

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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Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works,  
and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

Matthew 5:16

# Info Center

February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2006

Here we are making another edition of the bulletin! It is a delight to learn the new skills needed to run our programs and make the bulletin look as nice as we can. We hope it is a blessing to all who partake of it! There is much to sit back and read on these blustery days at the beginning of spring. From the hot climate of Africa, we have reports from several brethren on the experiences that were had during the last two mission trips. In the days after the conference in December, some of the ladies have written their thoughts on what they learned and heard. Our staff member, Melissa Trotter, has blessed us with an encouraging article about prayer and raising our children. It goes hand in hand with the article entitled Discipline is Disciple(ing) My Child to Christ, so be sure to read them both! Last, but never least, we have printed a word that was spoken by Brother Burt Asbill. All in all, we believe that God is truly wonderful and has provided much material to give out to you, our readers!

Living Word Omega Message  
News Bulletin  
PO Box 409  
Mahomet, IL 61853

## March 2006

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Meeting Schedule  
Sundays at 10am

Wednesdays at 7:30pm

Prison Ministry Schedule

Sunday Mornings on the 12<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>  
Monday Evenings weekly

# Kids Chronicles



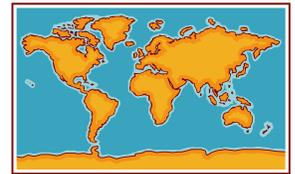
By Anna Trotter



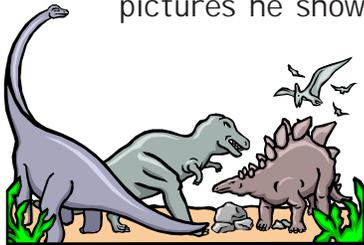
Last night, I was sleeping and I was dreaming this bad dream and I couldn't stop thinking about it this morning when I woke up. The Lord said to me, "Bind the devil," and I did. It didn't work the first time but when I did it again, it worked.

Then He gave me song and it was "Jesus Loves Me This I Know." God gave me that for that time so that I wouldn't think about anything else besides Him. I think God really did it for me so that I could live more up to heaven and so that I would be able to remember to read my Bible and pray more often. I praise God for that. The End.

Going to See Mr. Hovind By Isaac Trotter



I went to see Mr. Kent Hovind in Danville, Illinois. I went to see him three times. One time he talked about the lies in the textbooks and he also talked about the age of the earth. It was very interesting and the pictures he showed were funny. At the breaks they had and at

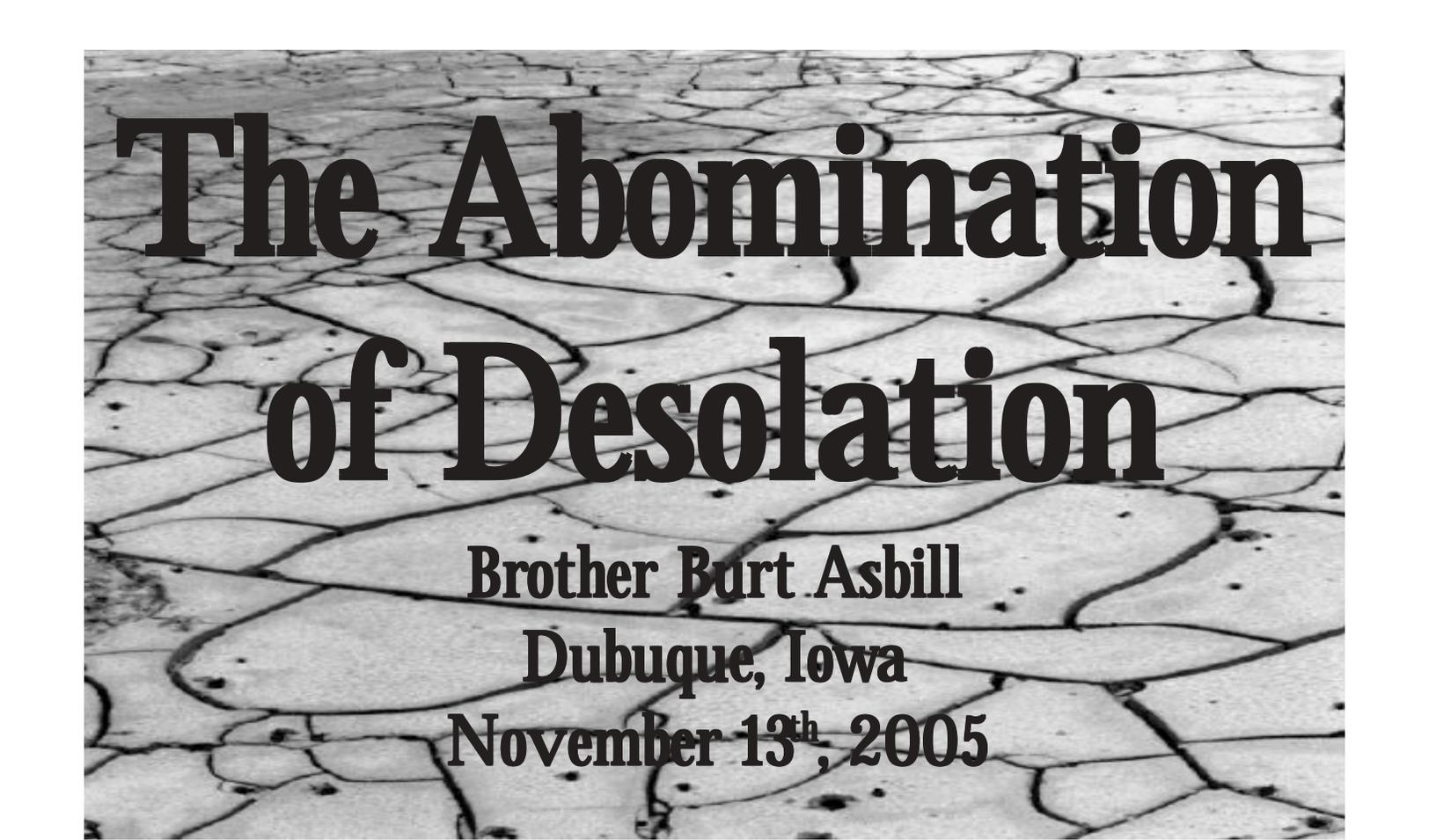


night, he would take us kids and show us how to shoot rubber bands very far and to make paper airplanes that could go over an entire football field. It was really neat. Also, I learned that you don't have to get evolution out of the schools, but the lies out of the textbooks and evolution will go. I hope he will come back so that we can listen some more. Also, whoever was not there, it was very good. The End.

## *In Loving Memory*

*We mourn with Femi, Becky and Remi Adedoyin the loss of Femi's mother on January 30, 2006. Femi's testimony of his mother is that she was a mighty woman of God, as well as mighty in prayer. It was Femi's desire to once more put his eyes upon his mother's face before she broke the bonds of earth and was delivered into her heavenly abode. It was not to be, as the Lord had determined to take her home before Femi had been able to see her again. Our hearts and prayers are with the Adedoyin household, and we know our brother knows that his mom sees him from her lofty perch and that her legacy and her love are something that he will never lose.*

*The Word of God says in Psalm 116:15, **Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints.** Please keep the Adedoyin family in your prayers. At 92 years old, his mother was stability in the family. Her passing is a significant loss for Femi as well as the remainder of the family in Nigeria. May God give our brother wisdom and compassion in his every approach to the family dilemma he is now facing, that the will of God might be done in his life and the lives of all of his family.*



# The Abomination of Desolation

Brother Burt Asbill  
Dubuque, Iowa  
November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2005

Father, we do thank You for Your presence. We thank You for Your goodness. Thank You for the grace that is given, much more and far beyond what we are able to conceive or comprehend. Father, we thank You for this opportunity to gather in Your presence that we might break the bread of life. Father, we pray that that which is spoken will be that which Thou speakest. Father, we want not words of men or intellectual manipulation of the scripture. Father, we want You to be exalted, to be lifted up, in Jesus' name. Praise the Lord. Praise the Lord.

There's such a preponderance of scripture that is coming to me this morning. It's kind of difficult to know just where to start, but I trust that the Lord will begin to work it out. When I left here last night, the Lord shouted at me the verse that is found in Matthew 24, so I think it would be good for us to open our Bibles to that point. I also want to go into Revelation, not in depth, but to point out something that the Lord spoke to me awhile back. I want to talk, about the plan, the purposes and the intent of God. Of course, that probably surprises most of you, but that's what is on my heart this morning. Praise the Lord.

So, we want to get into that a little bit. It's really an ongoing development. I used to picture it on the board parallel, side by side, but I have kind of revised my thinking a little bit, and I'm drawing eternity like this now (see figure a). This line here is the boundary between heaven and hell. Whether you are aware of it or not, there are only

two destinies to choose from that you and I, as human beings, have in this arena that we call life. Now, we like to think that we have more alternatives and that there's some gray area in there that we can stake out and it can be something of our own and we can mess around in that environment and not suffer some sort of consequence. It may be that we are comforted by the knowledge we have concerning the message of sonship and hope that when judgment comes, that we will be acquitted. But if we find ourselves in some position of compromise; we have not really been fanatical about one or the other, then that isn't true. You didn't make the rules of the game. It would be a lot like Job facing God when God said, "Were you there?" We are a lot like Job in our assumptions sometimes, (forgive me, Job, if I'm misjudging you) in that there is a certain knowledge we have that makes us think in a certain way that is not conducive to righteousness.

Now, all of these terms are Christian terms, but they have a meaning. If we don't understand the reality of the meaning, then we really won't get the point and we will continue doing what we're doing and probably some of us will miss out on what God really wants and desires for each and every one of us. You see, in the I AM, He wants the 100%. That's what Elohim wants. The I AM wants 100%. I suppose you could put that over here if you wanted to. Yahweh wants 100% (see figure b). That's what He wants, 100%. Now, the 100% isn't in the aspect of what

you have to achieve or work for, the 100% is what the I AM had in His mind in the very beginning and the intensity with which you desire it. You see, Elohim created something in Himself when He created man. He created something outside of you and I, something that would be unattainable as far as we are concerned if it were not for the fact that Yahweh intended it and planned it that way. He created a position, He created an entity or a personality. He created it and He called it 100%. You could just as well say *son* (see figure c), but you can't be a son in the way that the I AM is intending for you to be a son unless you move and desire the 100% with your 100%. If I'm hired by a firm to do a certain job and I am satisfied or content with what I am doing, whatever I do is all that I ever will achieve in what I am doing. I'm always going to have other things that are going on that will take precedence. I am going to have other desires that are going to interfere with whatever it is that I am doing.

Maybe you're not into it, but do you know the team mentality? "We're a team." It's a right concept in a wrong environment. The devil takes the mechanics of God and twists and perverts them. In the natural arena, "You and I are going to work together as a team, but we are going to work together that we might get rich." And basically, if I'm hiring you on my team, you're not going to be as rich as I am. I'm going to bless you, you know what I mean? I will bless you to some extent, so that the more I bless you, the more you bless me. So, you endeavor to do what you have to do in order to be blessed. All the time you're being blessed, I'm being blessed! "Oh, this is teamwork!" Right? Right concept, wrong environment.

Well, it's not like that in the economy of Yahweh. The only thing that the I AM requires of us is our cooperation. That's all He needs. A 100% willing heart. What does it say about an offering? *The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise* (Psalm 51:17). This is an offering that the I AM will not despise. It has nothing to do with who we are, what we are, what we can do, how much of it we can do, what we know, or anything that is consistent with our humanity, because Elohim has worked it all out. It's like having this endowment fund. Never have to work, it's always there in the bank, all you have to do is go to the bank and get it. The problem is that we kind of wander hither and yon without really ever going to the bank to get what we need in order to live as we should live or to get what we need

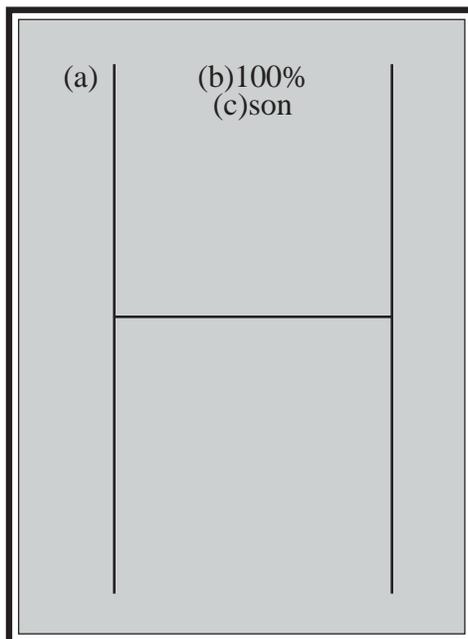
to get. Hallelujah. So, there is a plan, there is a thought that is in the heart of the I AM.

Matthew 24:14, *This gospel of the kingdom...* You know, man has built humongous denominations on the basis of that thought. Man has gone hither and yon all over the world on that thought. But this thought has not necessarily perpetrated the gospel of the Kingdom of Yehovah as much as it has perpetrated and manifested the gospel of the kingdom of man. Every kingdom that has been built in the name of the I AM, man has taken over and perverted and subverted that he might give himself a position of exaltation. It all has worked contrary to the thought and to the desire of Yehovah God.

Quite frankly, I believe you have that teamwork mentality working in those church environments, only it has a religious coat. It's not just about being saved. Of course, you have to get saved in order to be eligible. You have to get saved, you have to have a born again experience with Yehovah in order for you to be a candidate, but the fact of being saved doesn't bring to you the reality or the totality of what Yehovah has created for you in your getting saved! But you know, it's funny, we kind of think sometimes that that's it! "I've got my foot in the door!" "I'm in that place, I'm in that position." Now, we may not necessarily say that with our mouth, but we say it with our actions, with the way that we are and the things that we do. Or maybe I should say it this way, the things that we don't do. Have you ever said, "I'm not going to do that!" Hello? Am I talking to the wrong people? "I'm not going to do that. They're not going to make me do that!" "Oh no! I'm not going to do that!" "Well, if they think I'm going to do that, they have to think again!" You never thought that way? Never had that problem? You have never found yourself in that position? I find myself there every day!

Well, the fact of the matter is, there was a time that we were alive and Paul talks about it in Romans 7:9. Let's start at verse seven.

