

Keeping In Touch

... whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel; Philippians 1:27



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November 6th, 2005



Info Center



For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever. 1 John 2:15-17

Dear Readers,

November 6, 2005

We are very pleased to bring you once again the product of much effort and hard work. We believe it contains the Word of the Lord and what He is saying to His people in these end times. Though it is not quite snow season, the intricacy of these snowflake photographs demonstrate the powerful detail of our God. He is glorious and worthy to be praised. When you consider God's creation and the beauty of such a tiny part, the snowflake, you have to believe that His plan for us is not obscure or indefinite. So, though this world and all its lusts will pass away, the works of the Lord, including you and me, will abide forever. Let us be faithful to do His will!

Included in this bulletin are two words that were preached in Mahomet. Of course, they are excellent! Dig into them and God will bless your effort. There are some new and different things this time, like a book report and a report about a trip to Africa and the Czech Convention. Susie and Katie Sigwarth have written their testimonies about being here over the summer! There are a couple articles by two of our readers, Sister Terry Smith and Brother Tim Culver, and three of our staff members. Last but not least, see the news about the convention in December!

We have the KIT bulletin is available online in a PDF format. Just visit www.slgospel.com and then follow the link to the KIT Bulletin.

Our very own KIT Cuisine cookbook is ready and available for the splendor of your family's dining delights! It can be purchased here at the building for \$10 or we will gladly mail it your way with an extra \$2 for shipping and handling. Just contact us at one of the addresses below with your order.

As always, if you have anything to send our way, here are the addresses:

News Bulletin
PO Box 409, Mahomet IL 61853

or

Email:
KITbulletin@truevine.net



About the cover:
The snowflakes used
on the cover and Info Center
are authentic photographs
of real snowflakes.
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GOD'S TIMELINE

August 10th, 2005
Wednesday Night Bible Study Series
Mahomet, IL
as was shared by Barak Asbill



Prior to having an outer court experience (being born again), we are in Satan's domain, or the realm that is called "cosmos." So, we can say that when we came into this life, we came into Satan's kingdom, live in Satan's kingdom, are overshadowed by Satan's kingdom, and "his" kingdom is being worked within us. His intent is to make us like him. As much as what God is doing inside the life of the believer, so also the devil (with believer and non-believer alike) is working likewise, only he is working in the opposite direction. God is life and those that are in pursuit of God receive life, and that life more abundantly. The absence of forward motion into God becomes a negative in the life of the believer. Jesus said, *...for, behold, the kingdom of God is within you* (Luke 17:21b) and then John said, *He must increase, but I must decrease* (John 3:30). The implication being given is that I must be the catalyst for the increase of Christ's kingdom. The purpose of the Christ within is to make me a son and the by-product, if you will, is the dispossessing of Satan from his kingdom.

When we look at man, we understand that man is three parts, just like God is three parts. Man has a spirit, man has a soul and man has a body. We have Father, Son and Holy Ghost. So we have the image of God. As He is three parts, so are we three parts.

Now, here is a thought. The fact that we bear His image is going to testify either in our favor or against us at the end of the day. Just this alone is enough to either condemn us or justify us, on the basis of what we do with His image. Praise the Lord! Now, this is a very basic thing, but take, for instance, tattoos. I have seen the proliferation of tattoos at this time and at this hour more than I have

ever seen in my whole life. This used to be something that was relegated to a "rebel." You know what I mean? Rough and rebellious individuals - now it is not only men, but it has also become prevalent with women. It is very appalling. Now, this is a type in the natural realm of the defacing of the image of God. Even though the mark is on the outside, I guarantee that there is also a mark being made on the inside. Many times the outward manifestation is of the inward working of destruction and damnation for the purpose of bringing that soul into a place of being permanently changed into the image of Satan.

Now, the Word says in Revelation that the Lamb was slain from the foundation of the world (Revelation 13:8). That means that before the earth (that ball that we see from the satellite pictures) was even in its place and all of the planets that surround it, God had a provision for a godless condition that was not yet fully made manifest. Because, when God created light, even as He is light, the opposite automatically happened. Isaiah 45:7a, *I form the light, and create darkness*. Now, here is something to ponder. Have you ever noticed, for instance, the posted sign that states "wet paint" and the inevitability that somebody is going to touch it even though they read it and it registered in their mind? There is something in the nature of man that says, "Let's prove the sign!" We have this flawed condition because of what Heyl did, (Satan, who was formerly Heyl), who considered the darkness and discovered that the darkness facilitated his desire to be a ruler even as God is the ruler. John 3:19-21 bears this out. *And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. ²⁰For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved. ²¹But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.*

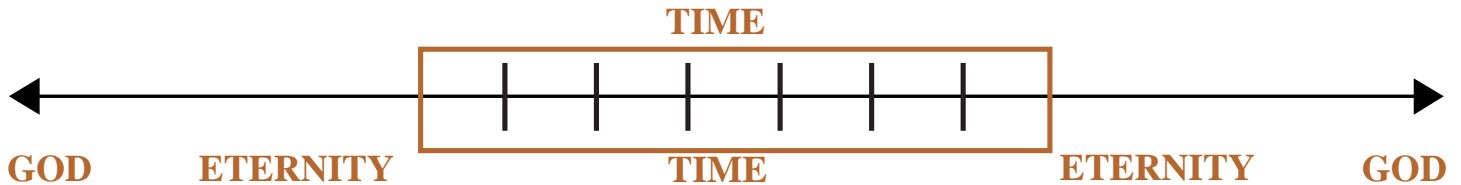
Now, let us come back to the thoughts that have recently been delivered to us pertaining to time and eternity being like a line. [See illustration of example] Eternity has no beginning and no end. God made creation in seven

days to represent each day as a thousand years (II Peter 3:8). Then He gave us a seven thousand-year space of time in order to complete His kingdom. Now, according to this seven thousand-year plan, somewhere around 2,000 years, Noah came on the scene. The Bible also mentions Abraham who came after Noah and so on and so forth. These men did not have the Blood of Jesus. They did not have the Holy Ghost. Yet they were still faithful in their segment of time, how ever many years that it was out of the whole 7,000. They were faithful to the plan and purpose of God that pertained to the completion of God's King-

dom and confirm the promise that He made to Abraham.

You know, the Scripture, from the beginning to the end, is dotted with men like Noah and Abraham. I like to call them "ensamples." So you kind of have a "connect-the-dot." If we were to draw a line from each ensample what would the picture be? When the whole thing is said and done it will be a living, viable demonstration of the fullness of God's plan, His intention that He has had since the beginning as it is stated in Genesis 1:26a, *And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness:*

So, all these men that went on before us in their seg-



dom. So they lived in the "cosmos." They lived within this kingdom here, Satan's kingdom. Yet they were more attuned to the Kingdom that was to come that was going to supercede the existing kingdom, because it says that Abraham looked for a city whose foundation was built and made by God. Hebrews 11:8, *By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.* Now, how would you like to live like that? I think most of us would be in a tizzy having to live like that. At least, I would. I will speak for myself. I am Mr. Prepared. I like to know where I am going and what is going to be there when I get there. I make sure I am fully equipped to encounter whatever there may be. But contrary to my preferential disposition, the scripture says *by faith*. Reading on here, *By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise: ¹⁰For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.* Interesting, isn't it? Here is a man who did not have the Blood of Jesus Christ or the Holy Ghost, yet there was such tenacity and intensity and fervor by which he lived to obtain that thing that was not visibly available. It wasn't like, "Travel for a hundred miles, Abraham. Turn right on Interstate 74 and you will find yourself at the Promised Land." It says that he went not knowing whither he would go. Hallelujah! Yet God was faithful, because when we read the account, on certain points and places in his journey, God came to him.

ment of time in which they lived, moved within the earthly, carnal realm. Yet they were motivated by the hope that there was a higher realm coming to supersede the carnal realm that they were living in and they wanted to be a partaker of that realm. So this hope, this promise that began in the beginning... God said to Adam and Eve, "Be fruitful, and multiply." Right? Genesis 1:28, *And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.*

"To have dominion." This is part of the criteria, or the basis by which every believer ought to be motivated. *Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it.* So, in order to beget Life, you and I must have Life. Right? So, when God created Adam, it says that God breathed the breath of Life into Adam and Adam became a living soul (Genesis 2:7). But when Adam submitted himself to sin, he relinquished his dominion over to the one that tempted him and the one who deceived Eve into partaking of the action of disobedience. Adam became a dead soul. God said, "In the day that thou eatest the fruit thereof, thou shalt surely die" (Genesis 2:17). Now, it took the devil 930 years to work the fullness of death into Adam. It took the devil 930 years to kill Adam. That means that there was so much life in Adam as being a son of God, it took the devil that much time to ebb away that life. Therefore, when Adam died, Adam subjected the entire human race, the ones that were living and the ones that had not yet been born into the same condition that he found himself in. A DEAD MAN! Now, in order for man's soul to be in dominion, that soul must be alive. But there is a breach that is between man's spirit and man's soul that separates man from God. It is this breach that must be removed in order for that soul to live. The first thing that

happens to the believer is the establishment of divine order that comes by way of the Blood. In Leviticus 17:11 it says, ***For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul.*** When we receive the Blood of Jesus, the God-life that is in His Blood breaks down the barrier of separation and establishes God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit over our three part being. Because God is going to live in man, God or the essence of God overshadows the spirit of man. In turn, the spirit of man is going to overshadow and fill the soul, and lastly, spirit and soul adopting the body.

So, we have these “spiritual principles.” It is these spiritual principles that are governing the plan and the purpose of God. It is impossible to operate without them. In other words, the principles are either going to justify you or condemn you at the end of the day. Now remember, the end of the day, from God’s perspective, is the 7,000th year. By the way, Adam died that same day that he ate the fruit. ***One day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day*** (II Peter 3:8). Adam never made it past the first 1,000 years of his existence. He died, but he died in hope. Starting in Romans 8:14 we read, ***For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. ¹⁵For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. ¹⁶The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: ¹⁷And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together. ¹⁸For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. ¹⁹For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God. ²⁰For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope, ²¹Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.***

Now, we know that part of the completion or the fulfillment of God’s plan was the Mosaic Law. Paul talked about it a lot when he said in Romans 7:7, ***What shall we say then? Is the law sin? God forbid. Nay, I had not known sin, but by the law: for I had not known lust, except the law had said, Thou shalt not covet. ⁸But sin, taking occasion by the commandment, wrought in me all manner of concupiscence. For without the law sin was dead.*** God instituted the law in order to bring sin to the forefront, to make it absolutely impossible for any person to escape sin in and of their own selves. Why? So that every human being at the end of their segment of time would be completely without excuse. So now, the law came, but not

without Moses. He is another figure or face, another name, another person that was brought to the forefront. This has been so carefully recorded for us so that we are not without a reference point. Here again, it will be the lives of Moses, Abraham and Noah, that have established standards that we will, as individuals, either be justified or condemned! And it is not that they are going to be standing there saying, “You messed up!” It is their tenure that will testify against us if we do live in like manner, for unto us has been delivered the same caliber, the same depth of the Word which they heard.

In other words, God, from the beginning, has always had a remnant of people that we call “overcomers.” I think because I am hearing this wonderful Word that I am not hearing anywhere else, that it must be new! No, it is not that the Word is new, it is just that I am new on the scene with regard to the Word. The real question that we have to ask ourselves, or ascertain is, “What are we doing with the Word?” Because hearing the Word alone does not constitute becoming and being the Word.

Now, Jesus Christ was similar in His work, as Abraham was and as Noah was. The job was given to Jesus Christ of being the “Perfect Sacrifice” - of being the “Lamb of God.” To Him it was given, ***...that He might be the first-born among many brethren.*** Romans 8:29, ***For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.***

The Word says that the first male child that openeth the matrix belongeth to the Lord (Exodus 13:12,15; 34:19) and I think it applied to the animals as well. ***Thou shalt set apart unto the LORD all that openeth the matrix, and every firstling that cometh of a beast which thou hast; the males shall be the Lord’s*** (Exodus 13:12). So to Jesus Christ was given that privilege, that opportunity, to open the matrix. You see, before Jesus Christ, we were shut up unto the law, because the law was to be a schoolmaster. Hebrews talks about it as being a shadow of things to come. Let’s first look at Colossians 2:17. ***Which are a shadow of things to come; but the body is of Christ.*** Also in Hebrews 8:5, ***Who serve unto the example and shadow of heavenly things, as Moses was admonished of God when he was about to make the tabernacle: for, See, saith he, that thou make all things according to the pattern shewed to thee in the mount.*** And again in Hebrews 10:1, ***For the law having a shadow of good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto perfect.***

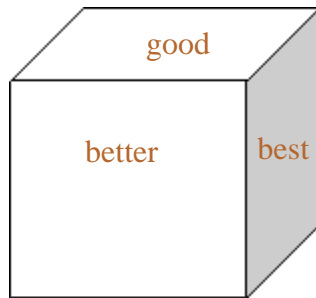
Jesus Christ had the privilege of opening the matrix, which He did for you and me. He was faithful in what He did; He did it according to the will of the Father. He gave His Life for us upon Calvary and let the Blood loose that

was in His body which contained the Life of God in it. At that moment, He opened an access and made available to us to receive the same Life He was a partaker of. So, when we receive the Blood, we go from the DEAD state of being a dead soul, to being a LIVING soul. Right? So, the Blood puts us back in the position where Adam was before Adam fell. So we find that receiving the Blood is GOOD. But where there is GOOD, there is going to be something BETTER. [See illustration of three-dimensional box for example]

Now, as a living soul, once that seed, that little seed that we put in those cell trays in the greenhouse, once that seed... Well, Jesus talks about it in John 12:24. *Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground*

and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit. I don't understand how it works, how the seed knows that it is in the right place and how it knows when it is time to die. I mean, there are thousands of them in a package that is sealed up, shoved in a box, and most of the time, spend their life in a room where the light is out. The same condition takes place when I shove the seed in the ground because the light is out. Right? I don't understand how it works, but nevertheless, I see the manifestation of it working. So it is for you and me. There is an appointment that God had with us individually when He said, "This is the time that the seed (me) must be planted, because I have an expectation to receive or partake of the fruit that that particular seed (me) is going to give Me (God)." It is the same thought that we apply in the vegetable operation in that there is a thing called "timing" that is very critical to the success of our operation because there are certain plants that live and thrive in various environments. There are plants that you plant in the early spring because they like the cool weather. They do not do very well and many times they do not succeed at all in the hot weather.

The word "indifferent" comes to me. Indifferent means



His partaking is not on our time schedule. In other words, we are not going to grow when we want to grow or determine how fast we want to grow. God has given us the means necessary, He has given us all of the accoutrements that we need to succeed, but if we don't use them, if we don't utilize them, if we don't apply them, we are shorting ourselves. Not only are we shorting ourselves, we are also robbing God of His expectation to partake of our fruit. Yes!

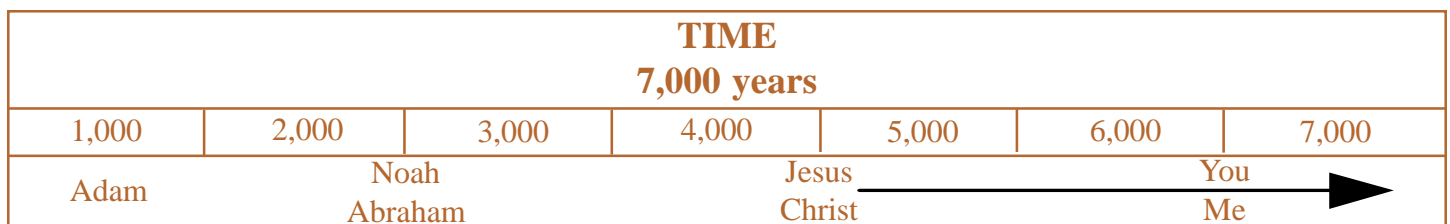
Congregation: When you were talking about fruit bearing - when you consider doing cauliflower or celery in the heat of the summer, they will bolt. You will be wasting the water and the sun.

Brother Barak: You will be encumbering the ground.

Congregation: And spiritually speaking, you will be squandering the "water and the Word."

Brother Barak: Squandering is a very good word. Right! That is a very good word.

So, when the Word says, *Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left us of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it. For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it* (Hebrews 4:1-2). You can just as well put "you" and "me." Seven, by the way, is the number of spiritual perfection, or arriving at spiritual perfection. [See illustration of 7,000 year timeline for example] So, you can see that God's plan that He instituted here (at the beginning of time), is going to take 7,000 years to come to completion, spiritual perfection. In other words, the world was made, given up and subjected to a lower realm - carnality. In order to bring that carnal world up, God put THE SEED into the right environment, the right watering, the right fertilizing, and gave the proper nutrients that were needed. As it was given those things, the seed would sprout and grow and come to a point or place in maturity. The manifestation of it would be God's intended desire like when He looked at His creation that He made and said, "IT IS GOOD!" (Genesis 1). When God said, "It is good!" He wasn't seeing the turmoil and the chaos that was coming. It says in Genesis 1:1, *In the beginning God created*



you don't care or you are callous. If I am indifferent to the needs of this particular type of vegetable or plant, then the results are going to be very tragic, and I am wasting my time as well as the life of that plant. So it is the same for us in that God has an expectation to partake of the fruit.

the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. Verse 2 says, *And the earth was without form,* but if you look in the Hebrew, it says, "the earth BECAME

without form.” ***And the earth BECAME without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.*** So, when Adam died and gave up his dominion, he subjected the world that was under his control, which was under God, he subjected it to the entity that we call Satan. And all the chaos and the confusion and the darkness that has fallen since then has enveloped this thing that we call “the world.” It has been God’s intention to bring forth His Kingdom from with-in Satan’s kingdom, and as God’s godly Kingdom is given the opportunity to grow and to succeed, IT is going to overthrow the demonic kingdom. And we come back to the fact where Jesus said in Luke 17:21, ***Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, the kingdom of God is within you.***

So, the intent and the plan and the purpose is starting on the inside. We find that it is good to be born again, but it would be better to be a partaker of baptisms and all that it involves. Baptism in water, baptism by the Holy Ghost, and the Holy Ghost given to bring us to baptism into Christ, of course, is the **best**. We know that some brought forth 30, some brought forth 60, and some brought forth 100-fold.

