) them: for the spirit of the living creature was in the wheels. When those went, these went; and when those stood, these stood; and when those were lifted up from the earth, the wheels were lifted up (opposite) them: for the spirit of the living creature was in the wheels.—Ezekiel 1:20-21**

There is an urgent present need that we become capable of hearing a "present" word.

As the voice of many waters, the Lord is beginning to speak a powerful last day word to bring visitation and judgment to all mankind. Unless we become sensitive to hear His voice, we will miss the sound of His gentle "knock" upon the door of our spirit.

### **The "Secret" to Jesus' Effectiveness and the Heart of His "Preparation"**

Jesus spent much time in the presence of His Father. This is the "secret" of His effectiveness in ministry.

**The Lord GOD hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him that is weary: He wakeneth morning by morning, He wakeneth mine ear to hear as the learned. The Lord GOD hath opened mine ear, and I was not rebellious, neither turned away back.—Isaiah 50:4-5**

This is the very heart of the "preparation" of Jesus for His ministry – His being awakened "morning by morning." This is also the means of preparation for our place in the end-time purposes of the Lord.

**...The testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.—Revelation 19:10**

"The Lord GOD hath given me the tongue of the learned." This speaks of the spirit of prophecy that which is beyond the gifts, and emanates from relationship. The spirit of prophecy is the result of having become so "at one" with the Lord, that our lives have become the expression of His life (the voice of many waters).

This testimony that the Lord desires to express through us, is imparted within us during our times of communion with Him, as we wait in His presence. As He quickens us, His testimony becomes the spirit of prophecy within us; then it can be expressed through us, to whom He wills. We will then have the right word, at the right time, to be given in the right place, or to the right person.

"He wakeneth morning by morning." To be awakened means that I am lifted into the realm of the supernatural, above the limitation of my natural sense, perception and understanding. When He awakens us, our inner being is alerted to turn aside from all activity, to become sensitive so we will hear what He has to say – a present word.

## **How to Develop and Cultivate a Sensitivity to the Lord's Voice**

Today, His word may seem to be as a "wind," strong enough to knock us off of our feet; but tomorrow, it may be as a gentle breeze. Our hearing today will prepare us for His still small voice tomorrow. We must cultivate our ability to hear and respond to His voice.

David had within him a sensitivity to the presence of the Lord. In spite of his problems, David listened, as he had a heart for the Lord. The Lord had to speak to one of the prophets through a donkey, but to David He could say:

**I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go; I will guide thee with Mine eye.—Psalm 32:8**

David had such a relationship with the Lord that he sensed the very presence of the Lord. The Lord did not have to speak "words" to David for him to know the desire of His heart. David knew the heart and the mind of the Lord because he had cultivated a personal relationship with Him during the years he was in the fields at night tending the sheep.

**For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct Him? But we have the mind of Christ.—I Corinthians 2:16**

Our mind will be renewed, or progressively brought closer to the Lord's mind, as we wait upon Him.

Our taking time to wait upon the Lord will enable Him to enlarge our spiritual capacity, and grant us the tone of authority that comes only by hearing from Him. Thus, our times of waiting upon the Lord will become as a "wheel within a wheel," which will enable us to hear and respond to the promptings of the Holy Spirit, and to move with Him in His will as He guides us.

**And He goeth up into a mountain, and calleth unto Him whom He would: and they came unto Him. And He ordained twelve, that they should be with Him, and that He might send them forth to preach, and to have power to heal sicknesses, and to cast out devils.—Mark 3:13-15**

### **The Primary Purpose of God's Calling**

The primary purpose of His calling is for us to be with Him. It is essential to our spiritual health that we spend quality time in His presence "waiting upon Him." Only then will we have the spiritual energy to face the challenges, testings, and problems of life.

**But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.—Isaiah 40:31**

During these times of intimate fellowship, we are brought into a closer union with Him. In the closeness of this communion, we will receive of His life and strength, and along with this, we will come into a deeper understanding of spiritual principles and the unfolding of His Word, which will draw us yet closer.

**...The times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord.—Acts 3:19**



Our times of waiting upon the Lord are the key to a victorious, overcoming life. Throughout the Psalms, whenever David found himself in difficult circumstances, he constantly reminded himself to wait upon the Lord.