*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.* Oh boy, covetousness and lust are synonymous. Hello? Now, if you were looking at something and I said, "Stop your lusting," you'd probably get mad at me. If you were looking at this nice little car, this nice house, this nice suit, this nice thing and I said, "Stop lusting." "Boy, I'd like to have that." "Stop lusting." You'd probably get upset with me, wouldn't you? You'd

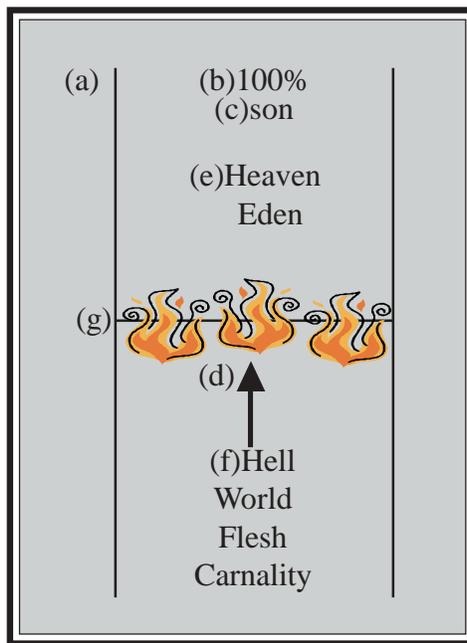


probably be offended with me, wouldn't you? You'd probably be angry with me, wouldn't you? Hallelujah. I'm not a gray person, I'm sorry. I'm not a gray person. I'm not gray. It's either black or white, and I believe that that is the scriptural position that one must take. The Bible says, "I love righteous and hate wickedness" (Psalm 45:7). Now, I can believe and have tolerance, or, if you prefer, mercy, for black as long as black is turning gray. That means that there is a trip being made and black becomes less black. I can tolerate gray in that respect, but that doesn't change my perspective. Now hear me out. It doesn't change my perspective, and if you think I am rough on you, how rough do you think that I am on myself? I am not one of those that doesn't try to practice what he preaches and, quite frankly, the Lord seems very much concerned about keeping my nose to the grindstone. This color black has to turn gray in order to demonstrate the fact that it's making its transition into this realm called heaven (see figure d). Hallelujah.

All right, you could call this heaven right here, and we could call this hell (see figure e). Hell is also called world as well as being called flesh. Another term that is used to describe this position in hell is the word *carnality*. So you see, hell really has many definitions (see figure f), but every definition has the same end. It produces the same result. Now, one of these may be hell to one degree or another, but if you take them in progression, or if you find yourself wallowing in this position, your destiny is going to be what the Bible calls *geenna* (Strong's Concordance #G1067 translated as *hell* in the KJV) (Matthew 5:22). Hello? There are only two alternatives, that's all you have. You don't have any middle ground. Does anybody see anything up there that's middle area?

It says in Romans 7:8 that, ***But sin taking occasion by the commandment...*** What commandment? Well, Jesus spoke to Adam in the midst of the garden and He said, "You don't eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. In the day that you eat it you shall die" (Genesis 2:16-17). Hallelujah. And do you know what? When he ate it, he died. Now, we know that because we have read the back of the book. We have read the end of the story, but the fact of the matter is that there is no middle ground right here.

We like to think that we have some leeway or some position of compromise. I want to tell you, compromise is a diabolical term. It did not come out of the heavenly



dictionary, did you know that? The Bible says of God that there is no what? No shadow of turning (James 1:17). Does that mean that He's different today than He was yesterday, or He's different tomorrow than He is today? It says He's the same. The same. The same! The same. Absolutely the same. I mean, does your Bible say something different? If it does, throw it away. Throw it away. The Bible says that in the I AM there is no variability. He's the same. Not only does it say that, but it says there is no shadow of turning.

Okay, this is the Yehovah God that laid down the rule. The song that came to me this morning was, "Thou lovest righteousness and hatest wick-

edness" (Psalm 35:7). Do any of you find some compromise in that statement? Now, let's take it a step further because Jesus Himself defined the word *hate*. Hello? Jesus defined the word *hate*. Do any of you remember where and when He defined it? He said, Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer (I John 3:15). Why? Because it's not a thought, it's not a thing, it's an action that is perpetrated against something else. And that action is something that is detrimental to the entity toward which it is directed. He defined it as an action of death. So, when Elohim says, "I hate wickedness," what is He saying? "I'm going to wipe it out. I'm going to annihilate it. I'm going to get rid of it. There is no room in my economy for evil to exist!" Boy, where does that put you and I? No wonder the Bible says that we need to work out our salvation with fear and trembling (Philippians 2:12). That is not somebody standing over your shoulder saying, "Okay, now, you can't do this and you can't do that." It is about you having a knowledge in your heart that makes you know that if you begin to participate in certain things, it will begin to eradicate your history from the presence of the I AM. We must have an understanding that there is something going on in the Spirit!

Listen to me, brethren. Man is born again. Listen, this is where the fire starts. This right here is where the fire starts (see figure g). There is a fire right here. Do you want the middle ground? They say a picture is like a thousand words. Do you want to be in the middle ground? This isn't Burt's theology. This is scriptural. When did Adam die? Do you know when he died? The Bible tells us when he died. Did you know the Bible tells us when he died? (Genesis 2:17,3:6) He said that he was driven out of Eden (Genesis 3:22-24). Why? Lest he partake of what? He was in the realm of life. He was alive. He was vibrant.

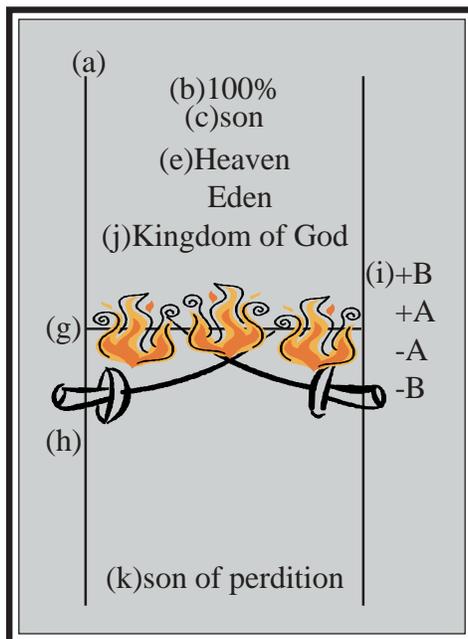
He was being filled with God and God was walking and talking with him, working His way to the inside of him. The great I AM was having a relationship with him. He was in the environment of the great I AM on a day by day, moment by moment situation. Hallelujah! He was alive! But he died!! The I AM drove him out of His presence. And He put what? Cherubim with flaming swords which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life (Genesis 3:24). So, I could have just as well have drawn that flaming sword. Oh yes. Praise the Lord. Isn't HE wonderful? My goodness. I could have just as well put these swords there, flaming swords, right (see figure h)? With flames coming off and, brethren, I want to tell you, that is the initiation of fire and for you and me to get from point A to point B, or from point B to point A. We have a negative alphabet. You know what I mean? You have A here, but you have minus B here, and you have A here which is a plus with a plus B here (see figure i). Hallelujah. Yehovah meets us right here. I'm talking to you out of Matthew 24:14 (I want to remind you). It says, ***This gospel***; I'm talking about THIS gospel of the Kingdom. That's not really the verse that I wanted, but it's the next one that talks about the abomination, but maybe, praise the Lord, we might get there. We find ourselves in this predicament before we meet God. We are not where Adam was. How many of you know that? How many of you know you are not where Adam was? Adam was here in this realm that was called heaven, or Eden, right? You can call it the Kingdom of God (see figure j). You can call it all of these things, but remember, it has as its intent a position, an entity, a personality that is eternal.

As I have said before, the devil is not an original thinker. Hello? God created him on the basis of him receiving his life from God. So that means any and every substance that he was or what he could get had to come from God. Stupid devil, to think that he could get life from a different source. So, the devil is limited in what he can do. Nevertheless, the intent of Satan is to bring forth a son also. He's not an original thinker. Go into Isaiah 14:13, and get the "I wills." "I will ascend, I will exalt, I will become," all of these things are pertinent to the devil's theology. The devil has, unlike God, many ways to get there. Oh, yes, he does! You can be a Catholic and you can get there. You can be a Baptist and you can get there. You can be a Pentecostal and you can get there. He doesn't care if you're Baptist, Pentecostal, or Catholic. He doesn't care! He doesn't care if you're

Protestant! How many of you know that Protestant really has nothing to do with God? Protestant has nothing to do with God because, you see, God isn't interested in you being Protestant! Isn't that a strange concept, Brother Tom? No Protestants in heaven, can you imagine that? I mean, there's going to be people that were Lutheran in heaven. Lutheran? People that were Catholic! Catholic? People that were Methodists! Methodist? They're all going to be in heaven. But you know what? They're not going to be Lutheran or Catholic or Methodist anymore! So, if the anymore then applies in that arena, why is it so significant now? You know, there's really not going to be any come-out-of-hers there either. There really aren't going to be any end-time groups in the heavenlies. Oh yes. Oh yes. Not in heaven - no end-time groups! Where am I going to go to church? Who am I going to fellowship with? Maybe you never thought about it.

Jesus says there is only one way to get into heaven. You want scripture for that? Sure you do. It's found in Matthew 7:14 and it says, ***narrow***. N-A-R-R-O-W! Oh, so confining, so very restrictive! I don't want to hear those words! I want prosperity! But wide is the way that leads to destruction! Wide! Wide! Why is it so wide? Because it can encompass so many different things. The devil is as a roaring lion (I Peter 5:8). You can be religious and get to hell, but you don't *have to be* religious to get to hell. But what you have to be to get to heaven is consecrated! Can you say that word? Consecrated! Dedicated! Hello? Focused! Fanatical! Oh, my! Now, he's getting over the edge. We can't be fanatical! Well, I'll tell you what, I'd rather be fanatical for something that I am convinced is the way to get me into heaven than to be lukewarm and find myself wandering around in the wilderness. Hallelujah.

Son of perdition (see figure k)! Only two options! Two, two, two! Do you hear me? Two! Only two! Not four! Just two! Only two and one of them really isn't a choice. It's like being confronted. Come on! Jesus said that unless you eat My flesh and drink My Blood, you have no part in Me (John 6:53)! They were stupid people to get up and leave when he said that. They did not understand. They were so carnal, so religiously correct; I don't know what they were thinking. They couldn't possibly have thought that this man was saying that they had to actually take some piece of his flesh and bite it and chew it and assimilate it and then cut him open and bring his blood into a cup and

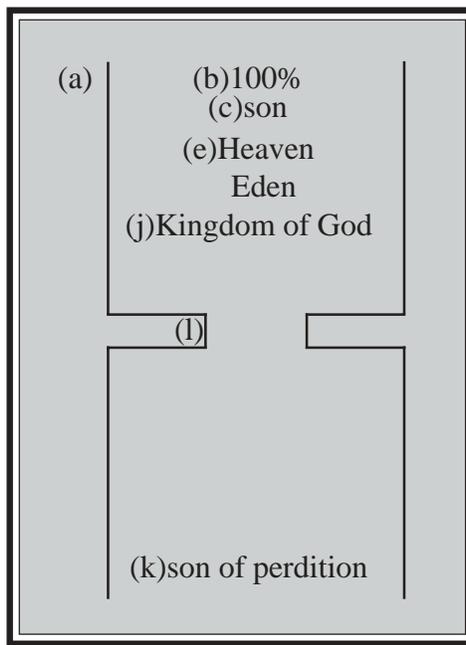


drink it. I can't possibly believe that they were thinking that, but you know, it happens all the time. Some things some people say about you or me or something, we just swallow it. We just swallow it. (Glug, cough, gasp, choke.) Oftentimes it's to our own detriment. We find ourselves choking and our fellowship is broken! Stupid! There is no other word for it. Stupid. Just plain stupid.

You know, many years ago I was involved in a situation with a couple friends of mine. It wasn't here; it wasn't there in Illinois. It was many, many, many years ago. We were in the business of serving the Lord, as we are now, and these people were working for my father at the time.

There was a situation that arose where somebody had some sort of contention with me over something that I said, and this person was telling these two brothers about their discontent with what I said. You know, these two brothers knew me. You understand? I fellowshipped with them. I walked with them. One of them had been in the ministry with me, working side by side. It was nobody that you know. You don't know them personally, so don't hypothesize. Don't start wondering in your minds. You know, I'm saying this because somebody's thinking, "I wonder who it could be?" Anyway, they were complaining to these two brothers about the thing that I did and they said, "Oh, we don't know. You'll have to talk to Brother Burt about it." Finally, we got the issued settled and I went to these brothers and I said, "You guys surprised me. You know that I would not do what she thinks that I did. You know me! You know me uncategorically! Know me! Why is it that you would think that of me and not oppose the accusation? And then, if there is doubt, come and find out if it's true."

This is what it was like when Jesus said, "You have to eat My flesh, drink My Blood..." Wasn't it seventy who were walking and talking with Him? Following Him around all over Israel, you know, hearing the Word of the Father and then He says something that completely, totally blows them out of the spiritual realm and they find themselves in the wilderness. He asked His disciples, "Will you also forsake Me? Will you twelve leave Me, also?" (John 6:67). And Peter said, "Jesus, where would we go?" At least they had that much sense. We don't even have that much sense. We don't! We cut off our nose to spite our face. We don't know the reality of the Word that we are fellowshipping with and we think that, because we are a part of the church or are in the midst of the Word of God,



that there is some leniency for individual preference that allows the human aspect of our being to survive. That is one of the most common difficulties in marriages, you understand. One partner does not see the other partner as a piece or a part of the I AM. Oh boy. Of course, you don't have that problem. Oh yes, you do.