It comes down to the fact that we are the determining factor of how much of God that we want, or how much like God we want to be! That is what it boils down to. But in order to be like God... If you want 30-fold, be a 30-fold and we could consider that “good.” But compared to the 60-fold, you don’t look so good. So it would be better to be 60-fold. But compared to the 100-fold, you don’t look so good. It is easy to be 60-fold and look at the 30-fold and feel pretty good about yourself, in terms of your relationship with the Lord. And that is good to a certain extent. But there is always something somewhere where God brings out the measuring stick to show you that your 60-fold really isn’t a 100-fold, as much as you think it is a 100-fold. Because there is always a spiritual principle in the realm of the eternal that our lives are out of sync with that calls in question the lowness of where we are living. And if we endeavor to live by these principles, at some point in time, God must honor that action to make in us that principle.

At Noah’s obedience to God to build the ark, Noah became the judgment of all those that refused to be in the ark. It is the same today as it was in Noah’s day. Jesus said as much in Matthew 24:37-39. ***But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.*** ³⁸***For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark,*** ³⁹***And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.***

Congregation: This kind of answers a question that I

have had, too. The people in Noah’s day didn’t believe that it was going to rain. It had never rained. The people today are doing the same thing. They don’t believe that it is actually going to be the end. So they turn away. I don’t know if you guys have experienced this, but they will turn away when you talk about 2008 because they just don’t believe it.

Brother Barak: This is my assessment, but it would seem to me that if the end is now, then it should appear as though it is not the end. Do you understand what I am saying? In other words, when you look out here, all you see is success. You see business as usual. You see prosperity. So, logically, if I were to deceive somebody, then I would want it to appear to be the opposite of what it really is. Where is the promise of His coming? Praise the Lord! Since our fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were (II Peter 3:4) ***...until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be*** (Matthew 24:39).

Yes! Amen! Praise the Lord! So, I would exhort you to meditate on this passage of scripture in Hebrews chapter 4 and determine what is our part in order to be obedient to the Lord God and the Word of God.

Congregation: I just wondered, ever since we heard the Word, “What kind of house are you building?” I mean, I don’t see anything but the awful me. How do we know if we are being built the way that God wants us to be built? Is that just all by faith, too?

Brother Barak: Yes. Faith is a major part of it. It is “line upon line; precept upon precept” (Isaiah 28:10).

Congregation: And the Word gets sealed in our hearts as God gets them so that they can no longer be moved.

Brother Barak: Right. Right. It is like asking one of these children, “How do you know that you are getting bigger?” And they will immediately relate back to some experience in their life that gives them an understanding that they are not the three-year-old, or the five-year-old that they used to be. So likewise, in the spiritual, as I grow and mature in the Lord, I can look back and the growth spots in my life were the worst times in my life. You know, the hot spots, the tribulation, the people that I had to work for. You know, the “demons” that I had to work for, the demonic environments that I had to live in. Those were the bright spots, the growth spots. I didn’t think that at the time, but I have come to appreciate those times and am very, very thankful for them. Amen. So next time you are being tribulated, what did James say? ***My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; ³Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience*** (James 1:2). I could never understand that scripture verse, but now I am starting to understand it. Yes, Brother Charles.

Brother Charles Effiong: It is very interesting that we ***continued on page 37...***

My tongue shall speak of thy word: for all thy commandments are righteousness. Psalm 119:172



The word is: Submission



Katie and Susie Sigwarth Share Their Testimonies Concerning Their Summer in Mahomet

Katie
Spoken in Dubuque, Iowa
September 5, 2005

Well, my word for the summer, which I found was everybody's word for the summer, was *submission*. Right when I got down to Mahomet, I immediately had to submit, not only to those around me, but to God. I thought, "This is pretty easy; I'll just obey and do everything they tell me to do and that's submission," but it's really not. It's submitting joyfully, submitting with a right attitude, rather than just, "I have to clean the store *again*, because it gets dirty *every* day, because it's dusty out here." It had to be, "I'm doing this because I want to and I desire to do this."

Right off the bat, God started speaking to me about coming and

bowing down and submitting everything to Him, and I knew He wanted me to physically bow down. But I just kept putting it off and saying, "God, there's really no time for me to get down on my knees and pray." So, I was procrastinating a little bit and one day, we were in a Sunday meeting. It really was an amazing meeting, but during praise, God kept speaking to me. The song we were singing was *Lord, We Come and Bow Down* and that's the song God just kept speaking to me. He then said to me, "If My people, which are called by My name, shall humble themselves and pray, and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will heal their land (II Chronicles 7:14)." I knew He was saying, "You've procrastinated long enough. Do it." And you know, I was thinking, "This would be weird if

Katie is the only one up here kneeling at the altar." So I just said, "Ok, God. Ok." At that time, Jansen was up front praying and Tyson came running out of the control room in the back and he just hit the floor in front of the altar and started praying and weeping. As soon as he did it, there were people coming up to the front and bowing down and praying and I was like, "Ok." So, I set my violin down and I knelt down on the ground and I could feel God moving in my soul and rooting out what He had been speaking to me about. It was something that was really hard for me to let go of because, what it was, was becoming offended and protecting myself from getting hurt. I had built up this wall in my soul so that anytime anybody did something, purposely or not, to hurt me, even if they just said something that I didn't agree with, I would get

offended and put it behind my little wall and that's how I protected myself. I knew it was wrong. God had been speaking to me about it for years, to let it go, and I would let Him take bricks off time by time, but I wouldn't ever let Him get down far enough in the wall so that I would be exposed. I finally just said, "Lord, I'm on my knees and I'm before You, so You have to take it and I'm trusting You and I know that You will come in and fill me." I could feel Him working. That whole day and the whole next day, I could feel Him working in my soul and it was really very good. I don't remember exactly what He said to me, but after I got up from kneeling, I remember just having this big burden that I needed to repent openly and say something. Before I left the meeting, I had to get up at the pulpit and tell everyone that I was sorry for being offended with them. I was thinking, "Oh my goodness, Lord, You've got to be kidding me. That's like, huge. I don't do stuff like that." But I couldn't get away from it. It was just so heavy on me to do that, so I was like, "Ok, well, You're going to have to make the opportunity." So, I sat in the meeting and the whole time I was like, "I *have* to get up there. I *have* to get up there," and the meeting progressed and by the time we got to the end, I was just like, "I cannot handle this anymore." So I said, "Mr. Schneider, I have something to say, please." He said, "Oh, yeah, yeah, come right up." So I went up and I just told everyone what God had told me, that I really felt that I needed to repent to all of them and so I did. When I did it, I realized I'd done what God told me to do and that it was another step in the process of repenting. Of course, I have to repent to all of you guys for ridiculous things and I don't even remember them anymore because God's been removing them. After that, during the week, my "self"

would fall back and something would happen and I'd go protect my self and then I would say, "No," and I would push it down and I'd say, "I'm not protecting myself anymore." I had to work on it and I'm still working on it. My self still rises up in offence, but God has given me the grace to push self down and I know there are times when I walk away from a situation and when I get home at night, I say, "I let



Katie at Market

the devil win that one." So, I have to repent and let God remove that seed of offence from my soul.

After a little while, I thought, "Well, praise the Lord, He brought me down here to deliver me from offence. Yay!, I overcame." But that's not just what God had in mind. I was talking to Karen last week and this is what I was telling her. I said that it was like when I was home. I knew some of the stuff that I had to overcome, I mean some of the stuff I didn't even know existed, but the stuff I *knew* about I knew I had to overcome and God had been speaking to me about it, but I just refused to do it. "I'm too busy right

now. I have other things to do, God. I'll get to that later." But this summer, it was just like He would bring it and it would be there in front of my face, and I could not do anything until I repented. I mean, one day I was delivering restaurant orders in the car, by myself. I couldn't go anywhere, I was in the car, and I had to go to Champaign and do the orders. All I could do was repent. I had no alternate route, no detour signs, "Turn here." It was boom, here it is, we have to do something about it and we have to do something about it NOW. So, I was driving to Champaign and the tears were pouring out of my eyes and I was just praying. I said, "God, I can't go away. I can't do anything. I'm at the end of my rope; all I can do is repent. This is hard." Everything He asked of me was so much what I thought was me, you know, part of me, just the way I am. But He spoke to me and He said, "No, it's part of Katie, *the Adam nature*. It's not part of Katie, the son of God." So I had to say, "Ok, God. Take it; I'm giving it to You. I'm submitting it to You. I resist the devil and give it all to You." Every time I repented, I could feel Him take it out of me and then I would say, "God, show me what You want in that place instead."

You know, I could always feel His love and faithfulness just fill me with Him. It was just so amazing. I thought surely God would want to do something in me down there, I mean, why else would He want to send me down there for three months if I wasn't supposed to overcome something? But I never dreamed there would be a whole bunch of overcomings to get rid of a whole bunch of things before I could come home. I thought, "Gee, it's been an awful lot of submission, submission." Brother Burt would talk to us on Sunday morning before we went to fellowship and sometimes I'd be talking to Him about something God had been

speaking to me and every time He would say, "Well, you know what the answer is," and I would say, "Yeah, submission." It was always the answer, no matter what. I thought that God was speaking to just me, but I was talking to Wes one day, [and I found out it wasn't just me.] He had written an article in the KIT about submission and I said, "I really liked your article. It's what God has been speaking to me." He said, "Not only us, it's what God has been speaking to everybody!" I said, "Really? Well, I almost wrote an article on submission," and he said, "No, the article you wrote came out as an article about submission. The verse was in there. 'Resist the devil and he will flee,' and Melissa (Lux) put it in her article, too." And he started to tell me about how everyone had been telling him that and I said, "Wow, this is really something - that God has been speaking to us all the same thing. He's working on it in completely different avenues, but we're all learning the same thing. It's all submission."

It was really a blessing to me. I loved being down there and working with the brethren. It was very hard to leave here and go down there, but it was just as hard to come home again because I really got to love it down there and love the brethren and the work and I saw the need. I kept telling Susie, "I can't go home, I have to finish this. Let me just finish this one thing, because I know if I finish this one thing it will be less work for somebody else," and she was saying, "No, we have to go." So, it was hard to leave because I not only learned to love everyone down there, but I can see the work that God has and is doing down there.

That's the other thing. God just has been working amazingly down there. You guys probably heard that Mrs. Asbill was on the television. It was amazing. The weekend after that, we were just *swamped* in the store!

store. Ten customers in a day is, "Wah-hoo, we're busy!" But we had, I was looking at the register and I think I had forty-five transactions or something. And then when we butchered the chickens, Sister Shari and I sold a hundred and seventy odd chickens in three days, which was like $\frac{3}{4}$ of what we butchered. So, I could just see God working and bringing people. They came and they said, "I live down the road and I've never *ever* seen this place." And you're thinking, "We've been here for seven years. Where have you been?" And God would bring people in and they'd say, "I've been looking everywhere for good, organically grown produce. I've been looking everywhere. Where did you guys come from?" We would just say, "Well, we've been here for seven years." And it's been amazing to see God working and bringing the people in. I saw people who didn't know we existed and then they were coming in at least once a week, and saying, "I'm not going to the grocery store anymore." It was really just amazing to see God work and bring people. All of the sudden, we were known! We were there and it was amazing. It really was.

It was an awesome summer. What God did was just amazing but I'm glad to be home; I missed you guys. If you think of the brethren down there, pray for them, because the battle is not over. Kveta left Wednesday and Oliver's leaving tomorrow and that leaves them back to their core group and the summer is not over for them. It won't be over anytime soon. So, keep them in prayer, there is a lot of work to be done.

Sister Susan Herrig: Katie, how would we keep them in prayer?

Well, I would pray for strength. Pray against the bugs and the weeds. The bugs devoured the eggplant. We had none this year. It was just gone in a matter of a week. It was just completely gone. And really there's only so much we can do to fight it. Brother Burt said, "I'm thinking of sending you

out to exterminate with gloves and a bucketful of water," because that was about the only way to get rid of them. Pray for the fall crops. They planted some broccoli, but it got warm and all the broccoli went bitter. So, we had to go and find some elsewhere. Pray for strength. Pray that God would send people to buy the produce that we have, because we have five hundred tomato plants this year. There are tomatoes coming out of everything down there. There are tomatoes everywhere and we just need people to come and buy them because, not only do they taste good, but we have an excess of them. Pray that God would send even more people. You know, some people come in and they're like, "Can I have asparagus?" And we say, "Sorry, it's September, we don't have asparagus." So, we don't need people that want what we don't have, we need the people who want to buy *canning boxes* of tomatoes! So, I would pray that way. Pray for strength. Pray that God would send more people to help them, because really, they *need* more help. They work very long, hard hours and half their crew just left them. I'm not talking about Susie and me, I'm talking about everybody. That is all I can think of right this minute.

Susie: Well, the biggest thing is they just need more help because there is a lot of avenues to sell produce, a lot of restaurants that we would like to make contacts with. An idea is maybe they could even deliver to private homes but we need manpower to do that. I really don't know how Mrs. Asbill did it before Katie came, I really don't, because she works full-time and before Katie was there, she did Katie's job, too. It is just amazing that God is able to give you the strength and the ability, but at the same time He doesn't have it to be such a burden for just one or two and, you know, it's not a bad place to be. Mahomet. *It's a good place*. And it's just... I don't know. You would come home, but you wouldn't really be tired, even though

you had been digging potatoes for hours. You wouldn't be especially tired, and you can't be tired when you have Mrs. Asbill working like she does and then you get home and she's canning at nine-thirty at night. You just can't be tired. I would just encourage you, because *I know* that God has been speaking to people to go down there, because I know He was speaking to me over a year ago, and it took me that long to get there. I'm not saying that it wasn't God's timing. I know He is speaking to people out there that it is not just for these people alone. Then you think about the days when we're going to need to rush down there (for refuge) and we're thinking, "If only we had some of this done already." The building is half-finished and we could have more crops and more money to take care of things, you know? I think about it in that light. What it can be for us, refuge, it's meant to be for us and not only that, but the blessing that it is to work there and be with the brethren. It is awesome to work day in and day out with the brethren. I mean, we know what it's like from doing Esther and Little Tree, how much love we feel and how great a blessing it is. Kveta, she was so cute. We went walking out to the field and we had just come away from someone who was talking to us about the Lord and we had been fellowshiping. We walked past Tim on his cell phone, and he was like, "And I was reading in such-and-such, and the Lord was showing me this," and then we came over and there was Oliver and Wes just singing out in the fields. She said, "That is what I like about here. We get to fellowship all day long." You could constantly pray together and fellowship and it was always there, that you could be in that place of fellowship, which I don't think I've ever experienced before. Two solid months of fellowshiping. It's really nice. Very nice. So I would encourage anyone who ever thought about it that it's not just you thinking about it. *It is God!*

Katie: Don't sit on it. Act on it. It's like Brother duCille says, "I wish we could have a month long convention." It's really easy. You just go to Mahomet for the summer and you get a three month long convention! Praise the Lord.

Susie

Written October 2005

My time in Mahomet started out on a very nice note: the July 4th convention. The meetings were very good. The Lord really spoke to me through the different words and teachings that were given. The real digesting, understanding and the working out of that understanding started after the convention. I learned so much in Mahomet, but perhaps the three most important, or rather the ones I will write about are: agape love, submission (which is a by-product of love) and the profitable and unprofitable servant.

There were six of us out-of-town/country-visitors/First Fruits workers. Besides my sister Katie and myself, Kveta Kotrlova and Oliver Capcik came from the Czech Republic and



Katie and Susie on the Farm

Slovakia for three months. Martin Hloska, who is also from Czech, came for three weeks, and Melissa Lux from Dubuque came for three weeks in August.

We have all been asked to write testimonies, and of the two that I have read thus far, (and other articles written by KIT staffers) they seem to have one common theme or aspect running through them all: submission.

At the breakfast table Sunday

morning of the conference, Mr. Asbill began to talk with us about submission and deference. He said that you can do everything that you are told to do and you can have an acceptable attitude about it, but if you don't have Agape love for that person or in the circumstance which you are in submission to, you really don't or can't have true deference. I began to understand what deference really means. I know what agape means. Agape is

God's love, love that is powerful, love that, no matter what, you would lay down your life. I knew I didn't have that kind of love. So my question was, "How do I get it?" The answer came that same day. Mr. duCille gave a message on agape love. He shared that the closest we can come to comprehending the agape love of God that we should be attaining, is the love of a mother for her child. So, we should begin to imitate and exercise that kind of thinking and attitude towards each other. As we do that, we will find that it grows into and develops into agape.