**Wait on the LORD: be of good courage, and He shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the LORD.—Psalm 27:14**

It is here, in the Lord's presence, that we will begin to understand the mysteries of the Kingdom. There will be a realignment of our lives, and our priorities will change from the natural to the spiritual. Our spiritual senses will be energized by His presence and restored to respond to His purposes.

We are to be changed from one level of glory to a higher level of glory. We may be birthed through a particular ministry and even flow in the same anointing, and echo the same teachings; but unless we "personally" have cultivated the presence of God by spending time waiting upon the Lord, we will simply be reflecting reflected light, a dimmed reflection of the pure glory of the Lord.

As we wait upon the Lord, we will experience a genuine encounter with the Lord. Then, wherever we go, the result of His manifest presence that we have experienced will cut through every bondage and every fear in those who are witnessing the result of our life in His. This will bring others to a knowledge of Jesus Christ.

During these prolonged times spent in His presence, we are "sowing" to the Spirit – enlarging our capacity to flow with the Holy Spirit. It is always costly to the natural man and will probably seem inefficient. Many of our "early morning risings" may seemingly bear no fruit at all, but the continued lifting up of our desire for the Lord, along with our worship and the obedience of seeking after Him rather than things, will in time bring forth within us an accumulative effect that will surprisingly produce a profound spiritual result.

We will have become a prophetic vessel that is available to Him. These times of waiting upon the Lord in His presence do not produce quick results, but rather, lasting ones. Jesus commanded us to abide in Him, adding that it will cause us to bear "fruit that remains." The abiding life – a life that waits in God's presence, will produce fruit that will stand in eternity.

Indeed, the Lord is knocking on the door of our spirit and is seeking to enter into the room of our spiritual being. He is seeking those who will respond to His knock, and will open the door that they might "wait upon Him."

**...Let my Beloved come into His garden, and eat His pleasant fruits.—Song of Solomon 4:16**

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## HE WHO OVERCOMES- DELIVERANCE FROM RELIGIOUS BONDAGE

(Wade Taylor, Wade Taylor Ministries / Parousia Ministries, Email: nancy@wadetaylor.org,  
Website: wadetaylor.org, September 16, 2009)

### **...Where the Spirit is Lord, there is liberty.—2 Corinthians 3:17, paraphrased**

At this present time, many are feeling an intense burden for the Body of Christ and sense that something fresh beyond our present understandings is about to unfold. It is very important that the mistakes of the past are not repeated during this coming visitation.

The Word of the Lord to the seven Churches (Revelation 2:1 - 3:22) prefigures the progression of events that span the entire Church Age. Indications as to why past visitations did not come into the fullness of all that was intended or why they did not last can be found within the Word of the Lord to these seven Churches.

### **The Church at Ephesus**

The first of these, the Church at Ephesus, was told that they had departed from their "first love" (Revelation 2:4). This was the Church that witnessed the power and faith of the early Apostles who had personally experienced the presence of the resurrected Jesus. The Lord expected them to maintain this experience of His personal (manifest) presence, but they had already begun to fall away.

This Church was commended because it "hated the deeds of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate" (Revelation 2:6). There is no explanation given in Scripture as to who these Nicolaitans were. However, we can come to an understanding of their identity through the meaning of the word "Nicolaitan" itself.

"Nikao" means to conquer or consume the "Laos" or laity, the people. The Nicolaitans advocated a compromise with the world system so Christians would be able to take part, without embarrassment, in the social and religious activities of the society in which they lived. They attempted to harmonize heathen practices with the Christian faith. In the time of the Church at Ephesus, their teaching allowed Christians to participate in the Roman civil religion.

This resulted in the withdrawal of the Holy Spirit from their meetings, which caused the loss of the spontaneous impartation and movings that came to the members of this Church. Thus, the Nicolaitans represent a clergy that departed from the "presence and power" of the supernatural and substituted "form and ritual" in its place. The compromise that they advocated caused the "dulling of the spirits" of the Lord's people, as they became conversant with the society and practices of their time.

Also, the "clergy" gained control over the functions of ministry and did away with the spontaneity of worship that resulted in the manifest power of God being present. Thus, the people became "spectators" to the functioning of the clergy.

In His message to the Church at Ephesus, the Lord clearly said that He hated the deeds of a clergy that causes His people to depart from experiencing His manifest presence and the operation of the supernatural.