This gospel. I'm talking about a gospel, I'm talking about a thought, I'm talking about a desire that was in the heart of I AM... You know, I often wonder what it is that Yehovah God is doing and why He is doing it. One of the thoughts that came to me is that Elohim is so big, He is so absolutely out of proportion to our way

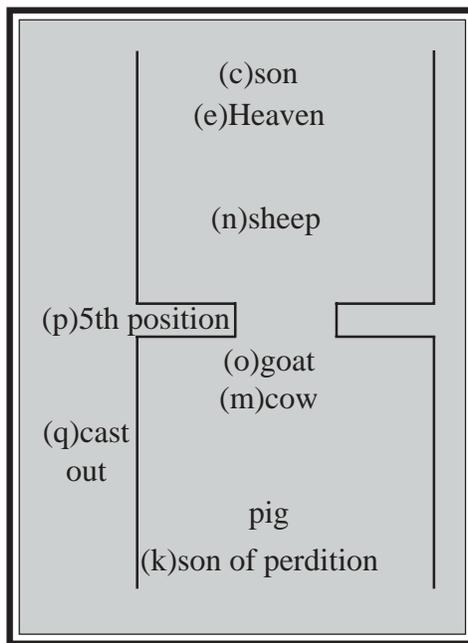
of thinking that there is nothing in the natural arena that will ever, ever be able to manifest or display the totality of who He is. How would you manifest eternity? How would you demonstrate or draw omniscience? How would you do it? Well, I'll tell you how Elohim is doing it. He's taking this person and this one and that one and that one over here, and this one and this one and this one. He's putting a little piece of Him here in you and a little piece of Him there and a little piece of Him over here. Some of it is going in over there and some of it's coming in here and some of it's coming in there and some of it's over here. All of a sudden, when it all comes together, you begin to comprehend the greatness of the I AM! Quite frankly... Come on, I'm not being sacrilegious. If Jesus was enough, He wouldn't be doing what He is doing with us at this point in time. Now, don't go out of here saying that Burt just demoted Jesus and elevated humanity. Besides, humanity is not the answer. The answer is divinity. He is the head. You have to have something attached to the head, don't you? Don't you have to have something attached to the head? My goodness, what if we just walked around here with only a head? Head. Head. He's a head! Of what value? You would more likely be repulsed by the fact that there is just a head. Yeshua wants a body because Yehovah wants a son! Hello? Yeshua was the first installment. Jesus was the essential needed ingredient that opened up a way for us out of hell into heaven (see figure 1). I don't know that I so much like that little illustration of the cross over the gap because, you know, I'm not coming from one side over here that's nice and pleasant over into another side that's a little bit more of the same. I'm coming up out of a hole that is called hell. Let it be a rope. An asbestos rope. It's not so much me pulling myself up the

rope as much as it is Him grappling me up out of the hole. I'm not eliminating Jesus, but I'm not eliminating our position or place of responsibility. Oh brother, it would have been better to be in the Baptist church if we just wanted to feel safe in whatever we chose to do. Once saved, always saved. You could just go out and do whatever you wanted to do when you wanted to do it and then go back and be Baptist. As long as you are Baptist, you're all right! You're safe! Absolutely. That's what they believe. I was Baptist. I was Baptist when they were really Baptist, Brother Wade. If you were anything but Baptist, if you didn't belong to the Southern Baptist Convention, you weren't saved. You

could be free will or whatever you want to be Baptist, but you weren't saved because you didn't belong to them! It's not about denominations and yet we are a denominational people. It's a difference between being, (I'm going to be nice to you) it's a difference between being cows or pigs. Quite frankly, it's kind of leveling. Cows. You want to talk about evolution? This is where evolution comes in, because as you resist God as a cow, you become a pig (see figure m). I don't know how the evolutionists are going to work that one out, but you wait and see. Oh, hallelujah.

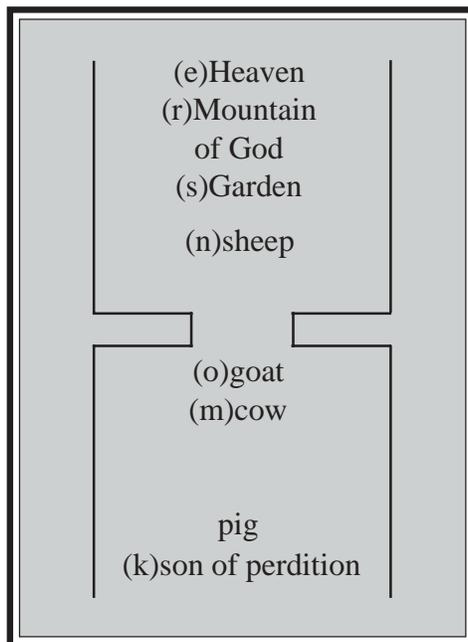
So anyway, we are talking about moving from this realm into this realm. This is the sheep realm (see figure n). I didn't say goat. The goat is still something that is relegated to this realm (see figure o). Wasn't the sin offering also goat? Yes, it was. Hallelujah. Praise the Lord. So, we're talking about the plan and the purposes of God to move us from this point of negative A to a plus A.

Turn with me, if you would, over into Revelation for just a moment. There were seven churches and they were given seven words. I want to look at the fifth church, Sardis, and it's found in Revelation chapter 3. Let's go down here to verse five, which is the number of grace, also the number of ministry. **He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life.** Did any of you get that? It was not until the fifth church, the fifth stage, that there was any sense of security or finality with regard to one's



said of Satan, **Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee. <sup>16</sup>By the multitude of thy merchandise they have filled the midst of thee with violence, and thou hast sinned: therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God: and I will destroy thee, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire.** This area that is called heaven is then the arena from which Satan was being cast out (see figure q). Therefore, this heaven area becomes synonymous with the position in the Bible called the mountain of God (see figure r).

The verse says he was cast out. Cast out of what? Cast out of where? Go up to Ezekiel 28:13, **Thou hast been... where? ...in Eden the garden of God.** Okay. Would drawing it like this be better for you? Does it make it more palatable? Here is the garden of God (see figure s).

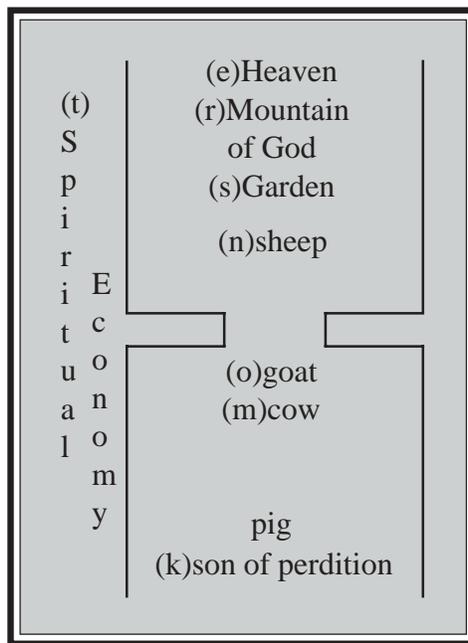


Have you ever noticed that the Bible uses many different words to express and to explain one thought? Genesis 1:26 says that they, the IAM, communed with Himself and they said, "Let us make man in our own image." He (Elohim) wrote 65 more books and only God knows with how many people. How many people did it take to decipher and translate the Bible? Why did He do all of that? Why? Because He wanted to write it and make it plain that He, Yahweh, in the beginning, had a thought, had an intent, had a desire and He took all of these pages to express that thought, to express that intention.

How much blood did it take to pen the pages? Did you know that you and I are like the stylus pen of God, and that He writes the living Word on the basis of that blood that we are willing to shed with regard to that position of righteousness? Do you think that your overcoming spiritually is some sort of linguistic metaphor to give you some sort of thought or idea of what's going on? Spiritually, you're bleeding when you begin to resist the devil. Spiritually, you begin to bleed because the devil is as a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour (I Peter 5:8). The fact is that, as we overcome in the Spirit, by the Spirit, for the Spirit, there is the real reality that one day we will have to

bleed naturally. If you're not willing to die or bleed spiritually, you're not going to be willing to die or to bleed naturally. You're going to do everything you possibly can do to preserve your position of life and liberty. You're going to do whatever it takes. Unfortunately, some of us may even forsake the Lord. I have to consider it as a probability. Do you hear me? Paul had to consider the probability of him being overcome by his flesh. He said, "I have to bring my body under subjection to the power and the unction, the anointing of God" (I Corinthians 9:27).

I'm so glad for Paul. Whenever I think that I'm really something more than what I really am, I just begin to think of Paul. I think of the problems and the tribulation that that man went through to obtain the awareness of the reality of what he was speaking. "I knew a man, whether in the body or out of the body..." (II Corinthians 12:2-3). "I knew a man that was shipwrecked three times." (II Corinthians 11:25). What do you think he was thinking out there? Do you think he was looking out over the horizon and saying, "Where is that ship, Lord? Where is that life preserver? Where is there somebody to save me?" I don't know what he was thinking, but I know what I would be thinking. "God, how did I get into this thing?" I think he had a good report. **For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain** (Philippians 1:21). That's what he said. He had made up his mind, long before he was there in Jerusalem waiting for the executioner. Do you hear me? He had a divine appointment. Do you think that if he was thinking about his neck, he could have testified to Nero of the goodness and the grace of God? Do you think he was any different with Nero than he was with Festus and Agrippa? Do you think the conviction or the unction or the anointing was any less prevalent in that circumstance? That was the epitome of his life. He had run his race, he had come up to



the finish line and he was going to break forth through the ribbon with as much strength and vitality and ability that he had when he started it. We wimp out, we snivel, we groan, we moan, we complain. Of course, you don't do that. We form our little commiserating clubs. We call this one, we call that one, and we commiserate and we commiserate and we commiserate, not knowing that we are working against the plan and purpose of God and we are resisting the move of the Holy Ghost to extract us out of our humanity.

I was in the greenhouse one day and I said, "God, I wish it was this easy." When we go into the greenhouse we plant these little seeds in

these special little trays. They all have their little individual tray and those trays are formulated in such a way with plastic that the plants won't cling or grip. You can just pop it on the bottom of the tray and the plant pops right out. "God, I wish it was that easy." I wish being transplanted was that easy. You know, just pop it out. But if you leave them in the tray too long, the roots will work themselves down through the holes in the bottom. Then when you bring them loose you just tear everything up, but out it comes because you're not going to leave it there. It has got to come out. It is of no value in the tray and besides that, it's going to end up in the trash can. It's of no value; you've got to pull it out in hope. It is in hope, in some manner, as you plant it in the ground. "God, bless it, let it multiply, let it grow!" You know, we are a lot like that. Some of us can pop out just like that, but some of us are really stuck. We have our roots all entwined around things of no value.

Paul said it a different way. He said, "Oh, foolish Galatians! Foolish Galatians! Who hath bewitched you?" (Galatians 3:1). Foolish! I've given you the Word of life! I've demonstrated to you the power of God and His plan and purposes! I've focused you. I gave you a road map of how to get there, and you have turned away from the truth and you've gone back to the beggarly elements."

We get so wrapped up in the mechanics of humanity. I knew a family that couldn't stand each other. They were always fighting, always clobbering one another, verbally and physically. They couldn't stand each other, but boy, you pick on one or the other and you had better watch out, because you had them all to deal with! All of a sudden, they were the best of friends. No animosity between them at all, and they were all on top of you, beating the snot out of you!

We don't understand the spiritual economy. This is all natural, but over here is what I like to call the spiritual economy (see figure t). I call it the spiritual economy of God. There are spiritual principles, and those spiritual principles are higher than the spiritual principles that are at work on the natural realm. In fact, they are the reason for which things work in the natural. That's what Paul was saying to the Galatians. "You're taking your eyes off the spiritual and putting them on the mechanics of the natural arena. You are doing things that are not conducive to life and to liberty."

There was a woman who died on 9/11. She stayed back to have a birthday party for her husband. It was the last birthday party she ever attended. She was scheduled to leave the day before. She rescheduled her flight because of a birthday party for her husband. Now, I'm not against birthdays. I'm really not. I take my wife out, when I'm around, for dinner for her birthday. I buy her a card, but if I'm in Africa when her birthday comes and I can't communicate with her, I'm not all bummed out about it. She's not all bummed out about it. She's praising the Lord, hallelujah. (Aren't you?) The proof of the pudding is in the eating. If some of you don't get your birthday, my goodness, we might as well stay away from you for a week. You're going to be so miserable and you're going to be so disappointed and so frustrated, and angry because they didn't honor you! They didn't give you that thing that you really wanted. "Ooooh... this... Oh, this is (cough, cough) nice." I don't think that I'm stretching the truth.

Let your husband not think of something that's important. Anniversaries. Oh yes, they're so nice, they're so lovely when you can have them. That's fine. Do whatever it is you have to do, but don't let it have control over your life! Is it just to remind you that you're married? Now, if anniversaries are that important and that's what it's for, I suggest you have all the anniversaries you can have. I don't need a particular date to appreciate the fact that I'm married to this woman. Hallelujah.

We are so wrapped up in the mechanics of family and familiarity. "Oh, there he goes again, he's going to step on it!" Now, remember, Mary, you said you're going to like me anyway. All of these mechanical things are things that are not designed with a heavenly intent. How can my birthday in a natural arena have anything to do with my becoming a son of God? Now, if I want to celebrate a birthday, let me celebrate being born again! Except, that would be wrong, too. But

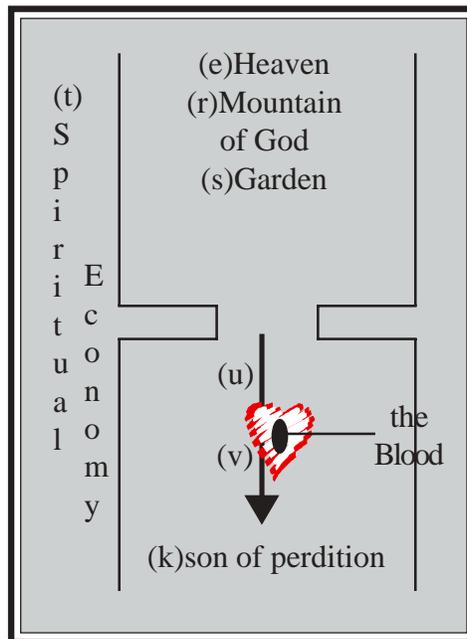
I would rather be less wrong than really wrong.

Brethren, I'm talking about the things in our lives that are hindering us from ascending. We're talking about this gospel of the Kingdom that must be preached! It MUST be preached! Hallelujah.

Let me go back into Ezekiel 28:15. ***Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee.*** Boy, I want to go on reading, but I just have to stop. You see, ***till iniquity was found in*** him. It wasn't that there wasn't iniquity before, because one little iniquity was adding up to another iniquity and another iniquity was adding up to another iniquity and another iniquity was making up another iniquity. All of that iniquity put together, all of it compressed together, was leading this entity that is called the devil in this direction until he came to a place where he created within himself a nature that was irreversible and irrevocable. He was changed beyond the ability of Yehovah to change him back (see figure u). That is scary. That is scary to me, scary, scary, scary. You want to know why? The devil is leading us down that same path. He is the god of this world. Come on, brethren. He is the god of this world. Oh boy. Ezekiel 28:15 says, ***till iniquity***. What does He mean? He had defiled all of his sanctuaries. He says, "You have crossed the line. Your creation is complete. You have fabricated and manufactured something that I can do nothing about except to exclude you." I mean, it is scary because I have that same power and ability. Oh, hallelujah. It says, ***...till iniquity was found in thee.*** ***16By the multitude of thy merchandise they have filled the midst of thee with violence, and thou hast sinned*** (Ezekiel 28:15-16). He crossed over an unredeemable line. Now, you think it's up here in the diagram, don't you? But this is where God finds me (see figure v). I was altogether created, in what? In iniquity,

and I was formed and fashioned in sin (Psalm 51:5). Am I preaching something other than what is in the Bible? Come on, brethren. We are talking about the beast nature. You see, there is a thought that you and I have that when we're saved, we are translated out of the realm of darkness into the realm of light. It isn't so much that we are moved out of hell into heaven, as it is that heaven comes down into hell and that is the initiation of transition.