I realized that I could take this principal and use it. I knew that there were things, people and circumstances that I didn't have true submission to. So, throughout the summer in Mahomet, every time I began to think about someone or some situation, I would begin to think, almost pretend as if I really loved it, especially with different people. Thinking of them as I think of my mom or dad, brother or sister, trying to see them as God sees them, recognizing the calling and election on their lives. The more and longer I did this I began to see that my whole thought process and my feelings began to change. I didn't need to "pretend." I wanted to do those things that were uncomfortable, even if they required me to lay down my "life." It was as if I had gotten a little glimpse of what agape is.

My original plan was to stay in Mahomet for about 5 weeks. I had planned to get home mid or early August because of a prior commitment at home, but that changed and I had the choice to stay longer. I struggled with this choice because I would have liked to go home, but I had a small indescribable desire to stay.

One morning, Mr. Asbill asked me when I was leaving to go home. After I explained it all to him, he said that it was my decision to pray about and make. He only expressed that he would be sorry to see me leave prematurely. The word *prematurely* re-

ally stuck to me. When I was praying about it, the Lord spoke to me Philippians 1:6, ***Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:*** Further in that same chapter in verses 22-25 it says, ***But if I live in the flesh, this is the fruit of my labour: yet what I shall choose I wot not.*** ²³ ***For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better:*** ²⁴ ***Nevertheless to abide in the flesh is more needful for you.*** ²⁵ ***And having this confidence, I know that I shall abide and continue with you all for your furtherance and joy of faith;***

It was very clear to me that it was more needful for me to abide. Something greater needed to be done in me, and that work would not be accomplished if I left. So, I made the decision to stay; to abide. The Lord began to speak to me about how and what it meant for me to abide. He spoke to me out of the 15th chapter of John, starting with verse 1, ***I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. 2 Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit. 3 Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you. 4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. 5 I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing. 6 If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned.***

So, here was another aspect of submission: submitting to God. Letting him do that work which bringeth forth much fruit, but first I must (abide) submit to the circumstances which God

has put in my life to purge and remove those things in me that cause me not to bear fruit. My eyes continued scanning down through this chapter and stopped on verses 9-11, ***As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love.*** ¹⁰ ***If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love.*** ¹¹ ***These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full.*** The word "love" in these verses is *agape*, so there it is again, *agape*. Of course, I must agape God and through agapeing (is that a word?☺) God, I will submit myself and do His commandments. Then He gives the commandment. Verse 12, ***This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you.*** ¹³ ***Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.***

So, here I was back at the beginning: loving my brethren by laying down my life, and my personal preferences. So it seems to me that God was showing me that there were things in my soul that needed to be purged, and He had brought these different circumstances into my life to do that purging, and He was asking me to submit and abide under that purging. One of these things was definitely submission and my lack of agape towards my brethren and especially those to whom I should show deference.

I came to very much enjoy my time of abiding in Mahomet. Working with the brethren there was a real blessing. It isn't very often that we are able to labor with brethren on a daily basis and it can be an awesome experience: one that I very much appreciated. Everyday fellowshiping as we worked in the fields or at market was a wonderful way to work.

One Sunday, Kate Trotter gave a children's word out of Luke 17:7-10, ***But which of you, having a servant plowing or feeding cattle, will say***

unto him by and by, when he is come from the field, Go and sit down to meat? ⁸ And will not rather say unto him, Make ready wherewith I may sup, and gird thyself, and serve me, till I have eaten and drunken; and afterward thou shalt eat and drink? ⁹ Doth he thank that servant because he did the things that were commanded him? I trow not. ¹⁰ So likewise ye, when ye shall have done all those things which are commanded you, say, We are unprofitable servants: we have done that which was our duty to do.

In the children's word, Sister Kate used a skit to parallel these verses. In the skit there were two men, Mr. Vince and Mr. Sonny, and they worked for the King. Every morning they would both get up bright and early. The King would tell them what they were to do that day. They both would work very hard and diligently all day. Then in the evening they would prepare supper and serve the King. Up to this point, Mr. Vince and Mr. Sonny had done exactly the same: they had both worked very hard and both had been cheerful and obedient workers, but after the King had eaten and everything was cleaned up, Mr. Vince would eat his own dinner and fall into bed for much needed sleep. Mr. Sonny would go and sit with his master and talk with him and learn and do everything he could to see to the needs of the King. After he saw the King to bed he would make sure everything was cleaned up, he would check on the other sleeping servants, and see if the night watchman was watching, and then after everything was done he would eat his own supper and go to bed. After many years, the King, who had come to love Mr. Sonny very

much, decided that he would adopt him and he would not call him Mr. Sonny anymore but he would call him Son.


Now, I had never thought of it this way before. The unprofitable servants did only that which was commanded them to do. In other words they did everything they were told to do, which makes them good servants, right? Wrong! The Lord started to show me many different examples in the Bible of profitable and unprofitable, and the unprofitable servant always met an acceptable mark, but they don't bring any profit or increase. They have the good but not the best.

The Lord showed me in the Book of Ruth when Naomi tells Orpah and Ruth to go back to their home, that they don't have to come with her to Judah. Orpah did as she was told but Ruth insisted that she would stay with Naomi. In the end, Ruth is a profitable servant to Naomi because she did more than what was asked of her to do. Another example is in Matthew 25 in the parable of the three servants who were given five talents, two talents and one talent. Matthew 25:26-30, *His lord answered and said unto him, Thou wicked and slothful servant, thou knewest that I reap where I sowed not, and gather where I have not strawed: ²⁷ Thou oughtest therefore to have put my money to the exchangers, and then at my coming I should have received mine own with usury. ²⁸ Take therefore the talent from him, and give it unto him which hath ten talents. ²⁹ For unto every one that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath. ³⁰ And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer dark-*

ness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

The Bible doesn't say that the three servants were instructed as to what they should do with the talents. The two profitable servants knew what to do. The unprofitable servant didn't really know his master, for if he did know him he would have done even that which was not commanded of him to do. If he knew his master, he would have known his master's business, as Mr. Sonny knew his master and was a son to him.

Even on the farm at First Fruits I saw this. My sister would ask me a question and I would answer, "I don't know, I just do what I am told." I realized that even though I really didn't know the answer to her question, I was still unhelpful. As I looked around at different ones who have worked on the farm for some time, I saw that they knew what to do because they had expended themselves to learn, to know what needs to be done. The spiritual side is that I can do all that I am told to do but if I don't expand myself beyond my own comfortable, irresponsible position of ignorance of God in that I don't know Him and seek to know Him as a son, then I am an unprofitable servant.

Sister Mavis gave a word during the conference on profitable and unprofitable she gave the example of Onesimus in Philemon 1:10, *I beseech thee for my son Onesimus, whom I have begotten in my bonds: ¹¹ Which in time past was to thee unprofitable, but now profitable to thee and to me:* She said that when we find our unprofitable ways we can work on them to make them profitable. We can become profitable servants because that is what God wants; God wants sons. 



The Washing of the Water...



...by the Word

Czech Republic
Conference,
September/October
2005

A LETTER FROM MERLINDA AND MARISSA SWITZERLAND

Dear Brethren,

Glory to God in the highest! Praise the Lord, hallelujah! I and my sister, Marissa, thank God for bringing us together into one Body. We thank God for all of your lives. In fact, we are so blessed to have you all as our brothers and sisters in Christ. We thank God for all your labor of love.

Our convention in Prague was so beautiful and wonderful an experience with the presence of the Lord Jesus and fellowship with the brethren. When we are in the presence of God, we forget everything except to focus and concentrate on the presence of God.

Moreover, we are so blessed with the Word of God that was all spoken through the speakers (elders). We were also touched by the film of Esther when Mordecai (Brother George Herrig) began to cry out with a loud and bitter cry. As sons of God, this is also reflecting us. God spoke to me that we will spend more time in praying and talking to God and crying out to Him for help. It pleases and causes Him to rejoice. We are also encouraged with the prophecy that was given to us through Brother Burt. We are very much in love with the Lord Jesus, for He is such a wonderful, faithful, great and awesome God, merciful Father,



living God, everlasting God and mighty God. He is the truth, justice, righteousness and perfection!

On February 15, 2005, God took us out from the church system. We give praise, honor and glory to Him. We also thank God for the lives of Brother Sia and Sister Nasi. God used them to tell us the Kingdom message. And of course with the three books of Revelation from Brother Cecil, I thank God for his life and Sister Mavis. We have been in many communities seeking and continually searching for Him. God sees our heart. The Bible says, in Hebrews 11:6, that God is the rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

I, your sister Merlinda, before I came to Switzerland in 1988, was already charismatic at that time. I saw a vision like a ball. The color was green and was turning and turning on that time. I knew it was the earth. I knew I would be going to travel and God had a plan for me. I have been traveling a lot and now it comes to reality that I will be traveling for the Lord and for my brethren. All the visions that I had in 1995, 1996, and 2000 have come to pass. That's why I now very strongly believe that this is the real church or the real Body of Christ which is being prepared from God. (The sons of God) That's the reason also that I will willingly and joyfully die for Jesus, for my brethren, and even the world. As a Body of Christ, we have to love one another, encourage one another and

pray for one another. As I've learned, we cannot have fullness in Christ without depending first of all on Jesus and with one another. So, it's very important that we are in contact and intact in one Body. May the Lord help us.

God bless you all richly. We love you all.

In Christ,

Sister Merlinda and Sister Marissa

P.S. Please pray for the salvation of our family in Switzerland and the Philippines. Thanks.



CEASING TO BE A SON OF YOUR FATHER...

...BECOMING A SON OF GOD

BY PAUL DAVIS

MAHOMET, ILLINOIS

During the recent conference in the Czech Republic the major focus was on the message of sonship and how to attain to it. There were many excellent messages continuing to build on the theme of dying to oneself and moving upward in God. It is for certain that as we are in the last days, Almighty God, who is the Creator of us all, is seeing to it that the message is sounded loud and clear. He is desirous that we should know that death to ourselves is first and foremost on His agenda. "It is time to give up the coat of arms of your fathers and put on the coat of Yeshua. We have to reject the ways of our ancestors in order to be one with Christ." These words came forth in Brother duCille's opening message. The message of the tabernacle with its continual activity of denial to self and proclamation of YHWH is the clarion cry of this hour.

As his visions of the end of the great tribulation and the great atomic war of 2008 were clearly laid out by Brother duCille, it was made very clear in a follow-up message by Brother Kotrla that the period of the 3½ years when the sons of God are given power to save the earth from destruction will begin sometime during 2008. It was a testimony to the goodness of God to see to it that the message that was begun last year in Jamaica has been con-

firmed and fleshed out for all who have ears to hear. It was also encouraging to have Brother duCille concur with the conclusion.

Even in the midst of such a word there came continual nuggets of food that will help to sustain us in the days ahead. While speaking about faith, it was pointed out that every workman has a substance with which he works: an electrician with wires, a carpenter with wood, a plumber pipe, a lawyer words, a son of God faith. In addition to this substance of faith, we were admonished to add virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience and godliness.

With the addition of godliness we must also display bowels of compassion for our brethren by loving them as love for our family.

An interesting point was made regarding the ministration of this brotherly love in that the sisters were admonished to know where the sick are, where the weak and stumbling ones are and that, with this knowledge, they ought to be in prayers and fastings for the deliverance of the Body. This is the ministry of the women that is pleasing in God's sight.

Again the covenant with YHWH was declared from the scripture of Hebrews 8:10 wherein the Lord says, "I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God and they shall be to me a people." It was declared that God shall rule the nations from our soul. Therefore He must see to it that His faith will cause us to be made perfect in this human flesh as we believe in His ability to perfect us. God will begin to purify our minds as we dwell upon His word. It was reiterated that through our meditation on God's word we find our way of escape when sin seeks to overwhelm us. Along with this meditation there also comes a necessity of prayer and fastings to break the strongholds of our father's inheritance upon us. Now is the time when we must break through for the sake of our children. We must command the deliverance for our children in order that the sons of God may be manifest.

Brother Kluson brought out some interesting points regarding the picture of the Body of Christ in the tabernacle. He pointed out to us that the boards are 1.5 cubits wide and that this number alone has no significance, just like an individual standing alone as a Christian means nothing. However, when two are placed together, that makes three cubits and this three we know is the number of fullness. This is repeated ten times, thereby showing the order of God as we are connected to the Body of Christ. Now, within this divine order we see that Christ is the anchor of hope in the Holy of Holies. When this hope is made manifest in our souls it is no longer hope but instead it becomes the glory of God. As the glory of God appears within our souls it propels us into the place of God's goal

for us. That is, that we should become a “quickenning spirit” to give life to the world where death has reigned for so long.

In the continuation of this message, Brother Kotrka explained to us the message of the altar of incense. He clearly defined the purposes of suffering in our lives for the working of the golden altar in us. It ought to be that we are laying down our lives, even at times suffering through stepping down as it were to a lower place in order that our brother might come up higher. This was the ministration of Christ to the Body and was the action of giving up of his soul at the altar of incense. It was this action of suffering and laying down of His soul in order for the suffering to be accomplished that propelled Him into the Holy of Holies. So, too, it will be for us.

In another message concerning the altar of incense, Brother duCille pointed out that it was here that the high priest made intercession for himself and for all the people. In this intercession there was a pure burning of the incense leaving behind no residue, just a sweet smell and a cloud raised up to God. This is what the offering of our soul is to be. Yeshua says that He is knocking at our mind’s door and that we are to stop thinking of our own business and see to it that we are concerned about His business. We are to begin to command the deliverance of our soul. We are to command the coming of the Kingdom of God within.

A final thought coming from our Brother Asbill that has had me thinking about my responsibility toward this gospel of the Kingdom: “If we are able to lay hold of the understanding of the realms of principalities ruling within heaven and hell we will be a formidable weapon in the hands of God.” I can see from this perspective that surely the house of my father must die in order that I might come forth as a son of God.

On a more personal note, I received prayer for deliverance from arthritis in my lower back and other extremities and God has been faithful to bring the healing. Amen.

THE RAIN OF MY WORD
BY PAVLINA DAVIS
MAHOMET, ILLINOIS

Driving home from the Florida conference one time, I kept looking at the beautiful sky with clouds gathering together and I was shouting with joy, “God, this is such a beauty!” I heard the voice of the Lord speak back to me, “What do you suppose happens when the right clouds in the right quantity gather together?” “Well,” was my reply, “I suppose it rains.” “It sure does, My daughter,” He said, “and it is the same with My people. When they gather together to worship Me and seek My face, the rain of My Word comes to strengthen them and show them the direction of their path.”

And so it was even this year in the Czech Republic. God was again faithful to His Word and as we gathered together in His name, He was there to bless us and do us good. Instead of giving you the whole overview of the conference, let me just pull out a few thoughts that were planted into my heart and that the Spirit of God keeps bringing back as I take care of my daily business. I trust they will also become food for thought to you.

The conference started with an admonishment to open up the eastern gate, the everlasting doors, of our soul (which is our mind), and let the King of Glory come in. Do you sometimes wonder what you are to do, what God is asking of you? Well, it was plainly stated that we know very well what to do, but we don’t know how to do it. The answer is found in Psalm 24:7, *Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in.* Jesus cannot come in for all those barriers we hold inside. Therefore, let us uncloud our souls from all our national as well as familiar inheritances so that our loved ones, including our brethren, might receive God’s life being poured out through our vessels.

God seems to be warning us all over and over again that we are not ready for the things which are coming. I have no doubt He is telling us the truth. Brother Asbill shared the reason for this: we don’t take the words, which God is so faithfully sending us, to heart. We don’t meditate on them, we don’t make them part of our daily “diet,” and therefore they have no power to work out a change within us. We always think the problem we have is somebody else instead of us, but the opposite is true. We make excuses that we are only human, forgetting that hell works on the basis of humanism and we were given all power to rise up above it. I wonder what would happen if we decided we wouldn’t believe these lies anymore and rose up against our own humanity. Don’t you think we would become like God, divine?

Brother duCille was explaining the current situation in Israel and comparing it to the condition of today’s church. I, particularly, was very blessed by it as my thoughts have recently gone in that direction quite a bit. Israel has given up Gaza and even negotiates about handing the West Bank over to the Palestinians. The reason being that there are only a few Israelites living in these areas, they are very dispersed and it has become financially extremely demanding to defend them against the enemy. However, by doing this, Israel got into a defensive position. And as the natural Israel is a picture of the church, we can see that the church, instead of being offensive in their battles against their enemies, they have surrendered and took a defensive position. May the Lord help us to be on the offensive side no matter what the rest of the church is doing. We were not called to retreat from the devil and his servants but to attack the gates of hell, which shall not prevail against us.