In Ephesus, these Nicolaitans were present, but hated. In the third Church, Pergamos, they are again mentioned by the Lord, "So have you also them that hold the doctrine of the Nicolaitans, which thing I hate" (Revelation 2:15). Here, they were firmly entrenched.

### **The Church of Thyatira, Sardis and Philadelphia**

Then in the fourth Church, Thyatira, the Lord said, "But to you I say, and to the rest in Thyatira, as many as have not this doctrine..." (Revelation 2:24). By now, the Nicolaitans were in control, and only a remnant remained.

This teaching of "compromise" by the clergy led to a progressive spiritual declension that culminated in the Dark Ages. During this time of intense spiritual apostasy and darkness, a spark of revelation concerning "Justification by Faith" came to Martin Luther. This began a progressive restoration that developed within the fifth Church, Sardis, and found its full outworking in the last two Churches, Philadelphia and Laodicea.

Concerning the fifth Church, Sardis, the Lord said, "I know your works, that you have a name that you live, and are dead" (Revelation 3:1). This Church had returned to right doctrine, but did not experience the restoration of the fervent "first love" that had been lost at Ephesus. Apparently, the Nicolaitans still exercised considerable control and hindered the Lord's people to the extent that they were not able to experience the "quickening" of the manifest presence of the Lord, or the "power" of the Holy Spirit moving in their meetings.

The sixth Church, Philadelphia, speaks of an overcoming Church that is experiencing this manifest presence and power of the Lord. They have contended for, and gained an open door into the operation of the supernatural in their meetings. Of this Church the Lord said:

**...I have set before you an open door, and no man can shut it: for you have a little strength...—Revelation 3:8**

Here, the Nicolaitans were totally defeated and lost all of their influence and control. This Church has cultivated the presence of "He that has the key of David, He that opens, and no man shuts: and shuts, and no man opens" (Revelation 3:7). Once again, the Lord's people are possessing this same fervent "first love" for the Lord that had been lost at Ephesus.

His manifest presence is burning within them, and all bondage is melting away as the Holy Spirit is having His way in their lives and assemblies. Much will be accomplished through this present-day "Philadelphia Church" that is allowing an open display of His presence and power.

### **The Church of the Laodiceans**

The seventh is the Church of the Laodiceans. The Word of the Lord to this Church is:

**Because you say, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and know not that you are wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked.—Revelation 3:17**

This present-day Church has received more prosperity, gifts, and ministry than any previous Church. Though it is quick to testify about these blessings, this Church is exposed by the Lord as being spiritually immature (blind and naked). However, this prosperity is not the primary cause of their spiritual blindness and nakedness. Their problem rests in the fact that they do not recognize their spiritual need—"and have need of nothing" (Revelation 3:17). They are satisfied with the things they possess and are not seeking after the One who gave all this.

The Lord is revealed as standing outside of this prosperous Laodicean Church, knocking upon its door, seeking to attract their attention:

**Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear My voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with Me.—Revelation 3:20**

Because this Church has lost its sensitivity to His voice, the call of the Lord has changed to seeking out individuals who are responsive—"if any man."

The doctrine of the Nicolaitans has caused this Church to become "dull of spirit." Their acceptance of and adjustment to material prosperity, has effectively hindered the visitation of the Lord within this end-time Church. This is one of the primary causes of the failure of the "Charismatic" visitation.

Thus, the Nicolaitan spirit that sought to bring about compromise with the world system in the early Church is still present within the Church of our day. Jesus clearly said, "My Kingdom is not of this world" (John 18:36). James told us that "Whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God" (James 4:4).

Notice the contrast between these two present-day Churches. In Philadelphia, the Lord has set before them an "open door" into the revelation of His manifest presence and the operation of the Supernatural in their midst. In Laodicea, He is outside of the Church knocking upon a "closed door," seeking out any individual that is still able to hear His voice, inviting them to turn aside and commune with Him.

The Lord counsels these, who willingly open the door of their spirit to Him to "buy of Me gold tried in the fire, that you may be rich" (Revelation 3:18). This "gold" speaks of the divine nature as being of far greater value than all of these external riches that they possess and rejoice in.

A glorious promise is given to the individuals who choose to turn aside from this materialistic spirit within the Laodicean Church:

**To him that overcomes will I grant to sit with Me in My throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with My Father in His throne.—Revelation 3:21**

This is the greatest of the promises given to each of these seven Churches, yet the most difficult to attain, even more so today, because of the many subtle deceptions that must be discerned—the intensity of the temptations that must be resisted. The hindrances to true spirituality that must be overcome are greater than any pressures that other generations had to face. It is popular to compromise, but the cost is high. Those who do will not be able to hear the gentle knock of the Lord on the door of their spirit—"If any man hear My voice."