Let me read it to you. Ezekiel 28:16, ***...therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God: and I will destroy thee, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire.*** And so on and so on...and

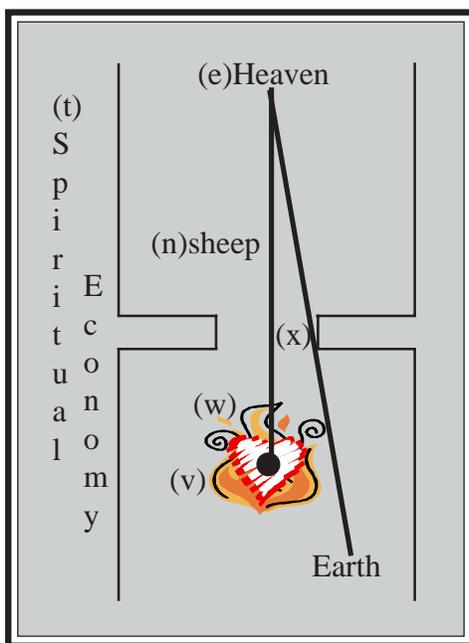


verse 18, *Thou hast defiled thy sanctuaries by the multitude of thine iniquities.* Come on! Iniquities! It was his personality and his preference, the position of thought that he had concerning his own position and his own right. It was the power of the nature that he had created, based upon the desires that he had for the things that he was involved with. I don't know how it must have gone in heaven, but I can imagine it on a lower level. It would be like calling up somebody and saying, "Did you see that on Sunday? ...Blah, blah, blah... and they did this, and what do you think about that over there, and how about this going on here and that going on over there? Don't you think that we should

have a rebellion? An insurrection? Maybe we should call for a new election?" Hallelujah. There were others that he took with him, so there must have been some sort of communication, some sort of rebellion, some sort of thing working there behind the scenes. He thought it was behind the scenes. We think we're so private, don't we? We just have this little secret that we tell this really good friend. But what we don't know is that that friend has another really good friend and what you told them goes there, but it goes there worse than what you originally said. Pretty soon what you have is sin. Come on, brethren. There is a spiritual economy and, you know, God does things in the spiritual realm that set a precedent and override the mechanical aspects of the relationships that we have with people in this natural realm. Oh yes. Yes, yes.

God invoked that spiritual principle on the cross to John concerning His mother. He said, "Woman, behold thy son" (John 19:26). Do you think that it was just the last dying act of a loyal and faithful son? He had a position of responsibility in the natural, but He also had a position of responsibility spiritually. He used His position of spiritual authority to set a precedent in the natural, for it says that that disciple took that woman into his house and he took care of her as though she were his mother. It wasn't any thought or any, "Well, it was all symbolic, it was all metaphorical." I'm telling you, God does some things in the spiritual realm that set a precedent and override the mechanics of the natural arena. Oh hallelujah, hallelujah.

When I said that we are in hell when we meet God, it is there in hell where the potential for transition is created. Verse 18, *Thou hast defiled thy sanctuaries by the multitude of thine iniquities, by the iniquity of thy traffic; therefore will I bring forth a fire from the midst of thee.* Where is that fire going to be? In the midst of where? Where's



that fire going to be? It's going to be right here in the midst of hell (see figure w). Do you remember what John chapter 3 says? John said that Elohim would baptize with Holy Ghost and fire. "I will bring forth a fire from the midst of thee."

Turn with me over into Joel 2:1. *Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in my holy mountain: let all the inhabitants of the land tremble: for the day of the Lord cometh, for it is nigh at hand; <sup>2</sup>A day of darkness (my goodness) and of gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness.* Does that sound like heaven to you? Does it? It doesn't sound like heaven to me. If it's heaven, I don't want to go there. <sup>2</sup>A

*day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness, as the morning spread upon the mountains: a great people and a strong; there hath not been ever the like, neither shall be any more after it, even to the years of many generations. <sup>3</sup>A fire devoureth before them; and behind them a flame burneth: the land is as the garden of Eden before them, and behind them a desolate wilderness (Joel 2:2-3).* Where are they? They're in the midst of the fire - fire before them, fire behind them, fire all around them. They're fire people. Do you want to be a fireman?

Hallelujah. Hallelujah. Let me go over into Revelation chapter one. This is the vision that John had of Jesus Christ. Revelation 1:12, *And I turned to see the voice that spake with me. And being turned, I saw seven golden candlesticks.* Jesus set the example. You could also call this area that is hell, earth, right? The son of man did what? He came from heaven down to earth. What does it mean? He came down from heaven to hell that He might redeem man from that position of corruption (see figure x). <sup>13</sup>*And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle. <sup>14</sup>His head and his hairs were white like wool, as white as snow; and his eyes were as a flame of fire; My goodness. <sup>15</sup>And his feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace; and his voice as the sound of many waters (Revelation 1:13-15).* Hallelujah.

Let us turn to Daniel 3:10. You know, I don't know if it's true, but I believe that it's true because I believe the Lord showed it to me one day when I was preaching. I believe that the image that Nebuchadnezzar made had to be dedicated with a living offering. Why do I say that? Because he was of the Chaldean religion and their religion

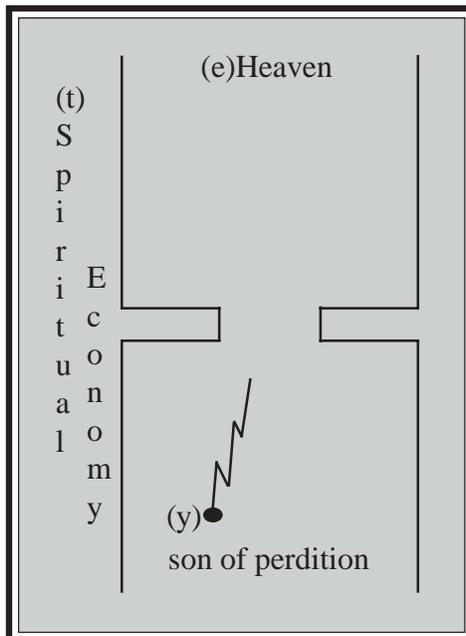
required the sanctification by living sacrifice. Not only do I believe that, but I also believe that that furnace that the story is talking about was built in the image. That's what I believe. Somebody can find it and show it to me and tell me about it. Daniel 3:10, *Thou, O king, hast made a decree, that every man that shall hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, and dulcimer, and all kinds of musick, shall fall down and worship the golden image.* Quite frankly, I think there is a lot of allegory that you could bring out of this story into the message that I'm sharing with you with regard to familiarity and the mechanics of what works in this realm that is called earth or world or hell. *There are certain Jews whom thou hast set over the affairs of the province of Babylon, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego; these men, O king, have not regarded thee: they serve not thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up* (verse 12). What are you going to do when they start enacting laws concerning your Christianity? Laws about what you can preach and what you cannot preach and you're brought before the magistrate with the charge that you are not observing the rules and giving recognition to the government? What are you going to do? *Then Nebuchadnezzar in his rage and fury commanded to bring Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. Then they brought these men before the king* (verse 13). Of course, you know how the story goes. The king threw them into the fire. Where did he throw them? Into the ice water? He threw them into the fire because they would not bow to the rule or to the spirit of the age. Oh boy. There's no middle ground. None. There's no middle ground. No middle ground. Let me go to Matthew 24 and I'm going to finish this up.

We're talking about the gospel, THIS gospel. The gospel of the Kingdom of God is what I am outlining for you. Not to become a member of a church because they believe what you believe and they're doing and they're preaching what you want to hear. It's not the accumulation of numbers or roll call, it is on the basis of the manifestation of the will of God to work out one's salvation in the midst of hell and in spite of hell, YOU PREACH THE GOSPEL! I don't mean you get up and say, "Thou must be saved." I mean you get up and you begin to demonstrate with your life that these things no longer have a position of power or authority over you to bring you into a place of bondage! Oh boy. Paul had the revelation down so well that he said, "Neither death nor life will separate me from the love of

God" (Romans 8:38). That tells me life can separate me from light. Neither death nor life. Do you know that we have life, but if we do not utilize the life and allow the life to bring forth the death that is required and necessary, then we will not come to a place of fruition or manifestation? Hallelujah. It says, *When ye therefore shall see... what? ...the abomination of desolation* (Matthew 24:15). What is He talking about? He's talking about the soul of an individual and a soul so devoid of the characteristics of God that there is absolutely no light of any quality coming forth and radiating from within the soul of man. He says to do what? *...flee into the mountains* (verse 16). Oh, hallelujah.

There's one more thought that I want to illustrate, if I may, and then I'm going to release you. I'm so glad for the mercy of God. His mercy endureth forever. You know, I start out over here (in hell) and I receive the Blood of Jesus Christ. I was down here somewhere, pretty close to the son of perdition (see figure y). I began to make my journey up. It looks kind of pitiful, doesn't it? But that's the way it was. And then I fall. You see, I'm still saved, I still have the Blood of Jesus, but the darkness that is all around me is telling me that I've lost it. Do you know something? There's a measurable difference between here and here. There's a measurable difference. I am encouraged by that measurable difference, so I begin to go on reaching for the top and I get a little higher. But before I can get there, something else happens and I fall, I stub my toe, I fall on my face. Once again, I find myself here on my face and the darkness that is all around me is ministering to me, "Oh, you've failed, you've lost it, you're absolutely out of it." But you know what? There's a measurable difference between here and there and there's a measurable difference between here and there. Proverbs 24:16 says, *For a*

*just man falleth seven times, and riseth up again,* and I'm encouraged. It says that David encouraged himself in the Lord (I Samuel 30:6). It means he was discouraged, brother. It doesn't mean that you're not going to have discouragement, but you have to encourage yourself in the Lord! "Father, You have called me, You have elected me. I'm sorry, Father. I have misbehaved. I have done the wrong thing, but, Father, You have brought me from this point to this point and surely if You brought me from here to there, then, Father, You will be able to get me to the top!" So, I always say, "God, if I fall, let me fall on my back," because I want my *continued on page 24...*



# God Has one CHURCH

*A continuation of testimonies  
from the August/September 2005 trip to Nigeria, Africa*

*by Brother Russ Blom*

This past summer I was part of a mission's team to Nigeria, Africa. The plan was to have a week of conference meetings in Owerri, along with local meetings in both Lagos and Port Harcourt. It had been several years since Brother duCille had been to Nigeria and there was a great need for these meetings at this time.

Weeks prior to the Owerri conference, Brother duCille asked the men in our fellowship to pray regarding going to Nigeria. I've had a desire to go to Africa for several years. The testimonies from those that have gone in the past have always intrigued me. This desire was intensified after meeting some of the Nigerian brethren last year at the Jamaica Conference. However, Brother duCille was quite clear in his instruction that it was absolutely necessary to know God is the one sending you, and at that time, I had no direct word to go. Three weeks passed and still no one received a word to go. I was concerned about Brother duCille traveling all that time by himself, so I decided to press the Lord. As I brought this before the Lord, it was as if He said, "Who will go?" I responded, "I'll go," and God clearly said, "GO!" When I shared my decision to go with the brethren, Brother duCille confirmed it by sharing a vision he had had several months prior, in which I was in Nigeria along with him, yet for whatever reason, God told him NOT to encourage me to go. I told Brother duCille I understood the vision to say that God did not want him to influence my decision because something serious was going to happen, and I would need the assurance that it was God who had sent me and not Brother duCille. Otherwise, when something did happen, my confidence would be in him and not in God, though quite honestly, I never really considered anything would actually happen.

I arrived in Lagos, Nigeria on August 22<sup>nd</sup> and met up with Brother duCille and Brother Andy Schaepe on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Shortly after arriving in Nigeria, Brother duCille received word that his sister-in-law, Ethlyn, was probably not going to live much longer, and he would be needed in the States to handle the arrangements. This was quite alarm-

ing since we all felt confident that God had arranged this particular trip at this specific time. We took the matter to prayer to see if perhaps God would divinely intervene and spare her life a few more weeks. We maintained our schedule and departed for the conference venue in Owerri on the 24<sup>th</sup>. As we arrived at Owerri we received the news that Ethlyn had died. When Brother duCille talked with his family, the decision was made that he should cut his trip in half, stay for the conference and then return to Florida for the funeral. Some of the brethren in Lagos were sorely disappointed when they learned that Brother duCille was leaving and would not be able to speak in the meetings they had scheduled. When asked what would become of the rest of the scheduled meetings, Brother duCille said that Andy and I should keep the meetings. ANDY AND I? These people were expecting Brother duCille, what were ANDY AND I going to do without him? I thought the main reason I came to Nigeria at this time was to be an aid to Brother duCille. After recovering from the shock of the news that Brother duCille would actually be leaving and Andy and I would be staying, I gradually remembered the words I had spoken to Brother duCille concerning something serious happening and God's provision in the midst of it. As I began to wonder what God's provision was going to be, I realized there was no time to dwell on this now, the Owerri conference was going to begin in one day and there were many things to prepare.

One thing I can say for the Nigerian people, they know how to use what they have available to them. As I looked around and noticed everything that was lacking and all that we needed, Brother Chinyere, from Owerri, was seeing all that we had and how we could use it to our best advantage. I've always considered myself pretty resourceful, but I found these brethren to not only be resourceful, but thankful and content with whatever provision God made available to them. It was wonderful to see how each one did his part without murmuring and everything came together so well.

There were so many marvelous blessings on

this trip, I couldn't possibly list them all. I will, however, mention one that stood out above the rest. The thing that ministered most to me was the power of the Word, not the written Word, not the spoken Word, not even the Word that became flesh, but the **received Word**. John 1:12, *But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:* This receiving is not a casual acknowledgment, but rather a grasping onto with fervor.