Another thought that God thought important to bring forth were the subjects of unity and faith. Based on II Peter 1:4-8 we can see that our progress starts with FAITH. Unless we have faith, the rest of the Godly qualities cannot follow. But if we have faith, then we need to add VIRTUE, which is Godly intention. Virtue can then be followed by KNOWLEDGE, as without virtue, knowledge is death. Then next one to come is TEMPERANCE, followed by PATIENCE, which is the ability to wait when everything else is telling you to hurry. GODLIKENESS is Godlikeness and BROTHERLY LOVE means love for your family, friends, and pleasant people. Brotherly love could also be translated by other scriptures as the BOWELS OF COMPASSION. And finally we add to them all GOD'S LOVE. God is not satisfied when we have only brotherly love, for the only way we all can be one is in His agape love. We were offered God's perfection and this perfection is AGAPE LOVE. Are we going to take it? II Peter 1:10-11 says, *Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall: For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.*



The subject of the Body of Christ has become one of my favorite ones. It is so exciting to think about the ultimate plan God has on this earth, which is to bring forth His sons and unite them in one being with one head only! It is even more exciting to see it come together even though it is still only in small bits and pieces. There were three speakers touching this particular subject. However, the main topic was: How do I know I am in the Body of Christ and not running around outside in the Outer Court? There were many points mentioned followed by much personal repentance and renewing of the individuals' covenant with God. Here are just some of them for you to think about:

- If you are subject to any other order but the order of God, you are not in the Body of Christ.

- In order to be in the Body of Christ you first have to have gold (there is no gold in the Outer Court). This signifies that you have to be able to hear from God. Without hearing from God you won't be able to hear the ministry that God sends.

This second point brings me to a thought I heard min-

istered some time ago: Do you know what is the first thing that a baby starts to recognize about himself/herself after being born? It is his/her hands. This is a marvelous parallel with the Body of Christ. The first thing we start recognizing is the ministry God has sent to us, which is represented by the hand. Isn't that marvelous? Therefore, if you do not recognize the ministry, or speak against the ministry, which is basically the same, it is one of the indicators that you are not in the Body of Christ.

Jesus made an interesting statement in John 5:38, *And ye have not his (the Father's) word abiding in you: for whom he hath sent, him ye believe not* (talking about Himself). I have no doubt that the same statement refers to those who do not recognize nor receive the word coming through the ministry of God as well as through the Body of Christ.

If you are walking and growing in agape love, that is one sign of being in the Body of Christ.

In the last meeting that many of us had the privilege to spend together, even though it actually was after the conference, we heard

Brother duCille talk about "Thy Kingdom Come" (Matthew 6:10). If God gave us dominion over everything, why would we beg Him for things? We have to start commanding them to existence. It is time we began to command the Kingdom of God to come into our souls.

Based on a vision Brother duCille had that particular morning, the subject of Noah came up. We heard about Noah's righteousness, faithfulness, and preciseness in building the ark – all of the qualities God is requiring of us in this hour. Hebrews 11:7 says, *By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.* He received the warning, believed it and moved with fear in order to accomplish God's command. What an example for us! One thing that very much stood out to me about Noah this time was the fact of his natural life and circumstances. God spoke to him about building the ark when he was 480 years old. When he was 500 he begat Shem, Ham, and Japheth (Genesis 5:32). He was 600 when the waters of the flood came on the earth (Genesis 7:6). We can, therefore, see that initially Noah did not have these three big boys to

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In Christ

By Sister Terry Smith



None can come unto the Father – but by Me. John 14:6, *Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.*

None can come unto the Son – unless the Father draw them. John 6:44, *No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day.*

I have pondered these two thoughts so many times and always in total amazement of what it is saying. We know that we have been predestinated and chosen to be a part of God's glorious Body of Christ, and that God has seen in each one of us that ability to complete the race we have begun and to reach the fullness of Christ as sons of God. It is amazing enough that the Father knew us before the creation of the world, but then to find out that it is something that is offered to "WHOSOEVER WILL."

In John the gospel, we see in verse 9 that Christ Jesus is the true light which lighteth EVERY MAN that cometh into the world. EVERY - not some, not a few, but this light is offered to EVERY man. In verse 12 we are told that to all who received Him they received the power to become sons of God. What am I trying to say - please read these verses in John and I will continue. John 1:1, *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²The same was in the beginning with God. ³All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴In him was life; and the life was the light of men. ⁵And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not. ⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe. ⁸He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. ⁹That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. ¹¹He came unto his own,*

and his own received him not. ¹²But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: ¹³Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

First of all, the Father draws men to Christ (except the Father draw them) and as shown above in verses 9 and 12, salvation by the Blood of Christ Jesus is available to "WHOSOEVER WILL" accept it. That is all mankind. So, the Father has salvation made available for ALL men - I still like the "WHOSOEVER." Salvation will enable a soul to be made alive and to enter the gate to the Outer Court.

That's easy enough - right? What about entering into Christ? What about knowing the Father? Both of those seem to be parallel to each other. When we are told that "none can come unto the Father but by Me," we are told that one cannot KNOW the Father until he is walking IN CHRIST = but by Me. Why would that be any different? The apostles were told by Jesus that if they hear Him, they also hear the Father. Jesus and the Father are one. John 14:8, *Philip saith unto him, Lord, shew us the Father, and it sufficeth us. ⁹Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Shew us the Father?*

So we understand that having a knowledge of Jesus Christ and walking with Him and talking with Him is not KNOWING Him. Christ is in you, but you are not yet in Christ. To have an intimate relationship with Jesus Christ, you are knowing Him and thus He and the Father are one, so you are knowing the Father, also. Sounds easy enough - BUT to go from the Outer Court to the Holy Place to enter into Christ (the door) is harder to

walk than it is to talk. Having knowledge of all of the Holy Place furnitures and activities will puff you up if you are not actively applying each to your daily walk in the Lord. I Corinthians 8:1, *Now as touching things offered unto idols, we know that we all have knowledge. Knowledge puffeth up, but charity edifieth.* So we don't want to just know about being in Christ. We want to actually BE in Christ. We are given numerous instructions on what is in Christ and what is a rebellious or disobedient way to walk. I believe that most of us should be familiar with putting on the whole armor of God, partaking of the divine nature, bearing the fruits of the Spirit, not I, but Christ must be ruling/reigning in our souls, cleansing ourselves of all unrighteousness and superfluity of naughtiness, His sheep know His voice and they follow Him, love the Lord your God with your whole heart, soul, mind and being, love your neighbor as yourself, and there are so many more.

What is the main factor that determines if you are hearing these instructions and doing them? There is one particular difference between the hearing in the Outer Court and the hearing in the Holy Place. Do you know what it is?

In the Outer Court, you are busily trying to serve God while you do all the things that you want to do. Your will, desires, emotions, mind are all ruling and reigning over your soul while you have Christ in you, you are making Him go where ever you want to go, doing what you want to do, thinking your thoughts, acquiring your desires to please your emotions and your wills. You are very SELF-CONSCIOUS and only GOD-CONSCIOUS enough to sound good, but your life is in reality not walking what you are talking. You are pursuing KNOWLEDGE and INTELLECT instead of pursuing a personal relationship with Christ Jesus. Your best friend is YOU - your thoughts are YOU - you may have the vocabulary, you may be able to preach wonderful sermons, you may be able to quote excellently, but you lack the one thing that will actually take you from the Outer Court into the DOOR = Christ and that is a desire to know Christ Jesus personally and intimately more than you desire or want anything else in the whole world.

As we begin in Matthew 6:32, to seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness - as we begin to give the proper response to the Words that the five-fold ministry or the hand of God brings to us, then God will complete the verse in your life - and all these things shall be added unto you. When you get to this place, all these things will be on a higher plane, on an eternity plane, which only means that you will be desiring more of God and His glory, His Christ-likeness coming forth in your

being. In the Outer Court all these things mean money, cars, houses, ministries, prestige, and many other things. When you lay all those down and submit yourself to the mighty hand of God, He promises He will lift you up - into Christ, into the eternity realm, into the spiritual walk in the Lord that we thought we had in the Outer Court.

In the Holy Place you are busily trying to serve God by doing all the things that God would have you do for His purpose. You are trying to rid your own soul of all impurities in your mind, will, desires and emotions while asking God to create in you a clean heart and renew a right (His) spirit within you. You are pursuing knowing and doing God's purposes instead of seeking your own purposes. You are being renewed and transformed by the putting on of the mind of Christ - while rejecting your own. You are asking God to increase within you so that you can decrease. You are no longer SELF-CONSCIOUS, but you are becoming more and more GOD-CONSCIOUS. Eternity is your reality now, and New Jerusalem, the heavenly city, is your longing. You are no more American - Canadian - you are a citizen of the living God, your King is Christ Jesus.

Next time you hear, "No one can come unto the Father, but by Me," (IN CHRIST) and, "No one can come unto the Son except the Father draw them" (and they receive the salvation that is offered to them). If you are not sure if you are IN CHRIST, ask the Father to help you know. Be willing to lay down all, even your own wonderful qualities, to be filled with all that Christ is. Be willing to die that He might live in you. If these things are not your heart's desire, ask God to give you a great desire for the things that are of His Kingdom. He will.

I will tell you of my own experience. I begged, "God, don't let me be a foolish virgin." "God, don't let me be found without oil in my vessel." I cried and begged and cried and begged and do you know what God did? He quickened me so that I could wake out of sleep (spiritually) and press on to the hope of the mark of the high calling in Christ Jesus. When I was crying and begging, I didn't know it, but I was actually running around the Outer Court, and thinking that I had it all. The Holy Spirit knew, and that, I'm sure, is why I kept begging God. When God quickened me, and I awakened, I realized that I had a really long, hard race to run to redeem the time I had wasted. I'm more aware now than ever that I have so much to learn about our Lord and His Word. Not intellectual learning, but enlightenment and enlargement and going from phileo love to agape love.

Another peculiar thing about all of this - I eventually quit begging God and just got busy seeking His face and
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Get **T**in Touch with **G**od

By
Melissa Trotter

Jesus said in John 15:4, *Abide in me, and I in you.* The one and only way to be like Christ is to abide in Him and let Him abide in me. This is the pinnacle of achievement!

I have a testimony to share about God's faithfulness and love and what God has made so clear to me through it. My problems of late have really caused me to search, to ask, to beg God for answers. I have found that tribulation truly does something to my humanity so that when I come to the end of myself, there is nowhere to turn but to God. There is a fearsome, strong, despicable enemy of my soul that ultimately causes many more problems for me than Satan ever does. The devil is good at provoking or tempting this enemy to bow to his devices. This major hindrance to my being a son of God is SELF. It is not other people's self. It is my own self. In me, in my flesh, dwelleth no good thing (Romans 7:18).

There was a word that the Lord gave Brother Peter that he has spoken about many times, but I never thought about it much until I began to see my own soul acting like how he said. (See also the word entitled *A Time Of Precision* by Brother Peter in the September 11, 2005 KIT.) In my words, what the Lord told him is that everything that is done in secret is going to be shouted from the rooftops and he wondered who it was who would shout his stuff. God's answer was that it wasn't about shouting another man's stuff, but that the restraint upon men is being removed and they will feel the liberty to do the hidden wickedness that is in their hearts that they did not repent of.

So, I felt like I was doing pretty well with the Lord,

but obviously He thought I needed a change. The change didn't come in any dramatic outward circumstance, but it came in my heart. Ugly, horrible things in my soul began to come out and show themselves. I was horrified, but at the same time, had carnal excuses for what I said and did. In fact, they appealed to my humanity in a way that was wickedly enjoyable. Now, there is no point in saying any specifics, and the only reason I'm writing it at all is that I believe my flesh is no different than anyone else's. I believe God wants His sons to grow up and He is instituting specially prepared pin pricks, or seemingly pounding nails, to see what will come forth from our hearts. I believe God really is loosing the restraints upon men. Out there in the world, it is quite obvious that things are getting worse and worse. In here, in what we call the Body of Christ, self is also manifesting. The only difference is that if I consider myself a part of Christ, I better do something about this manifestation of flesh, because it shows the reality of who is on my throne. So, I saw myself acting and saying as self directed and I tried to stop it. After awhile, God got through my hard head and I realized that I really needed more of God's power than I thought I had. In other words, I needed to get closer to Christ somehow. I needed answers to my questions and solutions to my problems and I knew I would need to go deeper into God to get them. I knew Jesus was right there waiting for me to submit and ask Him, too, but self is pretty stubborn and flesh dies hard, so there was more He had to teach me. Oh, how great is His faithfulness.

There was a Sunday morning meeting in August where

the spirit of God was moving mightily during the singing. There was a huge sense in my heart of the awesomeness of God and how small I am in His presence, of how insignificant flesh is, of how important He is. Someone started the song, "I see the Lord, He is high and lifted up and His train fills the temple, the angels cry holy is the Lord." Then another verse goes on to say, "I see the Lord, His eyes are like the fire and His face like the lightning." As we began to sing this, I was sitting in my chair holding Asher and it felt like a physical force of the glory of God was pushing me down. It was like I could have ignored it, opened my eyes and forced it away, but I didn't want to. I knew it was God and I kept my eyes closed and could see, in a vision, the glory and brightness of God over the room, over me and over my baby. Then, as the song went on, the vision changed and I was in a nice, neat room, like a living room. There were plants by the window, the sunshine was streaming in, the carpet had just been vacuumed and it looked good. I was aware that this was my doing, that this was where I lived – it was ME – in other words, my self, my heart. There was a knock on the door and I opened it with a smile to see a very ordinary looking man standing there holding a bucket with a scrub brush in it. I knew it was Jesus and I invited Him in. My house looked good and I wanted Him to be proud of me. I was proud of myself! But He just walked briskly across the room, not seeing any of it and stopped in front of a closed door. He said, "What is in there?" I said, "Oh, You don't want to go in there," because I knew there was all manner of darkness and dirtiness in that room. He just looked at me and in the vision He changed from the ordinary looking man, and His eyes became like fire and His face like the lightning and there was absolutely no pretending with Him. He desired to go in that room and after a glance at His glorious face, I bowed my head, grasped the door handle, opened the door, fell on my face and said, "Oh, Jesus, I am so sorry." I felt very ashamed and very exposed before Him. He entered that room with His bucket and scrub brush and then the vision left. Later in that meeting, I shared the vision with everyone else because I believe it applies to all of us, not just me.

In thinking and meditating on the vision, I saw that God laid out the way to go quite clearly. The plain fact of it is that my heart is not pure and undefiled. I have taken and continue to take a good, hard look at SELF and exam-

ine what I have ignored and shut up and what Jesus wants to touch. The simplicity of it has impacted me because as I was aware of the supremacy of the Lord Jesus, submitted to His desires, opened the door and repented before Him, He went in and cleaned. This vision was an answer to prayer for me and I marvel even now, as I go back and think about it, how it answers some of my prayers this very day. Talk about an answer before I ask the question!

The Bible says in James 4:2, "Ye have not because ye ask not." One of the things God showed me through medi-

tating on the vision I had is that God wants me to ask Him to clean my heart. It may seem kind of simplistic, but I believe human nature is this way. It could be called pride or independence or even simpler: I can do it myself, I don't need help. God wants a humble and contrite heart, a humbleness of mind in asking His help. He is right there to give it! But He doesn't barge His way in. In my vision, I opened the doors. More often I would complain and state my problems to the Lord, instead of ask Him to fix them. My children demonstrate this self nature every day. For example, "Mommy, my cup is empty." What they mean is that they want me to jump up and put some water in it. I want them to remember how to ask nice for something

they want, so if I ignore them, it gets louder, "Mooommy, my cup is empty!!!" Finally, I'll say, "Well, how do you ask nicely for something?" My attitude towards God is a lot of times similar, "God, my heart is wicked in this way, my thoughts aren't pure and righteous, that person makes me angry and I don't want to be angry." All along, He is grieving like my mother's heart is doing when the children state their thing. He is thinking, "Why don't you just humble yourself, repent and ask Me to fix it?" The fact is, the children are in a position of pride and arrogance when they demand, "My cup is empty!" It is an attitude like I am their servant that has to fetch their water for them. My attitude with God is just as despicable when I tell Him all my troubles and expect a response from Him. No, He desires a bowing down, a humbleness, a contriteness, a repentance for that wickedness. He wants me to ask Him to come in and clean my heart. And when He exposes a room, a sin, He so greatly desires us to open the door, get on our knees and repent.

James 4:14 says, *For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.* My self-life is like a vapour. Before I know it, it



Melissa

will be over. And what will abide? I John 2:17 says, ***And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.*** When I think of my life like this, the lusts of my mind, my will, my emotions and my desires passing away, the importance of eternity and abiding forever takes the higher priority in my thoughts. Yielding to self and the tiny pleasures that brings to the flesh is becoming less and less satisfying. In fact, the Lord is doing a good job convicting me and giving me the guilty feeling when I have gone my own way. Verse 16 in I John 2 speaks about the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the pride of life. When Jesus was tempted of the devil, he responded to Satan's temptation to the lust of the flesh with a verse from the Old Testament. It is found in Deuteronomy 8:3, but Jesus quoted it in Matthew 4:4 like this, ***It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.*** It said to me that eating natural food satisfies my natural body, but the Word of God will also satisfy my natural body. If I am battling the lust of the flesh, especially regarding a lust for a certain type of food, the Word of God will quench that lust, even to the point of my body submitting so much that I no longer desire it, because I will live by the Word of God. I am finding that things like this sound great in theory. I have heard and read and spoken of them for a long time, but the true victory is in doing it. And it truly is victory. It is great victory for my soul when I stop and listen to the still small voice and wage battle against the strong lusts within me that rise up like waves to cover me and bring me down to despair. That is where the Lord says, "Be still and know that I am God. Greater is He that is in you than He that is in the world. Look up, for your redemption draweth nigh. Stand still and see the salvation of the Lord." I must remember to look up above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God, where He

has a place prepared for me, high above every power that wants to bring me down right now. I'm always telling the children, "Make the decision in your heart. It is much easier to submit than to go on rebelling. You will be happy when you submit because the battle will be over and Jesus will be on the throne." I tell you, training children is excellent insight into how God desires us to be before Him!