### **The Open Door into His Presence**

The Lord is looking for those who are willing to pay the price in order to be a part of the "Church at Philadelphia," and gain the spiritual life and strength that is available therein. Few do because the "Church at Laodicea" is very popular. It knows and uses the techniques that bring about Church growth and material prosperity.

**A passage of Scripture that the Lord is making very real at this present time is: "I love them that love Me; and those that seek Me early shall find Me...That I may cause those that love Me to inherit substance; and I will fill their treasure" (Proverbs 8:17, 21).**

This speaks of overcomers who have entered this "open door" and are experiencing a new "first love" for Jesus Himself. These are seeking His Kingdom by submitting their lives to the rule of His government and are purchasing gold that has been tried in the fire. These are finding an eternal treasure they had little anticipated.

Those who turn aside to enter "The Church at Philadelphia" will never be disappointed as they pass through this open door into His presence.

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# THE CROSS

(From the book *Streams In The Desert* by L. B. Cowman, p 355-6)

**Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves  
and take up their cross and follow me.**

**Mark 8:34**

The cross that my Lord calls me to carry may assume many different shapes. I may have to be content with mundane tasks in a limited area of service, when I may believe my abilities are suited for much greater work. I may be required to continually cultivate the same field year after year even though it yields no harvest whatsoever. I may be asked of God to nurture kind and loving thoughts about the very person who has wronged me and to speak gently to him, take his side when others oppose him, and bestow sympathy and comfort to him. I may have to openly testify of my Master before those who do not want to be reminded of Him or His claims. And I may be called to walk through this world with a bright, smiling face while my heart is breaking.

Yes, there are many crosses, and every one of them is heavy and painful. And it is unlikely that I would seek out even one of them on my own. Yet Jesus is never as near to me as when I lift my cross, lay it submissively on my shoulder, and welcome it with a patient and uncomplaining spirit.

He draws close to me in order to mature my wisdom, deepen my peace, increase my courage, and supplement my power. All this He does so that through the very experience that is so painful and distressing to me, I will be of greater use to others.

And then I will echo these words of one of the Scottish Covenantors of the seventeenth century, imprisoned for his faith by John Graham of Claverhouse -- "*grow under the load.*" ALEXANDER SMELLIE

## MAKING SPIRITUAL PROGRESS THE HOTHOUSE OF GOD

(Wade Taylor, Wade Taylor Ministries / Parousia Ministries, Email: nancy@wadetaylor.org,  
Website: wadetaylor.org, June 19, 2009)

**"And the disciples came, and said to Him, Why speak You to them in parables? He answered and said to them, Because it is given to you to know the mysteries of the Kingdom of Heaven, but to them it is not given."—Matthew 13:10-11**

As we grow spiritually, we become aware that we are beginning to see and understand things that others neither see nor understand. As a result, we may become critical of those who do not see as we see, and we may even become proud when we discover that we have spiritual understanding that others do not have. If we are making genuine spiritual progress, we will experience in some measure or form these reactions.

Although this is not good, it should encourage us, as it is an indication that we are making spiritual progress and entering into a higher realm of spiritual life and understanding. However, if we are to continue to develop spiritually, our pride and critical spirit must be dealt with and overcome. If not, we will go no further in our spiritual development, and worse, we may begin to lose ground, spiritually.

### **Nailed to Our Cross**

**"If any man will (choose to) come after Me (continue to grow spiritually), let him deny himself and take up his (own) cross, and follow Me."—Matthew 16:24 (comments added)**

Fortunately, our Lord was a carpenter, and He knows how to make crosses.

The word "if" tells us that this is an option that we ourselves must choose. We must give permission to our "Carpenter", Lord, to build this cross upon which we ourselves will hang in order to die to our pride and self-centered ways. For us to "take up our cross" means that the Lord has uniquely arranged a circumstance that is contrary to our desires (crosses them), which He has personally designed to crucify our self-life.

We must personally, specifically, make this arrangement with Jesus, otherwise, He will not build this cross. No one of us relishes a cross, nor will we appreciate the difficulties that He will arrange in order to crucify us. We can place the "nail" in our feet and in one of our hands, but then we are unable to place the other nail. Fortunately, there are many Christians available who will gladly place this nail for us.