Nigeria is on the "dark continent" of Africa. I don't know what gave this lush tropical continent such a dismal nickname, but I do know that there is a light that is shining in the midst of the darkness, that the darkness cannot put out. I witnessed as these people received the Word with a fervor that brought conviction to my heart. Let me give one specific example. As we were in the conference meetings in Owerri, Brother duCille was bringing the Word describing the tabernacle and where we should be in relation to it at this time, and yet we are still in the Outer Court...still carnal. The response to the Word was tremendous. People came forward repenting and crying out that they didn't want to be left in the Outer Court. These people **really believed** the word that they were still in the Outer Court, and they were determined to do something about it! I was really impressed by their response, but even more remarkable was the response of God to their repentance. The Spirit of God moved in such a sweet, uplifting way; restoration, not condemnation, was the atmosphere in the room as one after another came forward and asked forgiveness for what they had done. Each one bore full responsibility for their own actions, not trying to lay the blame on someone else. As I look back on the word, it was a hard word, not a sweet "you're such good little people" type of word. And yet, the word brought deliverance. How did that happen? The Word of God is spirit and life. God's Word is for healing, not killing. If we would only receive the spirit of the Word rather than just the letter. Sometimes I believe we think of the Word of God as that which is written in the Bible and/or that which was delivered several thousand years ago by the prophets of old. Perhaps we think of the Word of God as that still, small voice that speaks to us in our inner man during our time of prayer. All these things are the Word of God, but God also sends His Word each time we gather together. His intention is for the Word to bring healing to His people, to bring deliverance, to bring life. How can the same Word bring life to some

and to others bring death? The difference is in the fervent response of the hearer to the Word. This response is the evidence of belief within the hearer. What is belief? How do we actually prove that we believe something? It is by our response! Our response is the proof of whether we believe or not. No response equals no belief. Now, you may disagree and that's okay, but Brother James writes, *Shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works* (James 2:18). When the Nigerian brethren heard the Word that God delivered to them, their response (*works*) was proof of their belief (*faith*) in the message. Hebrews 11 tells us that without faith it is impossible to please God. On the flip side of that, we could say that when we demonstrate faith through our response to His Word, we DO please God. It was evident in the Owerri meetings that God was well pleased. As I considered these things, I looked at my own response to the Word that God has sent. I'm not talking solely of the prophetic Word, but of the weekly Word that God delivers as we gather in His name. Has gathering together become a ritual or just something to do on Sunday morning? Do we believe the Word in Matthew 18:20, *For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them?* If we believe that He is in the midst of us, then we need to believe the Word He brings forth in the midst of us. We can't just say, "Yes, I believe," and ignore the Word that comes forth. What are we doing when we say, "That was a good Word today, brother," and continue to live our life exactly the same old way? God has sent His Word and is sending His Word daily, with the intention of healing our disease. In order for this healing to come forth, we must fervently partake of the Word. It's like having bronchitis or some other ailment and someone buying a prescription for you and bringing it to you and you thank them for it. Then you set the medicine on the shelf but never take it. *For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.* After all the effort has been put forth, you still remain sick and nobody can figure out why. Your response to the medicine which has been delivered is what makes the difference in the power it has in your body. In much the same way our response, fervent or indifferent, to the Word which God has delivered to us is what determines the power the Word has in our lives. This fervent response was evident among the Nigerian brethren... fervent in praise... fervent in prayers... fervent in repentance. Every part of

this conference was the same way, attitudes were not affected by the things they had or didn't have. Their contentment was in God and the Word of the Lord. Sometimes the testimonies we hear from those that have gone overseas cause us to think the anointing is "extra special" over there. I believe it is the same anointing as well as it is the same Word. I believe the "extra special" part comes from the response of the people to the Word. The conference ended successfully; the flame which was beginning to dwindle was again burning brightly. As we departed for Port Harcourt, all were greatly encouraged.

During the next few days while Brother duCille was ministering in Port Harcourt, I was very busy on the phone with my wife and the airlines trying desperately to get his ticket changed so he could fly home for the funeral. After literally hours on the phone, Susan was successful in getting him a whole new ticket, and for no charge! In the flurry of all this, I seemed to forget that he was soon leaving and Andy and I would be staying. As Brother duCille departed for home, I became increasingly aware of my inadequacies. When I tried to think of a word to share, I would come up blank. At the

first meeting in Lagos, the elders were asking when the brethren could ask questions. I told them the next time Brother duCille visited they could ask all the questions they wanted, for now they would have to wait. At that first meeting, we were so nervous. It was such a blessing to have Brother Andy Schaepe there. As Andy shared his testimony, I saw his nervousness and uncertainty diminish as he submitted to the anointing. While Andy was ministering, God reminded me once again of the word I shared with Brother duCille. Did I really believe it was God that had sent me? If I would truly believe and not just say I believe, He would be my provision. As I shared in the meetings in Lagos, the peacefulness of His presence was comforting. God was truly being my provision.

To be a part of this trip and witness the power of God at work among His people was a tremendous blessing. I would like to thank each one of you that had a part in making this trip possible. I would also like to thank Andy Schaepe for being there to videotape the meetings. God bless each one of you for your faithfulness in prayer. As always, it is very much appreciated. ☺

## *nigeria: January 2006*

*Testimonies of God's Goodness from Four of our Brethren:  
Bob Unger   George Herrig   Martin Kluson   Craig Chatic*

### **Bob Unger**

Some have no doubt heard in time past that a trip to Africa is a life-changing experience, and I, too, found this statement to be true. Here I am, from what I consider to be one of the most externally sheltered geographies in the whole world, visiting an area much different from home. The sheer numbers of people is one big difference. Nebraska has now maybe reached two million in around 76,000 square miles. Lagos, Nigeria, alone is around 18 million people in perhaps an area of 100-200 square miles, by my estimation. You might sense a similar situation here, coming and going to a major football game; but there it's that way mile after mile. Hundreds of people would be on both sides of the streets on most every block. Many were trying to make a living selling some-

thing, and many others were just mingling around.

Then you are early struck with the magnitude of the traffic congestion, and we found this in all four cities that we visited. Most intersections did not have a traffic signal, though sometimes a policeman would be stationed there. Otherwise, the drivers would just assertively stick out their front ends to where they wanted to go before someone else did the same. Besides all that, there were large numbers of motorbike riders trying to weave their way in and out of lanes of cars. There was much honking all the time.

Their buses were very often a Volkswagen van, crammed to the brim with travelers, and some standing halfway outside the van at the open side door. None of these vehicles appeared to have air conditioning.

So, I would describe the general atmosphere of Nigeria as intense - not necessarily dangerous, but a constant struggle in the ever-present heat and humidity. By the way, my previous 22 summers of working in a hot Nebraska muffler factory seemed to be good preparation for that aspect of the trip. Malaria is a problem in that area of the world, but I saw very few mosquitoes during our two weeks there. I teased John Imig when I returned home of underdescribing what Africa was like, but in all fairness, it's hard to convey such an environment to someone who has never been in it before.

The Nigerian brethren are a beautiful and gracious people - very much the fruit of good spiritual seed sown among them through the years. I was quite comfortable among them. They were extremely diligent in providing our food and lodging. We were always in hotels surrounded by high concrete walls, topped by barbed wire, sharp metal, or broken glass protruding out of the concrete. We had to drive in to a gate protected by security men. I enjoyed individual conversations, though they were usually brief.

We took a government van to travel to Uyo and Owerri, passing through a large number of police check points, though we were never stopped. We traveled through some pristine portions of the rain forest there. The foliage was an aqua color and just beautiful. There was bridge repair over one rapid river - a single lane without any side barriers to speak of. I never saw any famous African animals.

My biggest difficulty on the trip was a greater than usual insomnia. This may have broken down my resistance to sickness, and I contracted a 24 hour flu the first Thursday at Port Harcourt's evening meeting, followed by some diarrhea. When I first entered that auditorium, I became very emotional and couldn't stop crying for quite a while. It may have been the tiredness, but it may have also been sorrow for the brother who just lost his wife in the recent plane crash. I would cry on his shoulder again the next day at the dedication of the new hospital - and he was the one comforting me!

But I may have been picking up something else in the Spirit on that Thursday. In a few days I would learn that our daughter, Kristi, who was using our car while I was overseas, was in an unusual accident just an hour or two before I entered the auditorium. Coming up to a flat-bed semi on a two lane road, she noticed a bungee cord, used to

hold down his back load, was flopping over the side. The next thing she knew, her windshield was struck hard with a piece of metal that had flown off the semi. Had it gone through the windshield, it would have struck her and maybe Joshua. The headlight and tire on that side of the car were also damaged, but little other body damage occurred.

After one of the earliest visits to Nigeria, Brother Cec reported back in the States that the devils in Africa will take a kind of assessment x-ray of you when you go there to see what you're made of. Well, I had my first such encounter ever, the second Tuesday, in the night, at Uyo. I was awakened around 1:15am with a very real knowing that great evil was in the room. I did not see anything with my natural eyes, but when I closed them again, I could see a number of hollow eyes one after another moving from side to side right in front of my eyes. I just tried to keep my composure and remember what others have testified when up against such spirits. I said nothing and my visitor said nothing. Then the evil presence left after about 10-15 minutes. I will more diligently pray over my hotel/motel rooms after such an experience.

I have greater appreciation for my fellow teammates on the trip after two weeks together. It's good to endure some hardness together. A notable light moment was the Japanese dialogues between Craig and his favorite Martin between meetings, though Craig was the chief speaker. I have to believe that the prayers and fasting for us back home were a tremendous protection for us and dropped big bombs on the plans of the enemy. Thank you all for your support and I believe I would return to Africa again if called upon.

Love in Christ, Bob Unger (your albino African brother)



### George Herrig

As one of the members of the team that went to Africa, I would like to say that we are very thankful for the opportunity that was given us to be in the will of God with our brethren in Nigeria during the past month. First and foremost, we would like to give our most sincere and heartfelt thanks for the support that was given on behalf of this most important mission. The dedication to prayer and fasting by the various fellowships throughout the States as well as in Europe and elsewhere was unprecedented. From the very beginning, we knew

that we were not just ten brethren going on this journey but the Body of Christ was with us in spirit and in prayer. The principalities and powers had to give way to the strength and presence of the heavenly hosts as we enlisted their aid and stood in agreement and prayer against them. We would not be here testifying today to God's faithfulness if it were not for the faithfulness of the saints laying down their lives in fasting and prayer. We thank you for willingly taking your positions of warfare in this battle. I can personally testify as to the faithfulness of God moving and leading us from the very beginning. We had eighteen meetings in the course of fifteen days, not counting the time in travel overseas and to four major cities in Nigeria. Despite the busy schedule, high heat and humidity, God kept us physically, as well as spiritually. I must say at this point about the utmost kindness and hospitality that was showered upon us by the African Brethren. Words cannot express our sincere gratitude for all that they did for us in our time there.

From the first day, God laid the agenda for our time there. A direct Word from God was given to Brother Cecil duCille concerning the organs of the body and how they divinely operate without ourselves controlling their functions and operations. Spiritually speaking, it is God Himself who is controlling the functions of these in the Body of Christ. (The five fold ministry, gifts and governments of help). I am sure that you have already heard about this message in e-mails and will hear more on this subject in the coming months. This Word became the main theme that was carried to the various cities that we visited. It was also supported by two other messages that were reinforced in our meetings. One being that unity in the Body can only come by us drawing near to God. Any other oneness outside of this is unity without God. The second theme was the calling to the higher realm, as becoming a Son of God comes at a cost. We must give up our humanity to receive divinity. Just as Abraham was called of God to leave his country, his kindred and his father's house so are we called to give up all in order to enter into the Promised Land.

The meetings themselves were very good with the presence of God in our midst each time we gathered. One more thought that I would like to convey to everyone. This was my first time to Nigeria and it blessed me tremendously to see the Church of God working in Nigeria. Since the Lord sent Brother and Sister duCille there in 1985, I

saw the fruits of theirs and other ministries' labors. It was marvelous to see functioning local bodies in each area that we visited. I was able to meet with many dedicated men and women that are giving their lives to the Kingdom of God and the call to the First Fruit Company. I hope to return again with my wife, Susan, the Lord willing, and have the privilege of being in fellowship with our brethren in Nigeria. God bless you.



### **Martin Kluson**

I will not write about Nigeria and about what was happening there, as you will be surely learning it from many others. I will instead give you a little peek into my thoughts and the blessings I have brought home.

The trip to Africa started for me in 1992, when I met the brethren from the USA for the first time. Big man of God bringing marvelous word. I understood they were on their way from Nigeria. From that moment it was my desire to grow up that one day I could be taken on board. Not only by them, but by God!

When then I got the invitation from Brother duCille (I would never consider going without it) I was not terribly shocked. I was rather greatly excited. A few weeks later when I was trying to get my passport ready, my visa, my shots, things didn't look very positive. I got ill and couldn't get rid of the flu. The Nigerian embassy in Czech Republic has stopped its services and nobody from Europe would talk to me about the visa. I was supposed to buy a ticket, but it was rather risky, without the injections and mainly without the visa. Well, our God seems to have a pleasure in finding a way where there is none. I got the visa in New York, the mandatory Yellow Fever shot was given to me on the very last possible day, I got the ticket and the door was open! Praise the Lord!

We arrived to Lagos after a beautiful flight over the Sahara desert. From that moment on till the very last second we were blessed by the care and hospitality of the brethren. Without them I can't imagine the journey to be possible. I suppose without them I wouldn't make it even to the parking lot with my luggage together.

The schedule was very busy and soon I learned that time in Nigeria has just a different meaning. Elders meeting starting half past midnight and finishing at four in the morning is just an example. All the traveling by plane, buses, cars suggested a

great opportunity for problems. But guess what! Nothing really happened. We could sense so much the support of the brethren in the USA and in Europe. We just knew it was there. Actually this was one of the greatest things of the trip. To KNOW we are not alone in the battle, but supported by the brethren. As my cell phone worked over there, I could communicate by the phone messages. Every day different people from our fellowships sent about 7 to 10 messages. Songs, scriptures, dreams or just words of encouragement. Body ministry!

My wife and family had royal care back home. Every day a call came from the elders to see if she was doing fine or whether she was in need of something. The fellowship treated her very beautifully and I realized it is not only the USA army who can take care of the families of their soldiers. Next time somebody else goes, I will make sure his wife/family is well covered back home. Just a regular call, visit or helping with shopping or sweeping the floor will do.

One thing I appreciated in Nigeria was that we can hear from God. He was very direct in what He was talking. What to eat, what not to do. And I made sure I obeyed. This most probably saved me from any major troubles and actually I was doing very well the entire journey. I know there is time where we will become “unsavable” if we don’t hear and obey Him. When is a better time to learn it than now?

Working together with the rest of the team was a great privilege for me. It looked like everybody left their ambitions at home and was there just to serve. To observe brother and sister duCille to go about life and ministry was an unforgettable experience. Thank you, Lord, for people whom we can follow as they follow you.

Last, but not least. Just when we arrived to Lagos a brother was taking to me in a car. He said, “Brother Martin, my sister is looking forward to seeing you.” “Really? Where does she know about me from?” “She loves to watch the Jamaica seminar DVDs.” Oh my! It really can affect a lot of different people what we do (good or bad) and also what we don’t do.

I have a lot to think about and to do a lot of walking it out. But surely enough, I am looking forward to another trip God would open before me.



## Craig Chatic

I was privileged to accompany seven other brethren to Nigeria, Africa, during the last two weeks in January 2006. The trip was ordained of God to affirm the message of unity and oneness to the body of Christ. The prayer that Jesus prayed in John 17 concerning oneness is being answered by God in the lives of all those who are moving in Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit at this time. We were made to understand that the various members of the Body have been established by God to function “far beyond intelligent design.” Meaning to say, that which God has done and is doing, and shall do, let no man put his hand to it. The great need for us in this hour is to move in Christ by the Spirit and we will be one with all others who are moving in Christ by that same Spirit. We were also made to understand that the time frame for this was **now**. We will either get in line with God’s plan and purposes now or we will be outside like the foolish virgins.

There were several other things that encouraged me during this trip. I will mention a few of them here, as time will not allow me to write about them all. Firstly, I appreciated each member of the team and I thank God for the opportunity to have gotten to know these brethren better. I was reminded of a comment by Leonard Ravenhill, who said that he did not know any man until “he had prayer with him.” These brethren were very fervent in prayer and in their concern one for another and for the people of God as a whole. There was a wonderful flowing together in the Spirit with these brethren.