There is a song I heard that goes like this, "Get in touch with God, turn your radio on. Turn your radio on and the glory share, turn your lights down low and listen to the Master's radio." The key to subduing self is to get in touch with God. Brother Burt was sharing with the bulletin staff one meeting night and he said that the Keeping In Touch bulletin was not just a nice name meaning that we stay connected with each other, but the greater meaning of it was to stay in touch with God. Our work in writing for it and putting it out is a result of keeping in touch with God and our prayer is that the content of it will keep you in touch with God and encourage you to get in touch with God. The song is somewhat silly, but it reminds of the different frequencies that different stations operate on. You cannot get two on one frequency. God wants our hearts totally tuned in to Him, to be in the exact right frequency to hear the Holy Spirit. It is impossible to overcome self and squelch it without hearing the Holy Spirit. I need to turn my lights down low so I cannot see all the distractions, to be alone and listen to the Master. He has a lot to say. We need to tune in! And He will share His glory with us. He will empower me to walk the straight and narrow way, as I listen and obey.

I pray that you are as encouraged as I am to turn the lights down low, put aside the things of the world, wage war against self, listen the Holy Spirit, and receive - reach out and take or get a hold of - the power to become a son of God. ☺

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standing on His promises and by faith holding fast to so many things that are not seen or felt. One day, I was just talking to my best friend - our Lord Jesus Christ - and I was aware that I no longer was begging and pleading to not miss Him. I was just walking with Him and loving Him more than life itself and I knew in my heart that I was His and I wouldn't have to beg Him anymore to not let me miss His coming.

I know for myself, somewhere along the line, because of my longing for Him, the Lord helped me to transition from the Outer Court into the door - Christ. I have no idea where I am. I may just be in the threshold of the door - Christ, but I don't care - I just want to KNOW HIM and that is all that matters - to know Him and to obey His Spirit and to, by faith, be ready for His coming within.

It is all like a woman having a child in the natural - though the fire hurts for a time, when the Son comes forth within us, we will forget all the pain. In the mean time, we must use what we have been given to send life to our brethren in need and to be a willing vessel for the Lord's purpose and pleasure.

Rejoice in your fire now, for soon a MANCHILD will be born.

God Bless You, Brethren. ☺



God's Order for the Church

Brother George Herrig

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Mahomet, IL

You know, it is sort of an interesting thing. A thought that just comes to me now is that we talk about Christ as the Head and Christ in the Body, and that it is pretty hard to be a part of the Body if it is just “me, myself, and I.” It would be pretty dull if any of us here got up Sunday morning, got all dressed, went into our living room and were there by ourselves to meet with the presence of the Lord. Not that God doesn’t meet us there, but He says in His Word, *For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them* (Matthew 18:20). Now, why would He say that except that there is a distinct meaning and reason for why He said it? There is a place of gathering together that God ordains. In Hebrews 10:22 it says, *Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith...* Boy, you could share a lot just on that right there. *Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience,* (anybody relate to that?) *and our bodies washed with pure water.* ²³*Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)* ²⁴*And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: My goodness! We could stop at every verse there and expound on it.* ²⁵*Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.*

Hallelujah! So, there is a purpose for why God has a gathering together of His people! And the scripture verse that we shared before, “Where two or three are gathered together in His name, He is there in the midst,” means that He wants to demonstrate and manifest Himself in the midst of the Body.

I look back on some of the things that are in my particular experience, because I can only relate to you the reality of what God has been in my life. If I came up

here this morning and tried to expound on something that had not been worked in my life, something that I had not experienced, I would be saying something beyond the arena of what I know to be the reality of God.

When we were first saved in 1980, God brought us out of a place called “religion” and brought us into His glorious light. He revealed Himself to both my wife and me at the same time, on the same day, and I thank God for that. I have seen other situations where brethren have had many struggles because they have become “born-again” and their spouse did not come to know the Lord at that same particular time. I have also seen testimonies of the faithfulness of God to bring their spouses in. Some took six months, some took two months, some took five years, some took ten years. But through it all, God has a plan and a purpose. For the purpose in my wife’s and my life, God called us and revealed Himself to us on the very same night. As God began to move, there were many things that were just night and day experiences, from knowing the reality of God from a place called religion (where I didn’t know God), to a place of coming into a relationship with the Lord.

It was God that put a desire to know Him in my heart. It wasn’t myself, because of the place that I came out of - much wickedness and death and destruction. It was grace. It says by grace are you saved, through faith (Ephesians 2:8). So, it was God’s grace that brought us into salvation. The interesting thing was that God had a plan and a purpose from the day that He called us. I didn’t know it. All I knew was that He had revealed Himself to us in such a marvelous way that I knew it to be God. It did something to me. It just changed my life. It changed the way that I acted. It changed the way that I was in my nature and the character that I was brought up in, the natural person that I was, everything that constituted what I was. It changed George Herrig in his en-

tirety. God began to come into the picture, into my life, into my wife's life. That means that He came into our home and He began to lead us in a way that was nothing short of a miracle. He began to work contrary to the nature and character of our family lineage that we were born into.

So, God began to reveal Himself (and we didn't even know it was Him!) and we began to study the Word. The interesting thing was that God began to put us with people who believed in God. First it was a cousin, then a babysitter, and then God sent an evangelist to our home and the man didn't even realize that he had the gift of evangelism. He was continually reaching out and the man was very instrumental in getting many people saved in the post office where I worked in the first couple of years that we were saved. For a couple of months, we continued in fellowship with this brother who was very instrumental [in leading us to salvation], encouraging us along the way, and yet, as we began reading the Word, we wanted something more than just reading the Word. We wanted something more than just being in our home. We wanted something more than just going to people that we found out were born-again believers and fellowshiping with them and occasionally praying with them. We decided within several months - I won't go through everything, so much happened in the first six months of our [born-again] lives. God led us out of the city of religion, the whole environment of what we thought to be God, into and among people that were born-again. God took us, within several months, through the Pentecostal Church movement and the faith movement. We met people and they would start to give us literature and books about what the faith movement was. I didn't know what it was at the time, because they didn't say it was a faith movement. They didn't call it the prosperity movement. They just called it serving God with what they knew to be God.

I remember they would hand me books. You have probably heard of Charles Capp? I remember reading one of his books. I was blessed by some of the things that he said, but the book's contents did not witness that I should go in that direction. Yet I was blessed by these brethren because they were born-again brethren. But God had a plan for us and He continued to move. So, we started to meet some brethren that had a deeper walk with God, or I should say, they had come into this Kingdom message. I didn't know it at the time, but we could tell the difference. There was a difference in these brethren in their maturity and the way that they handled themselves and the way that they regarded the Word that brought us to know that there were different levels in God.

So, we were born-again and I think it will be 25 years

this June. By the time that we had gone through two - three months of going through a couple of different churches, we knew that God was leading us a different way. There were just a couple of brethren in Dubuque that had come into this revelation or understanding of the Kingdom of God. We didn't know anything about it. The only thing that we knew was that we desired to study the Word of God together with other brethren. We saw that the end result wasn't in the Pentecostal Church. We were not satisfied in the faith movement that was moving in Dubuque. So the thought had come, (and it was God who had put it upon our hearts), "Why don't we call some brethren that are of like mind, and of the same desire, and let us have a Bible study together?" So, we began to meet one day a week. We would come together and we would meet in our homes. We began to study the Word of God, and on that basis, God began to bring others from other cities. We were involved with some brethren that were from Janesville, Wisconsin, that would come down to Dubuque. We would study the Word of God together and we also found that they had a fellowship up there. So we began to go up there occasionally. This group from Janesville were meeting twice a week: a mid-week session, and then on Sunday mornings.

That was an experience that went far beyond any experience I had had up until that time. I remember going up one Sunday morning and they had a service that had musicians there. The amount of people were not too many more than what is on one-third of the side of this room. As we began to praise the Lord together, I found myself in praise and worship on a level I had never experienced in the several months of my knowing God. I was just enjoying the presence of the Lord, especially in praise. I found myself lifted up and I was sensing the presence of God and the Throne of God and His joy as the praises were going up. All of a sudden, there were many more in the room that were praising the Lord than just what I was experiencing. God had opened the window of heaven, and I was seeing something more than in the natural realm. How do I know that? Because I know what I had lived all my life previously. I had never experienced this before in the natural, but I was in heaven - or I should say, heaven came down into our midst. I was oblivious to everyone else in the room, and I was just very much aware of the presence of God. I remember in that meeting that someone got up and began to minister about Genesis chapter one and chapter two. The Word of God just flowed and it was such a tremendous blessing that day. I believe when the service ended, they prayed for another young man and myself who had received the Lord just that year or two before. I knew that I had come into something that was just the most wonderful thing, which most of us know every week - the gathering to-

gether of ourselves before the presence of God. I just knew at that time that I had tasted of something that I didn't ever want to lose. I wanted it; I wanted the presence of God. I wanted something more than I had experienced in those previous several months. I had experienced much in the past several months of God making Himself known to me through the natural means that He had to utilize. Some of you have heard our testimony of how God had to use a lightning bolt to bring us into the Kingdom. Well, whatever it takes, and if it took that to wake up this Catholic out of his Catholicism, that is what He did. God met us time and time again, studying the Word of God and praying together and meeting us when He baptized us in the Holy Ghost, as we tarried and waited upon Him.

This was such a new experience for me, coming into the presence of the Lord with a body of believers. The Spirit of God was so flowing, that it began to cement in me all the more that God had a plan and a purpose for our lives. I found out that there was a pathway that God began to take us on. In retrospect, as I look back on our lives, I see that God has an order in His Kingdom. Can everybody say, "Amen" to that? Unless you serve a different God than I do. But I believe that God is a God of order. He is an orderly God. He created the heavens and the earth (Genesis 1:1). I mean, I could not do the job that He did. Could you? We can't even begin to fathom the mind of God and the thoughts of God, even in just creating you or me. You know how He made us – the Bible says that we are fearfully and wonderfully made (Psalm 139:14). The Bible says that we cannot even add up the thoughts that He has for us (Psalm 139:17-18). The thoughts are of good and of peace, saith the Lord (Jeremiah 29:11). His blessing for us. Do you realize God so loves us? You know, we hear that quote out of John 3 so often, that it sometimes just becomes redundant or common, and it should never be. ***For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life*** (John 3:16). Well, what is everlasting life? What is eternal life? John 17:3 says, "This is eternal life; to know the one and only true God." So, eternity/eternal life, flows through us as we begin to know Him. Hallelujah!

What is my testimony? It is that I know God. I don't stand up here as a theologian, saying that I read all these books, so I am going to tell you today about what I have read about Him to help explain Him to you. NO! All I can tell you is that I know God and the reality of Him. The same goes for you. We have a testimony. Do you realize that? Every one of you that has been born-again has a testimony. The Blood of Jesus Christ has touched your life. What is it that you are doing with your testi-

mony? Do you realize that you have the power to smite the devil through the testimony of Jesus Christ operating in your life? The scripture verse that comes to me is Revelation 12:11, "They overcame Satan by the word of their testimony, by the Blood of the Lamb, and that they loved not their life unto death." The Word of your testimony! Revelation also talks about that "...the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy" (Revelation 19:10). I am up here to testify to you today of the power of God in my life that has changed me. I believe, by faith, that that same life is going out and touching you and awakening you to the reality of what God has called you in your life. Hallelujah!

Someone shared with me one time, "You know, Brother George, I see you as an exhorter to the Church." You know, sometimes, I don't see myself as what I am, but I do know that I desire to see the Church become alive in Him. I desire to see the Body of Christ rise up and move in the Spirit of God. Hallelujah! Not in our own strength, not in our own natural abilities, because no one can build God's church with their own natural abilities. It says in the Psalms, "Unless the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it" (Psalm 127:1). Even on our best day, we are altogether as nothing. Even in our best natural state, it has NO value in the spiritual realm. It is only Christ that has been birthed within you, and is the reality of what God has done in you, that continues to lead you down the road of righteousness - unless we think we don't need to go down the path of righteousness.

Psalms 23 says, "He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness," for what? "For His name's sake." Isn't that interesting! We think it is for "my" sake, but it is for "His" sake, His name's sake, His nature, His character. The whole purpose for which God comes to us is to reveal Himself inside of us that we might manifest Jesus - unless you have all graduated in the school of Christ. I am still learning. I am still learning to lay down my life, to purpose to die daily in order that He might be manifest in me. I haven't made the 100% yet, but I certainly desire it. I desire to be on the honor role in the Kingdom of God, to graduate with the highest honors that you graduate with in the university - Magna Cum Laude. You have the special sash and you have the special color and you have graduated with the highest honor. I would love it. I am pressing to be of that company, that God's stamp of approval is upon me. Would you call that prideful? I don't believe so.

Paul said in Philippians 3:14, ***I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.*** Hallelujah! Sister Katie was ministering today about moving and doing, and being faithful with your time. Not being frivolous, but being diligent and applying your-

self, studying to show thyself approved (II Timothy 2:15). Do you realize that, as you purpose in your heart to do good (I'm not talking Catholic good), but I mean to do good in the path that God has ordained you to walk in and to learn His ways and to walk and to follow Him, God is working with you? It is not you deciding that you are going to do this and it is all dependent upon your own ability. No! It is dependent upon the place from which God looks down upon you and looks into your heart and says, "I see something that I can work with, I see an individual in which My Spirit can abide and that I can move in and that individual will submit to Me." Hallelujah! Glory to God. God is speaking in our midst here this morning about a broken and a contrite heart which He will in no wise cast out (Psalm 51:17). David found that place of abiding in Him. David had a heart after God. Though David had problems, there was a place in which he had a relationship with God. God was working with him, and when David did wrong, God sorely convicted him. He knew the way of repentance. This is what God is teaching us - how to walk in repentance.

I cannot trust in my own ability to judge all things. Do you follow what I am saying? I am prone to error. I am prone to deception, in and of myself. So, what keeps me from being on that path of deception or going down that avenue where I could go to the right or go to the left? I have to move by faith and I have to trust that God has orchestrated in my life and in the church safety valves, or a pivotal way to go so that I don't go off into error.

Living on the Mississippi River, we watch daily these barges going up and down the river. Many of you are familiar with the Mississippi River, whether you live near or far from it, or with other rivers where they have barges that do a lot of commercial traffic. Going up and down these rivers is a channel. That channel has to be so many feet deep in order for these barges to go up and down the river. If they go off course, they can run aground. If you ever look at some of the expanses of the Mississippi River, they are very, very wide. But in some areas the depths may be as little as two or three feet. If you are not aware of where you are going on the river, you're in trouble, especially if you are one of the larger boats or barges - the greater the need is to be in that channel. The Army Corps of Engineers continually dredges the river to keep it at a certain depth, so that the barges do not run aground. In order for the barges to stay in the channel, they have what they call buoys on both the right and the left, and there are red markers and green markers. It keeps the barge operators and even all those with smaller craft in the channel, so that they know they are on the safe pathway, so that they don't run aground.

Now, the church is the same way, and if you are following what I am saying, there is a direction in what I

am sharing here. God brings us to gather together, "not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together as the manner of some is" (Hebrews 10:25). There is a purpose for it. God wants to lead us and guide us into all truth. He has a Body that He wants to manifest Himself through. In the Body we also see that there is an order that God has. If you look at your own natural body, you see that there is an order to the body. First of all, in your own natural body, what is the life-giving source that flows through you and me that makes us alive today? It is the BLOOD. The Bible says that the LIFE is in the BLOOD. So, this blood is flowing through every portion of our body, and if you ever see people that have bad circulation, and they actually start to lose it, it usually it begins in the feet. If it becomes a dire enough situation, then they have to actually cut off the extremities, because when there is no blood flowing there any longer, there is the danger of gangrene setting in, which is the greatest danger because once gangrene is set in and begins to run up... Believe me, I am not a medical scholar, but I do live with someone who knows medical principals. But we know the reason why they have to cut it off is because gangrene will bring an infection that will bring death.

So, God in His Body is flowing. That is why the recognition first is that He is in the midst of us. We must recognize Christ in the midst of the Body. When we come in and gather, we must begin to understand what it is and how we can recognize Him. First of all, in order to recognize Him, I have to have my heart in a right place. I have to have my heart in a right place. If my heart is not in a right place, I become endangered to the conditions of a wicked heart. So, I must come into a place that first I realize that I am of no earthly good, that me of myself is in need of repentance. Hallelujah!