Once we are upon this cross, with our hands and feet nailed, there is little that we can do to change the circumstances. None of us will appreciate these restrictions to our liberty, but we must stay there until the work is done and He has released us.

### **Into the Hot House**

The normal habitat for a flower may be in the woods or in a garden. But if we desire to display a beautiful flower, we would go to a florist to obtain one that had been raised in a glass greenhouse. This glass "hot house" is a place where everything is intensified to bring forth both the beauty and the full potential of this "flower" (you and me, changed into the image and likeness of Jesus).

The Lord is bringing forth a people, especially at this present time, who are being prepared to display His end-time glory.

**"When He shall come to be glorified in His saints, and to be admired in all them that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) in that day."—2 Thessalonians 1:10**

Therefore, special "hot houses" are available for this purpose. If we are spiritually perceptive and discerning (our willingness to be corrected and perfected), the Lord will arrange a set of circumstances, so we can come under the intensity of a special working of the Holy Spirit.

During the summer of 1959, I worked in a greenhouse for a short time. I filled a wheelbarrow with dirt from long flowerbeds within the greenhouse and wheeled it outside, and then replaced it with fresh dirt that had been carefully prepared for this purpose. It was over one hundred and twenty degrees within, and I would stop at the entrance and wait a few minutes to get adjusted before I entered with a fresh load of dirt. This environment was devastating to me, but the flowers flourished in it. I was told that this changing of the dirt was done each year to maintain the quality of the flowers that were produced.

Whenever I entered the greenhouse, I had only one thing in mind—to get out as quickly as possible. So also, we never seem to appreciate the dealings of the Lord, until after the flower (fruit of the Spirit) appears. Then, we recognize that all we had gone through was worthwhile.

### **Launching Out Into the Deep**

**"And it came to pass, that, as the people pressed upon Him to hear the word of God, He stood by the Lake of Gennesaret, and saw two ships standing by the lake...And He entered into one of the ships, which was Simon's, and prayed him that he would thrust out a little from the land. And He sat down, and taught the people out of the ship."—Luke 5:1-3**

Because the people pressed to hear, Jesus entered a ship (our spiritual life experience) and pushed out a little from the shore in order to teach them. This "thrusting out" refers to our being brought into a different atmosphere (hot house—divine activity), where we receive direct, personal attention



from the Lord (He entered into one of the ships) in preparation for something greater—a "launching out into the deep."

**"Now when He had left speaking, He said to Simon, Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a draught."—Luke 5:4**

Notice that the Lord did not stand on the shore and teach them. It is difficult for us to grasp the purpose and intensity of what Jesus was doing, when He pushed out a little from the shore. He moved from the normal circumstances of life (land—where we are in control), and entered into a new atmosphere (water—where He is in control), in order to prepare them. After this was done, He then said, "launch out"—go even further into the deeper purposes of the Lord.

**"I love them that love Me; and those that seek Me early shall find Me. That I may cause those that love Me to inherit substance; and I will fill their treasures."—Proverbs 8:17, 21**

This word, "early," has a special meaning that goes beyond the thought of the "first thing" in the morning. I did not like wheeling dirt into the greenhouse, as it was intensely hot within. "Early" means that I grabbed the handles of the wheelbarrow and proceeded, because I knew the Lord had directed me, and there was a higher purpose than merely moving dirt.

Although I did not understand, I strongly felt that there was something in the heat of the atmosphere that would accomplish within me what the Lord desired. My part was to believe this, and then act on it. "Early" means that I did not waste precious time struggling with my contrary feelings.

The Lord has a particular "hot house" for each one of us, which will expose our need and change us according to His purpose and desire. But, we must be willing to enter therein.

Some flowers will grow almost anywhere, but when a special show-flower is needed, we purchase one grown in a greenhouse. So also, when the Lord desires to display the very best from within His Body (Bride), He will seek out those who either are willing to enter or have entered the "hot house" of His preparation, and have come forth with spiritual "substance."

This "substance" is the very life of the Lord that has been worked into our lives. Only then can we become a true "witness" of His life—His life being seen through our lives.

Some of us are standing at the door of our "hot house," hesitating to enter. May we have the courage to enter, knowing that we will become as this special "flower," bringing pleasure and satisfaction to our Lord.

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