Secondly, the hospitality and care that the brethren in Lagos, Port Harcourt, Uyo, and Owerri provided us was second to none. They spent of themselves on our behalf in a very tireless fashion and I say to them that God is not unfaithful to forget your work and labor of love, in that you minister and do minister to the saints. May God abundantly bless them for their sacrifice.

Thirdly, the word of the Lord that came forth was very clear, concise, and practical. We will most certainly want to get the DVDs, as there is much cud to be chewed. There was ministry out of Hebrews 12, John 17, I Corinthians 10 and 12, I Timothy 3, Ephesians 4, Matthew 13, Genesis 1, and Psalm 1. Brother duCille also did a one-hour television and a one-hour radio interview, covering questions on the tabernacle and a host of other issues. There were prophecies and personal ministry to several individuals. God was faithful to

meet the needs of His people. There were also several question and answer sessions, where the light of God's Word was brought to bear in a line upon line, precept upon precept manner to each question.

Fourthly, the encouragement of the prayer and fasting that was being done by the Body was most definitely felt. We received various messages by way of dreams and visions that were coming daily to us. God was ordering the battle, as we were vigilant to seek Him concerning the Word that was coming forth. Truly, truly, we cannot and will not make it without the Body. There is no life outside of the Body of Christ. God has fashioned it so and SO IT IS. God has set some in His Body, no man has set it, but God has set it and we must follow the apostolic vision that God has sent to us. Ephesians 4:4-6, *There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; <sup>5</sup>One Lord, one faith, one baptism, <sup>6</sup>One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.*

As we endeavor to keep the unity of the Spirit, God will bring us to that fullness we seek in Christ. I John 1:6, *If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: <sup>7</sup>But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.* We overcome as we submit to the anointing that is in the Body.

Lastly, the word came to us regarding Noah's sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. They were to repopulate the earth after the flood. It was said that Shem, at the present time, is killing Shem. Ham is also killing Ham and that Japheth is planning to destroy them all. Thus the need for the sons of God, which are born by the word of life, to come

forth as the righteous generation (the 42nd generation) and break the power of all the inherited lineage of our earthly family. We must be sons of God, not sons of Shem, Ham, and Japheth, for we were born again not by the will of man or flesh, but by the will of Almighty God. In Christ there is neither Jew nor Greek, bond nor free, male nor female, but a new creature (creation) (Galatians 3:28). This is the perspective that I left Africa with. The prince of devils that rules there has great influence over the people, so much so that is reflected in the outward style of dress, particularly among the women. It is also reflected in the outward attitudes and actions of lawlessness displayed in the population as a whole. The people have become desensitized to rules of order, therefore, disorder has become the norm. However, when I returned home, my perspective had changed and I became aware of the prince of devils that rules in America. I found that the influence of a devil is the same. The thief cometh but for to steal, to kill and to destroy. I found the spirits of rebellion, greed, lust, and pride were as alive and well in the United States as they were in Africa. I then became aware that my perspective must change again and that what I need is the perspective of God. I need to be caught up to His vantage point in order to see and overcome the prince of the power of the air and all the spirits that work in the children of disobedience. PRAISE GOD!!!

The Lord is there moving in the hearts and lives of a people who seek a better country and city, which hath foundations whose builder and maker is God. This is the 21st year since the brethren have been sent with the word of the Lord for Nigeria (7+7+7). The fullness of all things is at hand! May God save His people. Amen. 🙏



*By Melissa Trotter February 1, 2006*

I have been encouraged to share my testimony of the past few weeks and so I share some of the nitty-gritty of the triumphs and failures of my life with you, my readers. It says that they overcame him by the Blood of the Lamb and the word of their testimony. By faith I write, that God shall complete the work He has started and my family and I shall overcome ALL!

We have been hearing, by the Word of the Lord in our meetings, that one area that we could do much better in is prayer, particularly intercessory prayer. People would mention things like praying for an hour or two every morning or evening. Examples would be mentioned of men of God who prayed for three days straight or until God answered them and stuff like that. Women of faith who prayed a lot were referred to. Also mentioned was that if we prayed in our homes, we would pray in the midst of the Body, too. Well, it always bothered me to hear that. You know the saying about the pig that squeals must be the one that got hit? Well, it was downright blatant inside of me that my flesh was pricked by this talk of praying. I mean, the kind of prayer where you really get serious before God about certain things, where you get outside of your "self realm." Not the kind of praying where I thank Him and praise Him and ask Him for help for myself, because, goodness knows, I need a lot of help! No, what I had a problem with was really having the love to pray with a fervor for someone else! There was a word spoken by Brother duCille in the Florida Convention of 2004 where he talked about love. It was a great challenge because, according to his talk, I was not doing much loving in the agape way. I thought about it a lot and prayed that I would love more, particularly the people closest to me, i.e. my family, because I figured if I couldn't show agape to them, why bother with anyone else?

There was a meeting at the convention in November

in Nebraska last year where Brother duCille shared about being a shepherd, and that we are all called to have a shepherd ministry to people around us. He even talked about mothers and having the heart of a mother. I sat and listened to that and thought, "Well, I really do care about people 'out there' but I find trouble showing agape to my family, let alone my church family, let alone anyone outside of that! What am I gonna do?" After the preaching, it was suggested that we gather into groups according to fellowships and just pray together for people who had come to our minds that we really need to reach out to. Immediately, my neighbors came to my mind. They are elderly and have a lot of physical problems. Suffice it to say, they have a difficult situation and it has weighed heavy on my heart. The Lord reminded me of this, and so gently showed me that I DO have the shepherding nature in my heart, of really wanting to guide my neighbors into all truth. Well, the children and I have diligently been praying for them and I have found that the more we pray, the more I have an agape love for them, and that when the Lord makes the way, my tongue will be loosed from being tied to my timid nature! The Lord used them to have me start caring and praying more.

Several weeks ago, when it came time for the brethren to go on the trip to Africa, there was a lot of talk concerning fasting and prayer and really how serious this trip was, not just for the people traveling there or for the brethren there in Nigeria, but for the entire Body of Christ! Sister Ona, being a part of the fellowship here in Mahomet, really inspired me to want to participate because of her fervor of praying for it, maybe because she is from Nigeria. It connected me with Nigeria somehow. Well, I didn't want to fast but I did. I prayed, too! I made the commitment on the calendar at the building and to God. The children prayed with me. They prayed something related to Africa at almost every meal. We prayed in fellowship. We had great meetings. We have had more prayer in meetings than we have ever had! The reason of praying for the trip to Africa was like a little push in the right direction. My hope is that it will continue in this way! I found the Holy Spirit doing a work in my heart where love for God's people just began to well up and the direct result of that is praying for them.

But as we fasted and prayed, I found it was very difficult and I didn't like it at all. The very first morning, my second child threw a huge fit. Eventually she did what

was required of her, but it was not a willing obedience. The whole situation was like rubbing salt into a sore. It was like the devil was taunting me, "How can you pray for such a big thing as the trip to Africa, when you can't even pray for the deliverance of your own child's heart?" Many things rose up to discourage me, but I still prayed. I failed in certain areas, but I still prayed. I got depressed because things weren't going how they were supposed to. I mean, if you are praying and fasting, you're supposed to be really spiritual, right? And you're supposed to go around with a smile on your face and be extremely patient with your children and submit to your husband and get up early to pray and of course, stick to your fasting, however you're doing it, right? I think the devil rose up in every area of my life that I have a problem with (and they are not necessarily the areas I just listed. ☺) So, I fell flat on my face again and again, up and down, up and down and then I decided to just lay down, spiritually speaking, and not get up. Bad choice. It got worse. But not for long. I laid in bed one night and wrestled for a long time (you know, the devil on one shoulder and the angel on the other?) and the Holy Spirit began to bring to remembrance the promises of God. Slowly, as I listened to the wooing of the Holy Spirit and meditated on the Lord, I gave up my self and repented. Then I spent some time meditating on God and then I slept peacefully. The simpleness of repentance had broken the chain that held me to the earth.

I had taped to my kitchen cabinet something Brother Burt had said in a word and it helped me. The verse he quoted was Romans 8:1, ***There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus.*** Then he said,

"Now, we could say, 'Well, blah, blah, blah. Because of this, I'm out of sorts,' and we begin to make all kinds of excuses. Let's just use it as a *positive*, and not as a *negative*. If you know you're under some kind of judgment, repent! It's quite simple. It's quite one, two, three-ish. You repent! 'God, forgive me for being in the flesh. Forgive me for losing my temper. Forgive me for being frustrated. Forgive me for being rebellious. Forgive me for seeking to achieve my own way, my own way!' Quite frankly, *quite frankly*, I think the church needs to get back to basics in order to get on into heaven, into the revelation of God! It's not a word, it's not a knowledge, it's an entity, it's a personality. It's a PERSONALITY, do you hear, that has to be demonstrated within this vessel right here, IN THE CIRCUMSTANCE THAT GOD HAS PUT ME IN!" I like the phrase, "It's quite one, two, three-ish."

We make it so difficult sometimes when all we need to do is repent, then the condemnation is lifted, the devil is thwarted - hit by the Blood - and we can rise up! Amen! Brother Burt went on to say,

"You know, I can do a lot of things that I don't like to do, IF I do them as unto the Lord! I mean, there are a lot of things that I don't like to do. I just don't like to do them! And yet, God puts me there again, and again, and again, and again and one day He says, 'Stop looking at it and *look at Me!*' I said, 'Okay, let me try that for a while.' I found out it works! Now, that doesn't mean that I like it any better, but there is something of a joy that I have in the midst of my 'not liking.' In the midst of what I'm in and what is going on, there is a joy that I have, an EXPECTATION of a hope that something is coming that is MUCH BETTER!"

That is just how I felt. I felt that I sure didn't like the situation I found myself in, but I was looking at it instead of Him! The answer wasn't to be found in me! It would be found in Him. In the seeming drudgery of endless dishes, laundry, loud children, fighting children, computer work, selfish children, home schooling, cold, cloudy, wet weather, more dishes and lots of dust

bunnies, I could find God, because I am doing everything as unto HIM! I was working on that word of Brother Burt's that I just quoted, preparing it for the bulletin, the entire time the team was in Africa. I am only seeing just now, looking back, how much God tailor-made my circumstances so that I could overcome! He does it for everyone, you know. If you seek for Him, He will be found. Most of the time, we cannot see His intricate workings until later, if we even see them at all, but in the glimpses that I do get of how He specially designed every part of the puzzle of my life, I have the faith to go on, believing that this minute is also in His control, no matter how OUT of control it seems to my finite eyes. Yahweh. His name is such a small word with such an omnipotent meaning. His very personality is demonstrated right here, within me, in my circumstance!

Wonder of wonders, I found that as I repent more, it is easier to stay "in the Spirit." To me, being in the Spirit is acting righteous instead of wicked. And more, it is not so much the outside actions and words, but what is in my heart because what is in my heart, is what comes out on the outside. This is being worked out right now. It feels funny to me to write a testimony that is transpiring as I speak! I expect it is the same for all my readers, too, because if we want to be sons of God, there must be more and more of God coming out of us and less and less of self, less of us and more staying "in the Spirit," if you will.

*I felt that I sure didn't like the situation I found myself in, but I was looking at it instead of Him!*



This staying in the Spirit, or in an attitude of prayer was started by doing this fasting and prayer for the trip to Africa. I would be reminded to pray for the brethren there and then see that I was not able to pray because my heart was not right! I can't pray when I am angry inside! When I found myself in those traps that the devil set for me, I could not pray very earnestly. But, the Blood of Jesus is the deliverance from those traps. No matter what he throws my way, if I fail, then I have an advocate with the Father, and that is Jesus Christ! He shed His Blood for me. He has already gone the way - done all the work breaking the path so I can follow. Psalm 124:7, *Our soul is escaped as a bird out of the snare of the fowlers: the snare is broken, and we are escaped.*

For me, there are two places where I see the swinging back and forth of being in the Spirit or in a heavenly frame of mind, but then distracted by frustration, emotions or whatever – earthly, hellish things. The first one is in the midst of church, our meetings, during fellowship. The next one is in the day-to-day training of my children. Part of this testimony is the breakthroughs I had in both areas.

During fellowship on one Sunday, we were having much prayer and at different times during it, I felt like praying for something – I knew the Holy Spirit was stirring in my heart, but my timid nature got in the way and besides, every other minute, I was distracted by one of four little children, whom I have the responsibility of watching during the meeting – my children, of course! So, after every disruption, I had to put my heart back in the place where it was supposed to be – in an attitude of prayer – and that would take a minute. After many times of doing this, I just sat down and quit trying. Then I had this thought, “What if someone asked me to pray?” My immediate response was, “Oh, forget it. I can hardly concentrate at all!” Then the next thought was, “But, if that happened, I think I better submit to God.” Immediately after that thought, a brother at the front said something like, “Melissa, I believe you have a prayer you need to pray.” I was so surprised! I couldn't think of anything to pray; I couldn't remember what had been stirring in my heart earlier. But I stood up, to kind of put the children behind me and decided I would just start praying and see what came out! So, as I began to praise the Lord and yield to Him, the words He wanted me to say came out. It must have been a bit prophetic because I didn't think about what I would say ahead of time. This is probably a really simplistic revelation, but it was a deliverance for me! I was so blessed. I told the Lord later that I would grow up and pray on my

own when He moved me, so He wouldn't have to have someone else tell me what to do!

I have had particular troubles with my second child. I have been dealing with her emotions that can swing way out of control. It has been a source of great vexation to me. But even though it can frustrate me to the max, it has also grieved me very much to know that I was only controlling her outward actions. The most important part, her heart, would not submit to Jesus. It was like pulling teeth just to get her to say the words, “Jesus, help me, and forgive me,” especially since I knew there was no real repentance in her heart. Well, it shouldn't surprise me at all, but when I began to yield to the Spirit moving in my heart, I

saw the deliverance of my daughter. And this is ongoing – in present tense, I am seeing the deliverance of my daughter! I began to really pray seriously about many things and like I said, was trying to pray anytime during the day (or

night) that I thought about the Africa trip. Well, the Bible says to pray without ceasing and I understand that much better now, the why of it. I will constantly be in the Spirit if I am praying. It may not be a conscious saying of a prayer to God, but just the heart submission and not allowing self to rise up. In the January 29<sup>th</sup> K.I.T. we printed an article titled, Where is My Child's Heart? The author deals with helping us attain a heart submission with our children. It is well written and laid out and I wanted to be a mother like that, but not at all confident that I could. So, I just started by praying for my children, Caroline in particular. Well, Caroline had a huge emotional problem again over some small thing. Now, I must change the subject here and say a word about the previous day.

In the Sunday meeting the day before, Stacy had done a word for the children including a skit. In the skit, a child was a dirty, sad, chained slave, slowly walking to death. Then the King came and said to her, “Will you be my child?” And she answered, “Yes.” Then the maids came and took her and dressed her in clean, shining garments and brought her before the King again. The King said, “Always remember that I am your father and you are my child. You are to no longer think or act like a slave.” The analogy, of course, is that before Jesus saved us, we were slaves to sin, heading to death. But Jesus made us His children, therefore, we must act like His child.