Do you realize that repentance is a daily instrument working in our lives? Or do some of us believe that maybe repentance is only good on Sunday morning? Wednesday night? I don't believe so. I believe that repentance is something that God is continually working within our lives. Repenting of what? Repenting of myself - who I am, what I personally think of myself, what I - I - I... Do you hear what I am saying? I - I - I. That is the whole reason that God comes into our lives, that He would manifest within us, that we would see that we need to die in order for Him to live. It is a Biblical principle. One of the foundations of our walk is not only being "born again," but it is also "dying to self," which is indicative of the Brazen Laver in the Tabernacle. Hallelujah! Can everybody say, "Amen," to that this morning? Paul says it so clearly to us, the need for us to die daily, and his calling and election as an apostle was set down for us in his epistles in the New Testament. He talked about being

crucified with Christ. So, it is a foundational thing in which you and I need to be walking. If we are walking in that, we will also walk in the thought that Paul talks about in the Word of God, I believe in Romans, where it says that “we should think of others more highly than we think of ourselves.” Hallelujah! Of course, maybe none of you have ever had that problem of thinking of yourself more highly than someone else.

Do you know that I have to be very careful what I think and what I think of my brethren, because I know that the Holy Ghost can do a much more wonderful job with my brethren than I could ever do? I found out that, if I am not careful, something inside of me will want to move, thinking that it was God and instead it brings destruction. To tell you the truth, we don’t realize how much we really want to help God, but it is not a very good thing to do. Of course, many of you have probably never had those experiences! I have had certain experiences as a mail carrier when I thought I was really doing a service to God. I wanted to share with everyone about being saved. I thought that I had reached such a level that I knew how to share the gospel message with others.

I didn’t realize it, but God was training me so much when He gave me this downtown mail route several months after we were first saved. I had it for probably the next 14 years. It was really a mission field, and God utilized the post office in my life to give me the liberty to share His Word. He was working with me. My mail route was basically two main streets: Bluff and Locust Street, plus the little side streets in between in that downtown area. It was approximately a little over a mile-and-a-half long. It went from the bridge of East Dubuque up to Sixteenth Street. It was very interesting. That mail route consisted not only of businesses but it had very rich people that lived on that route as well as the very poorest people that lived in the city. The city mission was one of my first deliveries. So, daily I was walking on the street and God gave me many wonderful opportunities. God taught me a lot of things during that particular time. I had an avenue and I had an opening, and God gave me liberty with the post office. My supervisors knew who I was, and what I professed to be, and how I wanted to help people. I always wondered how far I could go with sharing the gospel - was I ever going to go overboard and lose my job? God in His sovereign grace and mercy always gave me favor. So, I would take every opportunity. I had many elderly ladies, some that had lived there for 60 - 70 years. I would take every opportunity, and it was a blessing, and I really learned a lot.

I had this 88-year-old lady on my route. She lived in the 1300 block of Bluff Street. I would always go in and she just loved to talk with me. She was brought up in Catholicism. She had never moved from her home for

many years. She was born in a town maybe 20 miles from Dubuque, and that was the farthest that she had ever gone in her whole life. She had only seen a 60-mile radius for 88 years. That is all that she ever knew. Can you imagine that? But yet, she was content with her life. She would be there every day and she would pray her rosary, and she had a little, bitty prayer book that she prayed with to the saints. I was very aware of the practices that she was doing in her life because I came out of Catholicism, and my grandmother was of the same sort.

So, one day, I just felt that this lady really needed to hear the truth. She needed to know that what she was reading was not the Lord. I went in, and I really felt that I was hearing God. I went in and I had ministered and talked with her for many months beforehand, so I came in and I said her name, and I said, “You know, I just want to share with that you really shouldn’t be praying to the saints. You need to pray to Jesus.” The more I spoke, the more I found out that I was getting into a hole. This lady became more and more mixed up. All I could think of was that I needed to get out of this hole, and I didn’t know how to. So I just said, “I will pray for you,” and I walked out, and only she and I and the Lord knew what had happened with her that morning. I just knew that I had not heard from God. I knew I had not heard from God. So, I started to get on my route and just repent. I really was trying to do and to say and to think it was my duty and doing what I could to help God save this poor woman who only had gone sixty miles in her life. I thought that I was God’s chosen vessel to set her straight. The more that I went on with my day, the more I realized that I just did not make the grade. Actually, I went the other way then, because I started to feel condemned. Of course, none of you have ever had to deal with condemnation, have you? Well, anyway, as I continued to go on, and sometime through those next several hours, I repented before the Lord for my actions. I said, “God, it has to be You, because the power that I know You to be was not manifested with this woman.”

Do you know that God was so gracious that afternoon? The experience with the elderly woman was on one end of my route, and in the afternoon I was on the opposite end of my route, down by the bridge. I was walking and I was delivering my mail and this older man came out the door. Of course, the last thing I wanted to do was to talk about the Lord after that situation.

He took the mail and he said, “George, you know, I’ve been watching you.” He said, “There is something different about YOU.” He said, “There is something that I know is different than what I know from other people that I have met. What is it? What is it that makes you different? Why am I feeling the way that I am feeling?”

So, I just started to tell him about how God had come

into my life and saved me. The man just opened up and we had a marvelous time. I began to share the Word of the Lord, and the man just drank up the Word of God. I prayed with him and I continued on my route, and all I could do was to praise Him! I knew that God was working with me - showing me the difference between what I knew and how I tried to help God - and how God wants to open the doors instead of me.

I found something out later when we went to India one time. It was probably about 8 years later, but I can't remember the exact time period. We were having a seminar in Madras and the brethren had come from many areas in India to be in attendance. They came from all walks of life. We were there and God had put us there that we might teach the Word of God. There was this one young man who was zealous to evangelize. He was one that was determined that he would give them the Word. We were meeting in this YWCA International House in Madras and the counter man was there. And this zealous young man was up there feeling it was his duty to save this counter man. He was going on and he was out of order first of all, because of the fact that the man had a job to do and he was keeping him from his job. And this zealous young man spent twenty minutes trying to convince him how he needed Jesus in his life.

I just remembered back to that time with the elderly lady and what happened to me, and I knew that God wanted to show him that it is God who must open the door in order to minister the Word of God. Now, I am not saying that every person has to be open, because sometimes people are confronted because they need to hear the Word of God and it is a seed that is planted. But you have to know the difference. Do you realize that I am sharing with you from my experience of what God is wanting to show us, which is how to move by His Spirit! Now, the Word says in Romans 8:14, ***For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.***

So, I'm up here this morning sharing with you certain examples, because I am not against giving out tracts, as the Spirit of the Lord leads. I'm not saying, "Don't go out and minister the Word of the Lord," it is what the church needs to do. But don't go to where the church has fallen off. There are many that go out door to door, and God sometimes utilizes it, but a lot of them are doing things that they are not being led by the Spirit of God to do. A lot of them go out, they share, they give them a tract, they give them the ABCs and leave them off to themselves. Where is the need to minister and reach out to that individual, to labor with that individual, to help disciple that individual, to point the way to the Lord? Hallelujah.

So, God utilizes His Spirit in our lives to lead us in the way of righteousness and to mature us in the things

of God. We are talking about how God moves through His church. If it were not for the evangelist that came to our house, we would not have heard the gospel that day. Now, it says in Ephesians 4 that God talks about placing a five-fold ministry for the perfecting of the saints. Let's turn there. Let's start at verse 4, because we're talking about the Body this morning. Ephesians 4:4, ***There is one body... can everybody say, "Amen?" ...and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; ⁵One Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.*** Do you want to see a picture of the Church? It's right there. ***One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.***

Be careful how you discern your brother. Do you realize that we are made in the image of God? And that Christ dwells in your brethren? There is another part. Hold it there in Ephesians 4 and let's go to Galatians. Do you want to keep on the straight and narrow? Remember these verses here. Galatians 6:1, ***Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.*** That means that if I am of a place where I think someone is being overtaken of a fault, if that be the case, and if I am spiritual, I am to restore such a one in the spirit of meekness - first of all considering myself, lest I also be tempted.

Which brings another scripture to talk about. It says, before you take the mote out of your brother's eye, first take the beam out of your own eye (Matthew 7:3-5; Luke 6:41-42). Of course, none of us have ever had to deal with a beam in our own eye, have we? How many of us have had to deal with something rising up in our hearts - an irritant about our brother? And we find ourselves in a difficult situation for we find in ourselves something rising up that is not peaceful and we have to be careful because of what we might manifest around that individual. I believe that if God is speaking something to His church, that He would give us such a burden of love for that individual that we would pray and seek the face of God for how we can restore that individual. Otherwise, there is something wrong with us that God wants to correct. That is why He says here, "Lest you also be tempted."

Galatians 6:2, ***Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ. ³For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself.*** My goodness! That brings the fear of God in me. I do not want to put myself in a place where I am not at or in a position that God has not called me to. The scripture verse that comes to mind is in taking the higher position. He says, take the lower place first. He says, it's better for you to take the lower place and for the master of the house to say, "Come up hither," than for you to take the

higher and he say, "No, no, no, sorry, but that is not your place to take. You go take the lower place." *For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself. ⁴But let every man prove his own work, and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another.*

Verse 7 says, *Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.* The Law of Sowing and Reaping. I think we are all familiar with that, aren't we? I believe we have either learned to sow righteousness in our lives or have sowed wickedness. Of course, maybe none of you have ever sowed wickedness in your life after you have been born-again. Or have there been things that have come out of our mouths that have not glorified God? Verse 8 says, *For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting. ⁹And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. ¹⁰As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.* You know, that goes back to Hebrews 10. It says, "And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works" (Hebrews 10:24).

Let us go back to Ephesians. We are talking about this church that God has brought us into and remember that we were talking about an order. You see, God is not a God of disorder. He doesn't just call a church and then say, "Well, let's just see how they do." No. He has never done that. He has had a plan and a purpose from the beginning. It says that Jesus was "the Lamb slain from the foundation" of the earth (Revelation 13:8). At the appointed time He was manifested on the earth to become like us, a natural man, and to take away our sins. He who knew no sin became sin for us and took our place upon the cross there by making the way for the church to be born. Therefore, the church was birthed at the crucifixion. We look and we see the testimony of the early church, and how they came forth, and how God had set in the church apostles first. You study it out - read the history of the church. Read about the book of Acts and that God had set examples in the church. And here in Ephesians, Paul is writing the very same thing. A lot of churches believe today, a vast amount of the Outer Court, if not all, believe that there are no apostles today, no prophets today, but that what the church has left are evangelists, teachers and shepherds. A lot of them also believe that there is no baptism of the Holy Ghost. A lot of them teach and preach that when you were born-again that you received the Holy Ghost, that you received everything. There are doctrinal errors today that are bringing the church into destruction. So, we are living at the end of time. What God is speaking and leading His true

church in, I believe, is the order of God.

So, it says here in Ephesians 4, starting at verse 7, *But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ. ⁸Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men. ⁹(Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth? ¹⁰He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.) ¹¹And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; ¹²For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: ¹³Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ.*

We see here that God gave a place for apostles, prophets, evangelists, shepherds, and teachers, for what? For the perfecting of the saints. The saints cannot come into perfection without the ministry, and God brings the ministry to reach out and to minister in every area where God has sent the ministry to. And yet, do you realize, that in that place or locality, God raises up a people? He raises them up to bring them together that He would manifest His presence in His due order.

Do you know that we have heard many, many teachings about the order of the church? About the order in the harlot system and how it does not line up with the Word of God, and we have rehearsed it over and over again? There is a purpose why it is continually being rehearsed - so that it gets down within our being that we can recognize the true church from the false church.

Do you realize that God is even doing something much more on many different areas? He plants us in a true church. He begins to reveal to us the divine order of God. He shows us the difference between the disorder of the harlot church in having a head set in by man, or really, set in by the devil, so that the head of the harlot church has replaced the true head, which is Christ. Then God begins to show us the difference, and then He shows us what the true picture of that church should be. You can read about it in II Timothy, and Titus, how Paul said that he encouraged Timothy as he went forth. Also, in Titus, he talks about putting things in order, ordaining elders in every city. Wherever the work of God began to be established, God purposed that there would be elders in that Church that would take the oversight. Not the oversight like the harlot church, but the oversight because of the love to serve God and in that place of responsibility, God would use elders so that that church might grow and come to know the Lord.

The whole purpose of the true order of the Church and God having a plurality of elders is that it is also a

check and balance system. When you look at the harlot church and you see that pastor system, it is only one man over the congregation and whatever the man says is the thing that goes. It becomes a restriction from God, even though you might meet an individual that has a shepherd's heart that is in that system. The individual in that system won't change that system. That system was instituted by Satan, and we see its origins all the way back from the time of the early church where anti-Christ was already entering in at that time. We see that the Roman system raised up the false church and the false order of things. So, God is in the business of establishing that which was lost from the early days. Why do you think it is so difficult? Why do you think that churches that are trying to do the will of God, and trying to move in the right order of God, struggle so much? Satan is not pleased. Satan is not pleased when he sees something coming out of his own system that is doing contrary to the system of Satan. He would love nothing more than for a place like this to have a pastor. If a church is moving, desiring and pressing on into the plan and purpose of God, Satan works so hard to do everything he can to destroy it. That is why you have to watch your own heart. You have to watch your own heart, because you can find that you can become the very object of the thing that is working against God. Hallelujah!

I saw an example of that one time. I saw where it was like a battle going on. There were two sides, and they were shooting one another. They were thinking that they were on the right side, and they found out that they were on the wrong side. God spoke to me and said, "Be careful what you look at and what you think." Hallelujah! Maybe this is only for me. I have found that I want to be in the right place concerning God's church. And I've found that He designed it for my good. He plants me in the midst, and as I learn my lessons, I grow and mature in God. I find that the more that I open myself up to God, the more that the treasure house of Heaven is opened up to me. I find, then, that God has a plan and a purpose in my life. I didn't choose it, brethren. I didn't choose it. But if God says this is it, this is His desire, this is His will - I want to obey God.

It is not up to us to determine where we are going to be in the Body of Christ; it is just that we need to obey God and find our place in His Body. Then that is when you can really be a blessing. I'll tell you another thing! The gifts that God has placed inside of the Body and in His church can truly manifest in a pure and holy way that can really glorify God. You will never see that gift fully manifested if your heart is not right and you have not committed and worked in God's plan, His purpose, and His order. Hallelujah!

I believe that God has apostles today. I believe that God has prophets today. I believe that they are actively

working for the good of the church. Hallelujah!

We are working on a play based upon the book of "Esther." Some of the brethren here have been asked to be a part of it. We are starting it up. We are doing the work up in the studio. How many of you saw that play that we did several years back called "Little Tree"? Well, we are doing it the same way as far as working with the studio up there and working it out that we might film it up there, that it might be a blessing for many. But I do believe that the whole purpose of that book goes far beyond what I think we all realize, how active that book is working in our lives.

I was traveling home from some place last fall and I happened to be on a plane. It was a domestic flight. A woman sat down next to me and she had her Bible open and she was just reading out of it. I just had the heart to say, "Well, I noticed that you are reading your Word." So, we began to talk and converse. You know, I was blessed by the woman. She had a desire for the Lord. She was going through some real struggles in her life. As I started talking with her about the Word, I was sharing with her about the types and shadows and parallels in the Bible which she had never seen before. She was very interested and the next thing I knew, I was telling her about Esther. I said, "I would like you to read the book of Esther, but why don't you take your pen and let me give you the types of the book of Esther in the Bible." So she began to write them down.

I said, "You look at King Ahasuerus as a type of God. You begin to look at Vashti as a type of the old order church that refused to come in to the King. You look at Mordecai; Mordecai is a type of the ministry. Remember where Mordecai, who was the cousin of Hadassah, that is, Esther, went to see about her well-being? The whole reason that there was an order that went out for a new queen was because of Vashti's rejection to come in to see the King. A decree was sent unto all the land to bring forth a new queen. So, there was purification," and I went on. I said, "Mordecai is a type of the ministry. Esther is a type of the Bride of Christ. Haman is a type of the devil." I said, "When you can look at it in that way, you begin to see the story of the church unfold. Now, look at it upon those types and think about that." Now, we are talking here this morning about Ephesians and how God has placed within His church apostles, prophets, evangelists, shepherds, and teachers for the perfecting of the church, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of His Body till we all come unto the full knowledge of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

What was it that Haman hated most of all? He hated Mordecai! Why? Because Mordecai's desire was for the church. I have never seen in all my walk how much Satan has come to try to destroy the ministry. We all have not come to that place of perfection, but I'll tell you

one thing: I don't want to be part of Satan's plan to come against my brothers or sisters, especially those that are in the ministry that are doing the will of God to lay down their lives to help, strengthen and to bring that church to the place where God has called it to be. Of course, none of us have to deal with that, do we?

Let me ask you this: has Satan ever once come to you at some time in your life and started to put a seed of doubt? Or to place a thought that was not right concerning any ministry that was involved in your personal life? I found that, when the devil had come to do that to me, I had to recognize it as it was, and reject it, and tell the devil that he was a liar. And then I found that I was set free from it. Glory to God.