So, I began to talk to Caroline about this, very simply. She was unable to make the decision to do right, so I told her that right at this moment, the King is knocking at her heart and He is saying, “Will you be My child?” I believe this really struck home to Caroline because she saw that



*I would be reminded to pray for the brethren there and then see that I was not able to pray because my heart was not right!*

she was having an extremely hard time deciding if she wanted that. She saw that she was sad, she saw that she had sinned, she felt like she was chained. She felt bad! In the skit, when the child said, “Yes,” that is when her deliverance came. So I told Caroline that all she needed to do was say, “Yes.” I talked to her about this very simply, ending with saying, “The King is asking you right now, ‘Will you be my child?’” She still would not, but whereas in times past, I would just leave the room in order to get myself under control, frustrated because I didn’t know what else to do, this day there came over me such a compassion for my daughter that I began to cry out to the Lord in my heart right there. Then I told her that I was going to pray for her because I was not going to leave until she told Jesus, “Yes.” So, I began to pray, and the words just flowed out of my mouth and part way into it, Caroline’s crying changed and she put her head down in my lap and just wept. I knew the Holy Spirit had touched her and I was so surprised! I don’t think I have ever seen her so broken in heart! Then we prayed together, she prayed for forgiveness and then she smiled at me! Then she ran off to do whatever it was she was supposed to do! I just sat on the edge of her bed and thought, “Wow. Wow! Thank you, Yeshua!” You have to understand, this had never happened before, where her deliverance was so thorough and complete. And it didn’t happen in just a few minutes. All that transpired took over an hour – I add that just to encourage any other mothers reading this. It takes time and dedication.

I didn’t go to Africa, but this is my testimony of what happened by “the stuff” (I Samuel 30:24). I praise God for what He is doing and please pray for me as you read this because the devil doesn’t like getting kicked and he usually kicks back! 🌿

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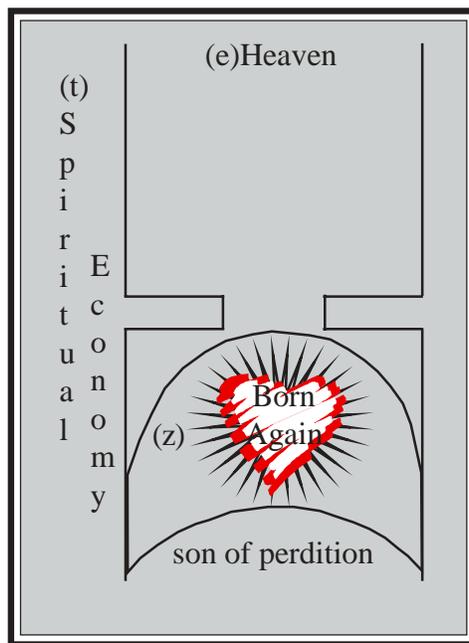
(The Abomination of Desolation)

eyes upward and not downward. It’s strange, isn’t it? If you fall face down, all you can see is the floor, or if the floor wasn’t there you’d just be seeing down there. Hallelujah. So let me fall with my eyes upward. It says, **David encouraged himself**, so I’m encouraged in the Lord and I begin my ascent. My walk begins to get stronger and more determined. It gets more strength. It doesn’t mean that I don’t make mistakes, but with every mistake, I learn what not to do and what to do. Hallelujah.

It says, **When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation** (Matthew 24:15). **The abomination of desolation**. The word *abomination*

is not just a word that describes something like a metaphor would, but it is the aspect of a nature. **Abomination**. I have this little word study program and it says, “Extreme hatred, detestation, the object of detestation, a common signification in the scripture. **The way of the wicked is an abomination unto the Lord** (Proverbs 15:9). It’s not what they do, it’s what they are. Hello? You do what you do because of what you are. It’s not so much the thing that they’re doing as much as it is the nature that produces it. Hallelujah.

You have to look at hell in a positive way. Let me draw hell like this. I look at it as the womb of something, and that something has the potential to produce one of two things. Hallelujah. As God comes in and inseminates my



world, I become born again (see figure z). All of these things here in this arena of hell are working to abort; if not to abort, then to deform. Hello? That which God has produced that does not bring forth the reality of what is in His mind is the aborting or deforming. Now, I’m not trying to be offensive. I’m really not. But these things, as they come, there is something that is generated in the midst of this environment that is to repel... Isn’t that what inoculation does? It repels the disease? It repels, it forms a shield or an ability to resist the influence, to resist and to reject it, in the natural. I do know that in the spiritual realm there is an ability to have a spiritual inoculation that is eternal!

Until it comes to a point to where that

which is created is fashioned and formed into the nature of the Son. What a place to train a king. Hallelujah. My goodness. We walk out of or we are birthed out of hell into heaven where we begin to establish the right of the King to rule. That is what going to heaven is. Hallelujah. But, it says, **When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:)** (Matthew 24:15). What are we to understand? We are to understand the mechanics and the spiritual principles that govern the working of the intent that God had from the very beginning and how the devil is using your circumstance to bring forth a nature that is contrary to the will of God. God bless you. God bless you. 🌿

# Life in Abundance

Testimonies from the December 2005 Conference - Woodstock, Georgia

By Terry Smith

## BUMPS OR BLESSINGS

*Now, I had to share the Nebraska conference with you first (printed in the January 29<sup>th</sup> Keeping In Touch), because the Georgia conference was quite a different experience. To begin with, as soon as I heard about the Woodstock, Georgia conference, I immediately made reservations for Mom and I, with our husbands' approval, of course. We could go if we flew, they said, so I made the air, hotel and car reservations. DONE – nothing to worry about, as everything was already taken care of. Right?*

Well, there seemed to be a few bumps in the road to Georgia. The morning we were to leave, I called the hotel to find out what exit on the interstate they were on.

"We close at 2:00 today. You do not have a reservation," the monotone voice stated matter of factly.

I said, "Yes, but we have a reservation and I can give you the confirmation number."

"We close at 2:00 today. You do not have a reservation."

I asked, "Well, do we sleep in the car and pick up our key in the morning?" (At that point, I was really sure that there was just some little mistake.)

"We close at 2:00 today and there is no reservation."

I hung up, just a wee bit surprised. Then after giving this thought, I praised the Lord with my husband and called that hotel back to see if I could get another hotel's phone number. (It wasn't yet 2:00.) The gentleman was kind enough to assist me and gave me a number to call. Then when I called for a reservation, I was greeted and helped wonderfully! Praise the Lord. I was especially blessed, as I knew that this was a day that many businesses aren't looking for customers at midnight or so. It was December 25<sup>th</sup> morning. To us it was just another day, but we knew that many people were other minded.

My husband was very pleased, because he had mentioned that I call in the first place. Then he suggested that I call for the car rental. There was no response there, so I had to wait to find out after I arrived if I still had that reservation. Somehow, the Lord had given me such a peace about these "bumps." Hallelujah!

About 4:00pm, I picked up my mother and we arrived at Willard Airport and went to pick up our e-tickets at the counter for a 6:00pm flight. The lady who helped us said, "That flight left sometime after 2:00. There is not another flight out until tomorrow morning." I explained that originally I was scheduled for the 2:— flight, but I received an e-mail changing my flight to 6:00pm. I showed her the e-mail and asked what we could do.

After waiting several minutes, she said that she could change our flight to another airline and it would leave in about 15 minutes. Praising the Lord, and feeling very blessed, we headed for the security station. WHOA! Another bump! Security had another plan. They said, "Okay, go through the machine and if it doesn't beep, sit over there." (We were being frisked!)

I asked the lady, "Are they watching for bad people today?" I really wondered what they were doing that for? She replied that it was just because our tickets were one way that made us suspect. (Whew!) So that was just standard procedure. Praise the Lord! We were finally ready to go to Atlanta. (I wonder what they do with you if you make the machine beep?)

Upon arrival in Atlanta, Georgia, we were very blessed to have been taken under the wing of two flight attendants, who actually directed us all the way through the shuttle, the luggage, and the car rental area. I might have really had a bit of trouble finding it. It was a very, very big airport. I couldn't

help but wonder if they were real people, or just angels that God had watch over us. The favor that the Lord gave us was something that was far and above anything that I have ever experienced. What was God desiring to give us at this conference? What deliverance? What understanding of Him? What enlargement of our hearts and minds?

I called our car rental company only to find out, "We have no cars!"

I said, "But I have a reservation."

"We have no cars!" the gentleman said.

I said, "Yes, but we have a reservation and I can give you the confirmation number." (Sounding a bit like the other reservation, isn't it?)

The gentleman replied, "Wait there, we will come pick you up and we will find another car agency for you."

Feeling very blessed by the favor that the Lord had given us with all these people, we waited for the ride to the car rental agency. Many other people were there also waiting, also without reservations, and seemingly without the favor of the Lord guiding them. It was a time to wait and pray for all of these other people. One man, very close to blowing his fuse, needed prayer in particular. He was very verbal about his discomfort, and his wife was near to tears. Now I understood what I was doing there. Finally we were the only people waiting for a car and the gentleman gave us instructions to pick up a car.

Hurray! Now we were finally going to get to our destination. We praised the Lord for all of the favor He had given us, and for all of the precious people that He had in our paths to bless us and help us, and for all the ones that were in our path to pray for. We also rejoiced in that we had been counted worthy to be bothered because we love the Lord. There was no question, we knew even before these things happened that God was going to bless us and enlarge us at this conference. To have problems along the way only confirmed that God must have more prepared for us at this conference than I could imagine or hope.

Finally arriving at the conference, and sharing the bread of life of God with all of the wonderful brethren, that in itself is such a major blessing. But God was not ready to stop there! Each Word of the Lord had built a wonderful understanding of what God is expecting and requiring of His people NOW. Many, many questions I had asked the Lord have been answered. My mother was delivered from a strong bondage/yoke. I have been dealing with pride, self, flesh, self, self, self, intellect, knowledge, carnality, and various other things that God has been working to clean out of me for several months or so. A major breakthrough came the second day of the conference for my mom. She is now like a new creature in Christ a whole new way. What a major blessing. (I'll let her share her story with you.)

I am feeling so totally in awe of our father, YHWH. The more of Himself and His purpose that He reveals to us, the more magnificent He becomes. I have never had an experience like this before. I have never before seen the move of God in a conference like He moved in Georgia. (Although this is only my second away-from-home conference to measure by, it is totally outstanding.)

It is only Thursday afternoon, and there are two more sessions to go. I cannot wait. My heart is expecting and the love is truly being multiplied and magnified like the loaves and the fishes to feed the crowds in the gospels. There have been several ways of stretching and submitting and repenting that we have been dealt with as a Body, and as a Body we have all declared our submission and our willingness to obey the Holy Ghost. One of these is that of evangelism, and ministering to those around you, and as the Lord would lead you. After declaring my willingness to be used of the Father to minister to those around me, do you know, I didn't have to go looking for them. They were all around me. All I had to do was to be willing and to obey.

The Lord is so wonderful. Everything that He teaches me, He gives me immediate opportunity to apply to my walk in Him and to exercise in. Well, this was no different. There were people all around the hotel, the breakfast, the gas station, the grocery store, waiting to receive what the Holy Ghost had to impart to them. For some it was God's blessing. For some it was just recognizing the Christ that was hidden away inside of them, waiting to be released. For most of them, it was acknowledgment that there was a soul in need of salvation and the love of God in their lives. For all of them, it was acknowledging them as people, and treating them with kindness and love. (Later, we learned from the Lord that prophecy of Christ moving within us who are in that particular ministry, is sharing the blessing of God to the world around us. We also learned that God's blessings follow the receiver working on God's behalf for

the rest of their lives. The importance of purifying our fountains is a necessity, for this principle works in the converse also. Wrong talking sends devils to do opposite of God. I do not want to be responsible for sending any evil to follow any soul, and I know you do not either. – God help us all rise up in Christ.)

I'm sorry that I have to tell you, but I have never ever experienced anything like it in my life. I just love Jesus Christ so very much. I feel so very blessed to be a part of the Body of Christ, and to be a son of the living God. I felt just like Jim Thiele shared, when he shared that what the world would cut out and throw away, God breathes into, and resurrects. Thank you, Lord, for not cutting out cancer in the Body of Christ, but for healing, delivering, and resurrecting it. His testimony shared my heart also. Not only that, but to have someone who could actually share it so wonderfully and speak my heart – AWESOME!

I realize that I am learning and many of you already know most of these things, but I just have to say – I LOVE YOU and I LOVE THE LORD!!! We are a most blessed people, and we have the most wonderful God. He far surpasses anything we could ever imagine or hope for.

I have never been more aware of the power and love and care of our Father to His sons. I may not be a “huios” yet, but God knows that my desire is to fulfill His purpose. I have a little keeper, or encourager, to help me keep my mind off of me:

**IT IS NOT ABOUT ME! IT IS ABOUT MY FATHER DESIRING SONS!** May Our Father's desire be accomplished in us all!

## PART TWO

Psalm 133:1-3, ***Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for the brethren to dwell together in unity! It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments; As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion: for there the LORD commanded the blessing, even life for evermore.*** All the way home, and since being home from the Georgia conference, this phrase has been on my heart, “the Lord commanded the blessing, even life for evermore.” When I looked this scripture up and read the whole Psalm, it just seemed to bring to mind how we are learning to command the blessings in the name of the Lord; and that your fountain should be pure water and not bitter.

Before the conference, I had to repent for cursing myself by thinking things about myself. Some of these things were, “I am an odd duck.” “I don't know how to be around people.” “I don't know how to be in the natural realm and visit about non-Christian things.” There was also a lot of self-consciousness and fleshly things that the Lord had quickened to my heart to repent of. He showed me that to speak/think any of those above statements that I was cursing myself. I had been quickened to stop allowing these degrading words even be thought of in my mind. The Lord showed me that by thinking them, I was allowing the devil ground in that area and I had to repent and receive deliverance and cleansing in the above areas.

Many words have been spoken to the Body of Christ about gossip and evil speaking about another, but God was showing me that there is also a subtle area that the devil was perverting to me and to others also. I would like to share what the Lord showed me personally about the subtle area of self-inflicting curses. From the Psalm and from the Words that the Lord gave at the conference – we are commanded to “have our fountain so purified that it has only sweet water to come out of it.” What is spoken is first thought in the mind. Consider that it is not only the tongue, but the mind also, that is in need of being purified of these thoughts. Also, if the devil tempts you with a thought and you reject that thought, you are overcoming that temptation.