So, God is a very orderly God. He designs our gathering together to manifest Himself. He has an order in the church. He has an order with the elders. You should pray for the elders in this congregation. Pray that they would mature and grow. Pray that they would be diligent. You yourselves pray. We are talking about God's order; we are not talking about a hierarchical system. We are not talking about a hierarchical system, because in Revelation 2:15 it says that God hates the deeds of the Nicolaitans. Do you realize that we all have to fight that spirit of Nicolaitanism? You have to fight it in the congregation, and the people that are in a place of responsibility have to fight it so that they move in the plan and purpose of God. We are all working to strive for the fullness of Christ, to move in the order that God has ordained, because if God does not demonstrate it here, on this earth, how in the world is the world going to see the difference? Who, us? Us rag-tag, small, little group here? But I tell you what, I would rather come into a congregation where life is with two or three or 10 or 20 or 30 or 40 than go into a church system with 20,000 or 30,000 people and it is all orchestrated and designed to satisfy the soulish nature of man rather than satisfy the Spirit of God that dwells in man, that cries out and says, "Abba, Father." That is how I know, and how God has led me. Someone may come up and say, "Well, you are wrong, Brother George." But I'll tell you, the scriptural basis for this is in Romans 8:16, *The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God.*

If I am seeking for the truth and the righteousness of God, then it is God's responsibility to reveal truth, and it is God's responsibility, if error comes in, to show me so that I do not go down the wrong path. Hallelujah! We have a history, brethren. We have a history. I say "we," because I look out and we have fellowshiped for many, many years together. There are a number of you that were in the Rockford seminar in 1982. It was on that basis that a foundational work was brought forth in our house, that laid down a foundation of what the church was, and what the plan and purpose of God was in this

hour for the end-time church. He laid down the order in the church. He laid down the errors of false doctrine and true doctrine. A lot of what we are being taught is a lot of what God laid down to the church at that particular time, upon the brethren that we were working with that began to set a standard of righteousness. I'm telling you, I would not be up here today except that I recognized it as the Word of God and I wanted to submit my life wholly unto it because something inside was burning to say, "THIS IS GOD!" Hallelujah! That is what is going to keep you. That is how you can discern between truth and error. If your heart is right before God, you can come in and if something is not sitting right, don't take it in unless you seek it out and chew it and see, "Is this God or not?" The church needs to discern the Spirit of God in this hour.

I say that to you, too. The Word that I am sharing, you seek it out. You chew the Word of what I am saying here. I want you to. If I am wrong, I am willing to be corrected. I don't want to be wrong. My desire is to see every Blood-washed one excel in the Kingdom of God. If I am any otherwise minded, "God, speak to me." Hallelujah.

So, we see that God is building a church. I'm just sharing some of these experiences and the way God has led us and continued to lead us. Oh, as our little group in Dubuque began to grow, we went through a lot of transformation in the 1980s. I think I shared some of that down in Florida a year-and-a-half ago, but we grew. Sometimes it wasn't too many people and the devil would come in and some would leave! But I tell you what, God had a plan and a purpose, and as we stayed on the track, God was faithful to work, to bring ministry in to encourage us. He also raised up elders in our midst, and as the elders began to work together, as they began to pray together, the church began to grow and the body began to work together. And we're still learning! But God has a plan and a purpose and I'm telling you today, 25 years later, that God is still speaking to us. There is a purpose for why God has placed us in Dubuque, Iowa, just as sure as I know that there is a purpose for why God has planted you all here in the Mahomet area. God has a plan and purpose, and it's the same purpose. We have different responsibilities in the different localities because we are fighting territorial spirits. The Bible says that we fight not against flesh and blood, but against principalities and powers and rulers of wickedness in high places (Ephesians 6:12).

But God has encouraged us, and God has encouraged you here. How do I know? Because I have heard a lot of the Word that has come forth out of here. God is encouraging His church to rise up because He has given us the kingdom. He has given us the power over all the power of the enemy. Every one of you is important in

the plan and purpose of God. I tell you what, I still feel like I'm just beginning this path of salvation, and it's the most wonderful path I've ever been on in my life. Easy? No. No. But if you are called to be a soldier, you're in a battle. How would you like to be in Iraq right now or within the previous two years? I'm telling you what, if you're in the place where God has you, these individuals that have gone into the battlefield, especially the ones that know God, their lives have completely changed. And we're in a spiritual battlefield. Brethren, sharpen your swords. Put on the whole armor of God that you can stand in the evil day, doing all to stand (Ephesians 6:13). Hallelujah. Stand, brethren! And whatever it is, if the devil has robbed you of your life, just repent! Repent for your own lack, anything that has come to rob you of His presence. I tell you what, I love repentance, because repentance is like taking a shower. You just become so clean. Do you realize how repentance works? It's just being broken before God, being honest with yourself. And you know, the marvelous thing is when you've woken up and said, "What have I done? Why have I always been thinking this way and it's not the right thing? God, forgive me." And if I have hurt another, I need to go to that individual, ask for their forgiveness, ask for them to pray for me.

We become clean as we come clean with God. Hallelujah. Glory to God. Praise the Lord. I hope that this has been a blessing to you this morning, and I pray God's blessing upon this congregation here, and upon every individual in this room. Can I pray before I sit down? Hallelujah. Thank You, Father.

Prayer: *Heavenly Father, it is You that has made us. You knew us before, even when we were in our mother's womb. Whether we are here at one year of age, or well into our latter years, You know us, God. You know our beginning and You know our end. Not only do You know that, but You know the calling and election that is upon our lives. We want to thank You, first of all, Father, for Your grace and Your mercy, in which, while we were yet sinners, You died for us. You birthed us, Father, and You brought us out of the kingdom of darkness and into the glorious light. Not only have You birthed us and brought us into a born-again experience, Father, You brought to us the revelation of the Kingdom of God. It goes beyond just an Outer Court experience, and becoming saved and waiting until we die to be like You. But Lord, that Your Blood comes to us and that Your Spirit comes into us, that we might be changed, that we would be like You and that we would walk and overcome all of the works of the devil in this life.*

Father, I believe, and I believe that the brethren gathered here also agree, that we are in the end times, and that darkness is coming upon all the face of the earth. But Your Word in Isaiah says that gross darkness will

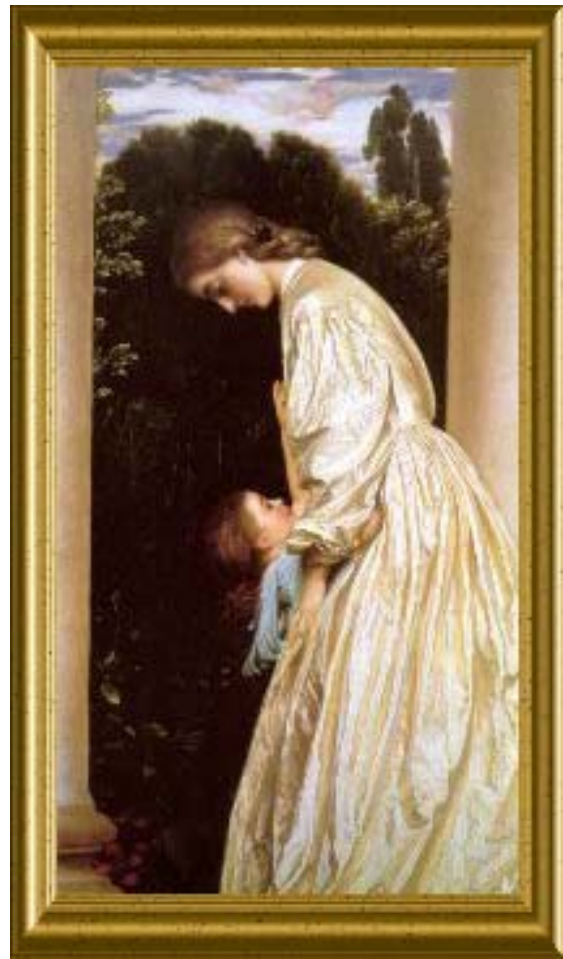
cover the people, but a light will shine upon the people of God (Isaiah 60:2). We pray today that Your light might shine through us. God, deliver us from all evil. God, You have a plan, a purpose for which You have birthed Your Church, You have placed an order in the church, and God, You have a plan and a purpose that this church of the end time would come forth to bring forth the manchild. We pray, Lord, that that Word which has been deposited where You first anointed our ears to hear and to give us the deposit of the seed of life, that it would fall upon the good ground and fall upon our souls that we would be changed. That we would receive all that You have called us to be. That we would be part of Your Body, Father. Hallelujah! My God, loose us today. Loose us of every encumbrance. Loose us of every spirit that would take us to the right or to the left, for, God, You have a plan and a purpose, and we want to be part of that purpose in this hour. We want to fulfill that calling and election in our lives. We want to be a vessel of righteousness before the presence of the Almighty God. We want to function with the Body of Christ, with You as our head, oh God. So we pray today, we submit ourselves to You, Father, we pray for the spirit of repentance to be in our midst. We pray that we can bring the sacrifice of God, which is a broken and contrite heart, which You will in no wise cast out (Psalm 51:17). Oh God, whatever is wrong in our lives, God, bring correction, bring change, bring deliverance. Father, whatever we have taken in that is not of you, Father, let repentance and deliverance flow, that we might be what we have been called to be. Father, we pray for Your deliverance. Father, we pray for Your church in this hour, that it might come forth in the power and the authority that that Thou hast called Your church to. And we pray, Lord, and we know, that if there is any sin in the church, God, it is even in the time of Achan as they went into the Promised Land. Oh God, we pray today that Father, that sin would be rooted out so that the power and the authority and the plan and purpose of God would go forth. Oh God. We pray today that you deliver Your people. I pray a blessing upon our brethren here in Mahomet. I think of our brethren up in Dubuque today, as they gather, and the many different places across this land, across this nation, across the lands all over the earth, and in particular, Father, those that You have placed us with. You have a plan and a purpose, and we pray that our brethren would rise up and Father, overcome, and Father, walk in righteousness. We pray Your blessing to be upon Your church, and Father, that strength, power, and anointing will come to Your servants, that we would fulfill the will of God and the purposes of God in this hour, and that we might glorify You. God, we thank You today for Your grace and mercy and Your love towards us, in Your precious name I pray. Amen. 🙏

The Virtuous Woman

...as women, striving together for the mark of the high calling in Christ...

Happy Clothes!

By Kate Trotter



There is much to be said about the types and styles of clothing that we wear, but this is not the only facet we use to choose the clothes we put on. One day, I awoke from sleep feeling miserable. My body was sick, my mind knew it and it was not pleased. Removing myself from my bed, I drearily trudged to my closet to choose my outfit for the day. I felt awful, so I selected the most “comfortable” clothing I could find. It was an outfit that appropriately fit my mood; it was very much like pajamas, because that was where I wanted to stay, alone in my bed to brood over my suffering.

As the day progressed, it became obvious to the others around me that I did NOT feel good. Smiling was difficult at best, so most of the time, I let my face droop into the, “I’m tired and sick” look. My clothes were quite comfortable, though entirely unattractive to the eye. Others tried to cheer me up, but I just wanted to get through the misery of being sick, and then I would return to the land of cheerful people. What a miserable, depressing day.

Another day arrived and I opened my eyes warily, hoping to feel better on this morning than the previous. No chance. I still felt BAD. However, upon reaching the end of my path to the closet and scanning over the clothing selection inside, I knew I had a decision to make. Did I really like being sick like I was yesterday? No, it was depressing. What could I do to encourage myself to look up out of the pit of sickness in which my body found itself? I knew it was a simple change. I needed to wear nice clothing. I needed to dress as though today was a day that the Lord made. I decided to encourage myself to fight the sickness and depression by dressing as if I felt wonderful and was really desiring to praise the Lord. So, I pulled out my Sunday clothing and dressed up!

As this new day progressed, it was remarkably differ-

ent from the previous day! I still did not feel well, but my attitude was helped by the way that I was treating the day. No longer was I experiencing a miserable, depressing day, but I was experiencing a battle against the devil being fought and won. It only took a few more days to beat the sickness and feel well again, but I only spent one day giving in to the sickness and letting it have its way over me. In the midst of explaining all of this to a friend, we came upon a title for the clothes I chose to wear to exhibit an appropriate attitude for overcoming the sickness: Happy Clothes.

As I have meditated on this situation, I have realized that the Happy Clothes affect more than just my attitude during sickness. I understand that our attitude about a person, a place, an event, a circumstance, etc., have a great affect on the clothing we wear. If we are excited about an event, we put on clothing that shows our excitement for the event, not our work clothes for painting the house. When the person we are seeing or the place we are going is important to us, we dress accordingly. What happens when we stop thinking that a person, place or event is important or exciting to us? We stop taking the time to dress as though they are important. The old adage says, “Familiarity breeds contempt.” When we lose respect for someone or thing, we lose the little things that we used to do to

show that respect. Specifically, I am thinking about the way that we treat our spouses and our God.

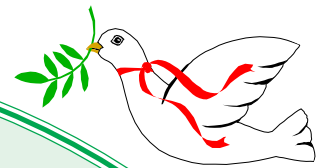
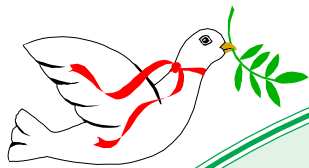
It wasn't long after my "Happy Clothes" event, that I read an article in the Above Rubies magazine wherein a wife was speaking of the way she dressed for her husband. One evening when she had prepared herself to go to the evening church meeting, she asked her husband the age old question, "How do I look?" His response was a startling, "Why do you dress nicely for everyone else but me?" She realized that she had been treating him as if he was not important, and everyone at church held more value than him. There was a measure of respect for her husband that she had put aside. So, she repented and began to take the time to change out of her "working in the kitchen and raising little children" clothing before her husband came home from work, and was surprised by the marked appreciation that he expressed for it.

It is the same with our wonderful Savior and Lord. How do we treat the days that He has made for us? Are they just another day, to trudge our way through to the end? Or are they glorious days in which to rejoice? Our attitudes affect everything around us. Happy Clothes are just one small way of acknowledging our need to rejoice in the days that the Lord makes. I hope that this encourages you, our readers, to take stock of the way you dress and why you are dressing in that way. Do not let the devil dictate to you that you must dress to reflect the negative in your life. Put on your Happy Clothes!



Psalm 118:24

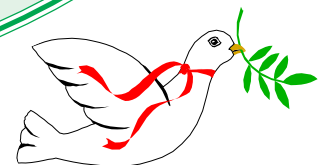
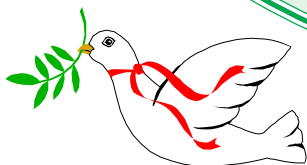
*This is the day which the LORD hath made;
we will rejoice and be glad in it. ♪*



*...continued from page 17
(2005 Czech Conference Testimonies)*

help him in the work of the Lord. He not only had to start alone, but also take care of his family, bring up his sons, teach them of the righteousness of God as well as how to be skillful with their hands, and at the same time follow the command of the Lord. What a parallel to our days and circumstances we find ourselves in! And yet, Noah made it and so we can see that there is no excuse left for us not to be able to accomplish what we were commanded to do. Hallelujah!

There could be much more said about our time in Czech. There were excellent words preached on the three-and-a-half years of Christ's ministry, on the tabernacle, etc. God's presence in some of the praise and worship meetings was also amazing. The prophecies that came forth truly hit the target and we are looking forward to see them come to pass. God is in the process of having His people ready for the things to come. Not only for the destruction itself but mainly so that He would have His sons ready to rule and reign with Him and to share fellowship with Him on a continuous basis. My prayer is that we would all be numbered among those who find favor in His eyes and become His sons indeed. I trust you are as anxious to watch the DVDs of the meetings as are we who had the privilege of having the experience first hand. May the Lord richly bless you and keep you until the day of His coming. ♪



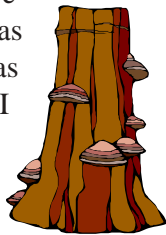


Spiritual Veneer

By Wesley Schell

I Peter 5:5, *Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.*

Recently my eyes have been crowbarred opened and set free from some of the padlocks of pride. Ever since I was born again I viewed myself to be something that I wasn't. In my conversion, God marvelously saved my wretched soul and delivered me of a magnitude of sin, and because of this I thought that I was something special or that I was better than other people were. I became proud about thinking that I was more spiritual than other people were, primarily because my view of spirituality was an outward, religious display of saying hallelujahs and the rest of the bag of religious coverings. I deceived myself by this, and in return became blind to my own faults and maladies while I could perfectly be a critic to other people's problems. At the time, I was a newborn Christian and I did not know anyone really. Like most people, I wanted to be accepted and liked. So I put on a religiously proud garment of veneer spirituality that had zero substance to it hoping that people would think that I was "Mr. Spiritual" and like me. Well, I was totally wrong. Instead, I became "Mr. Religious and



Mr. High Minded." Just to set the record straight, it is impossible to please all people and have everyone in the world your friend. I have to be honest and humble before the throne of God about who I really am and ever desire to be changed into His likeness. This, in return, I believe, will bring people of God into your life, who have the same desire that you have of being like Yeshua. I say that because God brought me to a place in life where everyone around me has the same desire that I do. You know the old saying, "Birds of a feather flock together."

About a month ago, I began to ask the Lord to allow my own tree trunk to be in the frontlets of my eyes and not my brother's toothpick. Matthew 7:3, *And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye?*

⁴Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye; and, behold, a beam is in thine own eye? ⁵Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye. I was being honest with God in desiring to know the enormity of my need to be transformed. I believe that honesty about who I am is essential, because God already knows what is inside of my heart. In my own life I had never been changed from glory to glory until I realized my desperate need to be changed. Once

my eyes were squinted open to my condition, agony arose inside of me about who I really was. This always humbled me before God and caused me to repent about who I thought I was and also who I really am. By being humbled, God therefore is allowed entrance into my soul to repair the former breach between Yahweh and myself. God could never get into my soul prior to that because it was cluttered and blocked with pride or religiousness, which give a person a false sense of identity in their own mind. That's what one of my problems was. I thought I was such a good person and a spiritual person. While God knew all the time who I was and praise be to Him because He knew what it would take to open my eyes to my dilemma. Tribulation! Fire!

Over the course of this past summer, the demands that were placed upon my life, whether willingly or unwillingly, caused a great deal of pressure inside of my soul, which caused an external explosion of the true nature that was deep within to be revealed. Let me tell you, when it happened, I was not pleased with myself. I found much disrespect, ungratefulness, selfishness, religiosity, pride, and so much more. These are all works of the flesh and need to be totally removed so that I can become a creation completely changed from what I used to be. This is why tribulation is needed. My personal view of



tribulation has been altered. I used to think that when you become a Christian that your life becomes a breeze. It's not! I believe that it is easier when faith, trust and submission to God are all in motion. However, the transformation from darkness to light is not an easy one. It is an ongoing, tedious process that takes time, because my

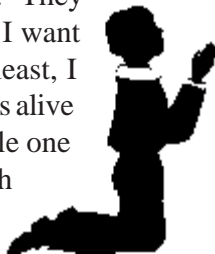


flesh likes to hang on by every strand it can. My job is to cut the strands one by one. Tribulation, therefore, is a needed vehicle to open man's eyes to his own problems so that they can be dealt with.

I realize that in the past I covered over my immaturity with a cloak of religiosity, so that it would appear to man's eye that I was spiritual. I have now embraced the fact that I am immature in the Lord, only because I realize the only way to become mature is to pass through immaturity. It is impossible to instantly be mature. During this period in my life I have to focus on the second step in the tabernacle of Moses, which is the Brazen Laver. This means I have to die to myself, not only to what I used to be, but also to what I desire to be. I have to let go of my right to myself and allow God to totally and completely reprogram my mind, will, desires, and emotions.



I believe that immaturity and religiousness go hand in hand, because every Christian who has a real born again experience starts off wanting to know who God is. They normally say, "Lord, I want to be like You." At least, I did. The fire for God is alive and real. After a while one finds out that it is much more difficult than they thought to be like Jesus. A problem occurs because a relationship with God requires a person to be changed from carnality to divinity, which requires tribulation and



Lord, I want to be like You!

time. The United States has a cultural trap, which I fall under, called microwave-ism. This is the quick fix, easy way out or the "I don't have to wait for anything" mentality. Everything that you want, you can have in a moment of time. We are very impatient, one use, quick fix people. Ok, maybe I am not everyone. I like getting as many things done in the shortest amount of time possible with the greatest productivity. And when things do not go according to plan, I find frustration and impatience surface quite fast. God is changing this about me though; I am learning to be more patient than I used to be. Anyway, this type of behavior gets carried over into "Christendom." Now, when a person gets born again, some time after, they figure out that it is hard to be changed into His likeness and that it is going to take time. Their nature bursts on the scene and seeks a quick fix that would give a veneer of the original, indistinguishable by the naked eye. Now they can grab their spiritual suspender straps and confidently grin at their arrival, because by now they could have an understanding of the Bible and do all the right moves to appear spiritual, without any substance. It takes God's atomic bomb of tribulation to open people's eyes to their own condition. I write all this because it is what I did when I became born again, and I do not believe that my situation is a unique one. It took me three years to get into a humbled condition where God can really do a complete remodel of my being.



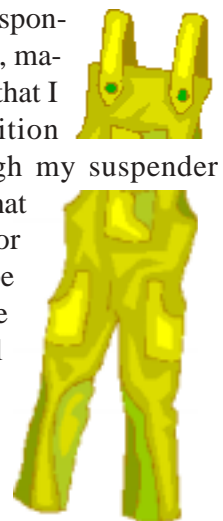
...for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble. Throughout my life I have had a problem with pride. People have given me advice in the past, and I would just

shrug my shoulders like I didn't care too much, because I thought that I knew everything. I mean, just look at where "I" have pulled myself out of. Wrong concept, Wes, it was God who changed you. Oh yes. This is a very prevalent attitude of young college students, of whom I used to be one, who have just spread their rebellious wings because they are away from their parents. However, presently God has me in a location with men and women of God who oversee me to train and teach me. With that, they would politely correct me often and give me advice as to what should be done to help me. Psalms 1:1 in the converse would read, "Blessed is the man who walks in the council of the Godly." I however used to take advice as a blow towards "my intelligence" or a slap in my pride, because I know all and can do all. If the advice lined up with what I was thinking, then praise God, they heard from the Lord. If it didn't, it was like two forces fighting against one another inside of me, and I would normally side with myself. This nature resembles the character of Heylel before he fell to become Satan. I do not want that nature inside of me, because God resists that nature.



I came across a definition of humility the other day that changed how I thought. It came from Mr. S.M. Davis. Humility – recognizing that God and the men and women He put into my life are responsible for the growth, maturity, and abilities that I have. That definition sliced right through my suspender straps, of thinking that I was responsible for my abilities Praise be to God because He can redeem my soul from constantly being "me."

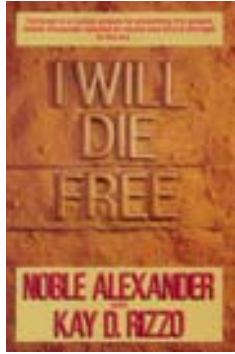
...for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble. Throughout my life I have had a problem with pride. People have given me advice in the past, and I would just



I Will Die Free

By Noble Alexander with Kay D. Rizzo

*Book Nook contributed by Sister Susan Herrig



Have you ever wondered what would be your level of endurance in times of great persecution and tribulation? Would you sell out for a ‘morsel of bread’ or a night’s rest in a comfortable bed? Consider this: different cells designed to inflict the ultimate form of torture and yet God speaks to you and says, Lo I am with you always! (Matthew 28:20) How does one endure the “box” or “drawer” which resembles a coffin having an opening at each end for ventilation and for meals to be passed inside? It measured 7 feet long, 3 feet wide and 3 feet high, and was meant to accommodate six men squatting side by side. Total darkness, night and day, day after day after day... 90 days in all. Yet, there in the coffin, worship permeated out of the darkness. Stories of Job, Jeremiah in the pit and Paul in jail began to bring hope to those in the coffin who had no hope. Their rantings, ravings and obscenities gave way to calm and tranquility as hymns sprang forth.

This is the true story of a young man who, at the age of 28, is thrown into prison after prison under the regime of Fidel Castro in the year 1962. Falsely accused of plotting to plant a bomb on Castro’s plane, so begins the journey of a 22 year imprisonment. His only wrongdoing is preaching the gospel, desiring to share the “good news” to all who would hear. Now, in prison, will his desire remain the same? Could God have a purpose in the cesspools of Castro’s prison system? Can this young man remain faithful to God as he is confined to the “shower” where he is forced to stand on his tiptoes to avoid stepping on the broken glass and nails that are partially embedded in the back of the shower stall all the while water droplets rhythmically pelt down upon his head?

This book answers all those questions and more. This is a MUST READ! A book that once you start it you cannot put it down. The story of 3-1-4-5-0 (Alexander’s number in prison) brought great conviction to me as well as hope as to what God can do with and for one who wants to serve Him with their whole heart. Alexander would rather die than give in to his captors or bring shame upon the gospel of Jesus Christ. Alexander stands on God’s Word as well as these ... “I Will Die Free.”✂

...continued from page 7 (God’s Timeline)

are talking about this tonight. The Lord is just dropping the word “inheritance” into my spirit. I tried to look it up and I found that the word is in the Bible. It just lit up my spirit when I found out that is what God has for me. Heir is a kind of life. An inheritance is something that is just given to you; you inherit it. So Christ has really done a great job and I’m not going to throw away my inheritance and, you know, misuse it. Even in the secular world where you have, like Prince Charles, they inherited their position, they take and nobody can take that away from them. It is just on their name. So I think that it would be good for us to realize our inheritance in Christ. We are heirs, divine heirs. We are heirs of Christ and we should really take that dearly and cherish it and bring about the product just as you would that of a seed that is planted. God has put something in our inheritance which we should bring forth even as those that went ahead of us.

Another thing that the Spirit was touching on was the simplicity of the Word of God. The enemy would always

try to discredit or make us believe that the Word of God is not God’s Word. But, if we can go and study the authenticity of the Word of God, I think that will help us a lot, because there are many books that are written that are nothing. You know? People spend years and years reading books that are nothing. They kind of make a name for themselves, but the Word of God, no matter how it came about, it is so miraculous; it is so divine. There is just no way that these records can come up to meet what we have today in the Word of God. It is amazing how the things that are written are so preserved and so timely. You know? It just blesses my mind.

God is going to prove He is God with me or without me. I want Him to prove He is God with me, rather than without me, because there are a lot of other people that are going to be ahead of me if I don’t go ahead and do what I am supposed to do.

Brother Barak: That takes us back to Romans 8:14, *For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.* May God bless you!✂

The

Irrigation



Situation

By Tim Culver

This year on the farm, God has been dealing with my perspective, how I view things, how I rely on my own mind in trying circumstances and trials. It seems as if God has kept on bringing me back to the importance of having my Eastern Gate (my mind) constantly guarded by love and faith. To strive, to work, to seek after the mind of Christ in every situation in which I find myself confronted by two opposing paths of thought.

One of the ways that God has brought this home was a couple months ago in our perennial flower garden. It is located on the west side of the building and it had been equipped with water lines for irrigation when the building was first built. Now, we have had flowers there for a number of years. And dear Sister Janell Effiong,



along with many other faithful ladies, had been watering that whole piece of ground with a hose and sprinkler. Now, this piece of ground had water lines in it and I had been commissioned by Mr. Asbill that when I had a chance, I was to locate all the underground water lines, figure out where the water lines ended at, and find out whether they were on the same pipe line (called a zone). Then

install pop-up sprinklers to irrigate the perennial garden, along with the grass, on a sprinkler timer. It's funny on one hand and incredibly embarrassing on the other how our minds categorize certain tasks as either hard or easy and then place them on a mental list of "when I get time." But in actuality, what is being said in our hearts is, "When it is convenient, when I feel like it, when there is nothing else left to do on the farm, and when the weather is nice, that's when I'll tackle this dilemma." And that's exactly the mental decision that I made. So, in the meantime, while I'm waiting for the perfect weather outwardly and inwardly to complete this assigned task, the ladies are dragging the hose every day from one end of the field to another turning on the water, and going home to do their other tasks. Then coming back to the farm to move the hose, only to leave and come back again to turn it off. All because the perspective in my mind entailed that this job was going to require more time and energy than I was able to give it. And the tragic thing is that I've known about this need

ever since I've been here on the farm. Four years! Four years!

So, for four years longer than needed, Janell and the other ladies were watering this piece of ground. During this, I was resting confident that my perspective was accurate that the job was going to be a big operation that I did not have time for. You know, sometimes the ladies were too busy or gone, or sometimes I had committed myself to take care of the irrigating and it had not gotten done. This caused irregular growth, difficulty in the pulling of weeds because the ground was hard or too saturated with water because there wasn't a steady, precise application of water on a daily basis. I pray that by this point all of you who do live here in Mahomet and spent the last four years pulling the hose across the perennial garden have forgiven me.

It was just a month or so ago that I decided to tackle the irrigation project in the garden. It entailed one hour of prep work to find all the capped water pipes. Then I did a little bit of cutting of lines and glueing on special parts to help make it clear and easy to work with, to find out if there were any problems or what irrigation zone each pipe was on. After all of this prep work was done I set out on the laborious task of turning on each zone one at a time to figure out the configuration of the underground water lines. It only took me about an hour. All together I spent two hours working in the perennial garden. My four-year-old perspective of the amount of time it would take to do this job was about two days. It had been done in two hours! I spent more time driving to Menards picking up parts and sprinklers than I did actually working with the pipes (ok, I did a few errands while in town). But this came home very strongly to me. Oh, how skewed my mind had become because of my perspective. My perspective had the power to change my outlook of the task at hand, the required steps to complete the job, the amount of time that I needed to complete the job and the amount of digging and blind guessing at which waterlines went where. Every wa-



terline in that garden was on the same pipeline/zone. They had been installed properly, in the exact location for optimal water coverage. Everything had been put in its proper place. It only took me four years to come to the decision to press through my unwillingness to tackle such a project. God, deliver me from this mind that seeks its own perspective instead of obedience and submission to my assigned task.

To bring this further home to my heart and my need to overcome, God has been speaking to me about the need to spend concentrated quality time with the Lord every day. Four years ago when I moved to Mahomet, I dove headfirst into the work of the farm for the completion of the building project. It has been a very busy four years with much to do everyday. Starting early and ending later than earlier! To be honest, it's been a real struggle to find the same liberty in my schedule for time with God like I had when I lived back in California. And I have seen how innumerable times my spiritual walk has suffered from this malady. I know that I've responded curtly, arrogantly, and in anger many a time because I did not spend time before the Master of my life in the morning before facing the trials of my day. The trials are always going to come, they will always be there! And as long as we endure and stay in the fire, in the incubator of God to become sons, there are going to be trials. But I am coming to believe that I don't have to let those trials run over me and ruin me. Either I overcome Satan and learn, or Satan overcomes me and I learn. But either way the trials are going to come to produce change and deliverance in my soul. It is almost as like God says, "I am going to let you suffer under the foot of the enemy until you learn to take hold of the situation before it comes." We need to have the right mind and perspective, brethren, before the trial comes, not while the flood is already upon us and we are crying out to God to save us! To deliver us! To raise us up into the heavenlies above this low realm of drowning earth. Paul in Ephesians 6 commanded us to put on the armor of God. There is action that is required, effort, work and most certainly a change of our perspective of what we need. We are so quick to go to our jobs to provide food for ourselves and our families. But how quick am I to provide that spiritual food for myself and those around me?

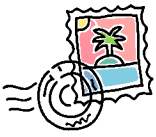
It reads in John 6:27, ***Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you: for him hath God the Father sealed.***

I believe that our sealing is something that is happening every day and in every circumstance. It is the life of God that we absolutely need in this hour to overcome! The mark is being placed on my forehead and my hand. What I think and what I do!

Isaiah 55:1-3, ***Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. ²Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread? and your labour for that which satisfieth not? hearken diligently unto me, and eat ye that which is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness. ³Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David.***

God wants us to labor for the eternal bread, that life of God that is able to save our souls. Changing our mind to have the mind of Christ, because it is only Christ who can change our perspective. And may we see that someone is always paying for our redemption; until the mind of Christ comes and takes full control of every action, word and attitude. John 6:48, ***I am that bread of life.*** Romans 5:10, ***For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.*** ☺





From the Desk of the Editor...



Dear Brethren,

KIT is in the process of its ongoing development, much like the caterpillar moving towards its destiny as a butterfly. First, it was the changing of the format in which the Bulletin was printed and now we are in the process of converting the mailing format of the KIT. **We are in need of your help.** We have found that mailing the KIT individually to each fellowship is not as economical as sending it out under the USPS bulk mailing procedure. To do this, we have to have a mailing list of at least two hundred names. Unfortunately, we do not have that many names and this is where **you** can assist us. What we need for you to do is accumulate a list of individuals that desire to receive the KIT; this is including those that are in the fellowship and have received the KIT via the fellowship. Please send that list to us. If there are others that you believe would enjoy receiving and reading the KIT, then we would ask that you would also include their names. We are wanting names of people that really desire to have this evangelistic tool in their accoutrements of warfare.

The second request that I would like to discuss is the issue of time. In order for us to get through this process of change, we are in need of all of you expediting the compilation of names. The sooner that it is done, the sooner that each and every one of you will be able to receive your Keeping In Touch Bulletin. I am very much aware that you all have lives to live, families to care for or work to do. So I understand the sacrifice of time and effort to be expended for this endeavor, and would like to express my appreciation for your diligence in facilitating us with this move. If I might be so bold, I would like to suggest that in each of the fellowships there could be someone designated, in that particular fellowship, to have the responsibility of making, keeping and mailing that list to us. It will be a great help to us, in making sure that there are no duplications or mistakes concerning names and addresses.

I would also like to thank the many of you out there that have expressed their delight in the change that we have made. I personally have not heard one negative comment concerning the change, but only good reports. I would also encourage all of you not to discard the Word of God to the trash can when you have finished with your current issue. Take it to the nursing home, or some place that you are allowed to leave literature. You never know what seed you may have helped to plant with just that little bit of extra care and due diligence. **Yours in Christ,**

Brother Burt
Editor-In-Chief
Mark 10:42-45

PHONE: 217-586-5673
EMAIL: kitbulletin@truevine.net
Shannon Asbill at tynshan@aol.com
US POST: News Bulletin, PO Box 409, Mahomet IL 61853

Living Word
Omega Message
PO Box 409
Mahomet IL 61853



2272 County Road 350 E
Directions: Take Hwy 47
North from Mahomet. We are
the first right after Briar Cliff
Subdivision.

All Are Welcome!

Meeting Schedule
Wednesday Evening
7:30pm Bible Study
Sunday Morning
10:00am Fellowship