James 3:8-12, ***But the tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison.*** Perhaps no man can tame a tongue or a mind, but we have learned that in Christ, I can do all things, and that **BE YE PERFECT AS I AM PERFECT** is a command of our Father that without obeying, we cannot attain to sonship. ***Therewith bless we God, even the Father; and therewith curse we men, which are made after the similitude of God.***

One of the Words from the Lord at the conference commissioned us to arise in the Lord. Another Word was to command the blessing on the earth and all of creation. ***Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not so to be. Doth a fountain send forth at the***

*same place sweet water and bitter? <sup>12</sup>Can the fig tree, my brethren, bear olive berries? Either a vine, figs? So can no fountain both yield salt water and fresh.*

First of all – we have all learned that we are to rise up and pray as sons (Arizona Conference 2005). To pray as a Son of God, we need to command the binding of the evil, and the loosing of the heavenly host to accomplish our Father’s purpose; which is that my Father desires sons. If we seek to be a delight to our Father, and to become a son of God, we will find that many of the things that other churches are chasing after are but the by-products of sonship. We are instructed in scripture to seek the giver, and not the gift. Many churches are seeking the gifts and neglecting the giver, who is the most important of all.

*Seek ye first the Kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.* I have also been made very aware of my own lack of power of Christ in my walk with the Lord personally. I have asked the Lord about these things, and it is really very simple.

The way to get more power of the Lord in our prayers and our walk IS by cleaning out our vessel; getting more Christ in your soul. The less garbage in the vessel; more of Christ can dwell there. TAKE OUT THE TRASH!! (We have received the commission of the Lord to PUT THE TRASH AWAY FOREVER!!!) If you do not understand what I mean by trash, I mean the world, the flesh and the devil – anything that is not Christ is TRASH! Paul said that, even his best flesh was worthless and as dung in the Lord’s sight; (Philippians 3:8).

I know, some of you might not see it as simple, but it is not the simple way that we are seeking, it is Christ. *Christ in you the hope of glory;* (Colossians 1:27). We are to rise up in faith and to believe the promises of God. We need to begin stopping our minds from having opinions, we must stop criticizing others, and we must stop measuring others. These things are not profitable for the kingdom of heaven. Our EXAMPLE is Christ! Our prize is Christ! Our plumbline is Christ!

The devil tries to magnify thoughts on anything he can use to cause our minds to be focused on something other than Christ. It is a lie to cause our minds to open to those thoughts and to cause sin in our vessels. If it dwells in our mind it is sin, even if it doesn’t come out of our mouths, it is still sin. If it is sin, our fountains become polluted – instead of becoming cleansed and perfected.

Often the devil tries to get us to say something critical or other than Christ, and then when it is not received as a blessing, we say, “I was just kidding!” “It was just a joke!” “I didn’t mean it!” What then must that scripture mean that states, Ephesians 5:3, *But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints; <sup>4</sup>Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient: but rather giving of thanks. <sup>5</sup>For this ye know, that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. <sup>6</sup>Let no man deceive you with vain words; for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience.* I wanted to stress that FOOLISH TALKING and JESTING are not convenient and should be replaced with giving of thanks. If a word/thought/idea/measure of a brother or sister should come to us – we should just know that, “My brother would not do that. My brethren would not think that. My sister would not do that. That is a lie. I am to see only Christ in my brethren.” GIVE THEM TO GOD – LOVE THEM. We don’t want to pollute our fountains, but we want to purify ourselves and maintain a clear vision of Christ.

I have had many questions to God about the false doctrines around us in the Outer Court systems that have scripture behind them and a man over them and the confusion it has caused me in the past and I believe that it may have caused some confusion to others also. All of the questions regarding confusion in this area have been answered so far by this common concept. They have stopped at one of the steps to sonship and made it their main vision. They have not continued to receive the message to come into Christ. They have rejected responsibility of the cleansing of their own soul and believed a lie that says they don’t have to change. The devil has given some lie that has caused them to believe that they do not need to be perfect and that they will receive perfection at the Lord’s coming. OR that they already are perfect. Either way, they have neglected all of the scriptures that would cause a soul to strive for perfection and purification and sanctification and cleansing. They would have rejected all of the scriptures that say to change. Why? If the lie that they don’t have to be responsible is received, or strive for perfection in their soul, then the devil will have stopped the purpose of God from being fulfilled in them.

We have received the message of the purpose of the Father is to have sons. Well, as sons of the living

God, by faith let us continue the cleansing process, and remind ourselves that our mind is a part of our soul, and so is our mouth. Very simply: our example Himself, did not give us one scripture that says, "I was just joking," or, "I didn't really mean it," or, "I was just kidding." When our mouth lets out a wrong, whether in jest or not, the devils don't care. Your motive, or lack of it, are not taken into consideration by thieves and robbers. The devil wants to apply the law of sin and death to cancel out life in Christ Jesus. **WE WANT THE LAW OF LIFE AND LIBERTY IN CHRIST JESUS TO CANCEL OUT THE LAW OF SIN AND DEATH IN OURSELVES AND OTHERS.** Now, I know that we all want to bless the creation that is all around us, so let us be careful and guard our own minds, so that not even a thought of a wrong or a measuring of another can begin to take ground in our mind. If we ask and are open to the Holy Spirit, He will shine His light in our souls. We can then repent and be washed and restored. We all need to be willing and open. We do not want to be closed up in our minds, with an attitude of "I don't have any dirt to be changed in me." It is not a characteristic of divine nature to think of ourselves so highly. I can't help but wonder if there is a word in the Hebrew that has an "ite" on the end of it that means mind or thought. If you find one, please let me know. I haven't looked that up.

Now there is one more point I have been dealt with that I would like to share. You may already have passed all of these issues in your walk with the Lord, but I believe that many of us really need to hear this again with our heart. I'll try to share this as the Lord has shown me – We want our prayers to have the anointing to do what the Lord desires. We want to be able to pray effectively. We have three areas of land to possess. Our Jerusalem, our Judea and our Samaria.

1. Our Soul
2. Area around us
3. The World

I'll give an example: Two brethren are going to pray for their friend to be delivered from a sin that they both have dealt with. One brother has not overcome that sin in his own soul. The second brother has overcome that sin in his own soul. Which brother will have the prayer that will accomplish what the Lord desires? Which brother will have the prayer that will be more in line with the whole Word? The brother that has overcome this sin in his own soul will have a prayer that is in line with the Word of God. The brother that has not overcome this sin in his own life will have a prayer that is not in line with the Word of God. Also, the brother that has overcome the sin will be better equipped to pray for others in that same area. Here is why: what you have overcome in your own soul, you are no longer under subjection to, therefore you can pray according to the Word of God and your prayer will be able to bind that sin in your brother and loose the heavenly host to accomplish his deliverance.

If you are still somehow held under subjection of a sin, you are in bondage to it and you cannot very well help another get out from something you cannot get yourself out of yet yourself. You don't jump in a mud puddle to help a brother out of the mud puddle. You throw them a lifeline and pull them out of the mud puddle and then you can clean them off and you do not get immersed in the mud yourself. This scripture also tells us this quite similarly. If you see a sin in a brother, first take the beam out of your own eye, then you can see clearly to deliver your brother (Matthew 7, Luke 6).

I cried to God many times, "Take the beam out of my own eye," in coming to this lesson, and I may yet again cry the same, but I learned that the more deliverance we obtain in our own souls, the more we are able to be used of God to pray outside of our soul – for others and for those in the world. Oh my goodness brethren, I felt like I must have looked to God like a thing with 2x4s sticking out of my eyes instead of having eyeballs. It seemed like I had multiple 2x4s because I was so dealt with there. Can you imagine, no vision – just many long boards sticking out of our eyes. It must have really looked strange in the spirit realm. Not only that, but you really can't get around very well when you have big boards sticking out from you. You lose your freedom of movement. You lose your vision. You lose your strength, as you are always having to favor and care for these appendages in the spirit realm. Your other limbs don't work properly – your arms can't reach because the beams are in the way. Your feet can't go well, because your eyes can't hold up the beams that keep falling down and stopping you from walking forward. That would really be painful. You are all bound up a different way.

If we don't deal with these things in our own soul that we pray for in others, the scripture declares us a "hypocrite". That means that you are saying one thing and doing another – you are not walking what

you are talking.

Brethren, please, please, please, let us stop looking at where everyone else is and begin looking harder at where we are. Satan would have us look at others, because then he can lie to us that we are somehow better than we are. Then we get deceived and polluted, instead of becoming clean and pure and holy. If you feel like you are better than a brother, you need to measure yourself with Christ and see how straight you stand.

We need to be encouraged to be perfect. We have a brother that has been telling us for years that we can be perfect. We are not believing the Word of God if we do not think that we can be perfect. BELIEVE IT!

We are commanded to “be ye holy as I am holy.” We are commanded to “be ye perfect as My Father which is in heaven is perfect.” One asked me about this once, “Are you saying that we can make ourselves perfect? I can’t do anything by myself. By myself I can do nothing. God has to clean me. So, do you make yourself perfect?” (This totally negates the scriptures that command the Levites to sanctify yourselves; to be holy for I the Lord am holy; Exodus 19:22, Leviticus 11:44, Leviticus 20:7, Numbers 11:18, Joshua 3:5).

Children go to our Father and say, “Father will you do all these things for me?” Sons go to our Father and say, “Thank You, Father, for giving me the weapons to ARISE and to OVERCOME in YOUR NAME.” Don’t we sing that? The Old Testament types are our best examples, as they are continually told by the Lord to destroy all of the “ites” in the land and spare none. Have no mercy. This is the same command that we heard from the Lord regarding the “ites” in our own souls, and in the area around us, so that we can be exercised and practiced to destroy all the “ites” in the world. Children will say, “Father, please go do this for me.” Sons will say, “Father, I will obey You.” Like David and Goliath, the sons go forth in to battle in His name and by His power and conquer giants.

May we each rise up in His name and conquer all the giants that have invaded our souls far too long, showing no mercy. TAKE OUT YOUR TRASH!!!! In the temporal realm, we are all very good about taking out our trash. We don’t like to leave it in the house any longer than we have to because it becomes messy and smelly and looks disgusting. We like to remove it from our homes. How much more diligent should we be to remove all the “ites” or the trash from the dwelling place of the Lord? I believe His abode should take priority over all else. Not only that, but we do not want to be replaced by rocks!

God bless you,

Terry Smith

*By Kate Trotter*

### **I WILL ARISE**

Do you need a drink of living water? How about a whole bucketful? I find that one of the best places to get a long, refreshing drink is to go to a conference. There, gathered together with other Christians, the Word of God is poured out upon me and the Spirit of God revives my soul. Just at the end of December, I had another opportunity to attend one near Canton, Georgia.

One of the simplest reasons I love conferences is because I am loved by those who are there with me. I grew up in a very common church setting, and I never, with a few exceptions, felt the love that I do at a conference. There are so many with whom I feel just like family!

Let me begin with a story from the beginning of the conference. We arrived at our hotel in Georgia rather late in the evening. As we piled out of the truck, I innocently asked what kind of a room we had gotten. The response was not as I expected, and I found out that I would be sleeping on a hide-a-bed, a pullout couch. Hmmm. This was an experience I had not wanted to repeat, as the last time I slept in one, I was very sore at the end of the night! Immediately, much to my and my companion’s dismay, I became very, how shall we say it? Grumpy! There were other factors that I had been fighting that attributed to the rising attitude problem, but the bed was the last straw!

After we had checking in, I set about preparing my family for bedtime. As our prayer time started, I realized what I had allowed to happen. The devil was coming with the exact same attack as he had the

previous year at the December Florida conference. It was there that I had an awful night in a hide-a-bed and had complained and grouched about it. This made it very difficult to participate in the first conference meeting. Right then, I repented for my grumpy attitude and thanked God for all that He was doing and had provided. I was astonished that the devil would bring the exact same situation around again to vex my soul! This is why the Bible says that we must not be ignorant of the devil's devices. Had I submitted to that again, I really don't think I would have slept well. However, I found the bed to be very comfortable and I received a wonderful night's rest.

The most important message that I received during the conference was the call to arise. Brother duCille ministered that we needed to arise, to speak into our souls, "I will arise." God is looking for me to arise out of the dust of the earth and into the Kingdom of Heaven. This had been a particularly correct and direct word that I needed to grasp onto. I felt that life and my personal battles had managed to do a lot of dragging me down rather than me doing much arising. My smile was being replaced with worry, frustration and pressure. I needed to arise.

In a meeting after hearing this message, we began to sing a song with the following lyrics: I will arise and go forth in the name of the Lord of Hosts, for He has conquered every foe, by His name, by His name. I will declare, He is my Lord, and in Him, I am not afraid. I will arise and go forth in His name.

As I sang, I began to change the words to: I will arise... for He has conquered ALL MY SOUL... You see, much of my trouble is within my own soul. When its will and way are not being fulfilled, it gives me a bit of trouble! In a children's story that we have read, the little boy learns that he is his own worst enemy. So it is that I am battling my own worst enemy: ME! Then, the lying devil steps in and supplies more trouble by telling me over and over all the no good, rotten things that are wrong with me. What is his problem anyway? Doesn't he know the rule that if you can't say anything nice, you are not to say anything at all? I must remember that the devil is a liar and the father of them, and as I remember that, I will look unto the hills from whence cometh my help. The Lord is my savior and redeemer and because of Him and His love for me, I WILL ARISE!

Mr. Bob Streblow, author of the book, *Mr. Pegelow*, attended one of the days of the conference. I was blessed. It was an extreme encouragement to feel his love for the lost souls in this world as he spoke. I just knew I had the ability to reach out to others in a greater way as I listened. He mentioned that one aspect of receiving the Holy Ghost is that you immediately begin to think of others and desire to see them walking with the Lord. I find that the use of my time is one of the most important aspects of life to attend to. Moments of distraction eat up time so quickly, which then leaves no time to give to others. I have found, in recent weeks, that the more I watch how I spend my time, the more I am able to accomplish. I believe it is like spending money. The more closely I budget and track my expenses, the less prone I am to overspending my money because of the increased awareness. I want my time filled with profitable activity, so I must take more special care in order to keep myself from spending my time frivolously. After all, time is more valuable than money and must be dealt with as such.

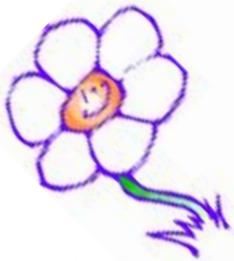
My thought has often been that I am alive for one reason, to please my heavenly Father. That is an all-encompassing aspect of serving the Lord, a desire to please Him completely in every area of life. In one meeting, Sister duCille said that God loves everyone, but there are some in whom He delights. Oh, if that was what I could be to my Father, a delight! Every little girl wants to be the light of her father's eye. As a grown up girl, I desire to delight my God. In each and every day, what can I do to be one in whom He delights? One thought is that I need to have a broken and a contrite heart. Over and over, I must repent for the sin in my life and continually draw nigh unto God. I pray that each one of us will come to desire to be one in whom He delights.

Conferences are not the easiest places to go to, they are not the "vacations" that others are taking, they cost money and time from my busy schedule, so why do I go? The life that I receive during a conference is like water in a dry and thirsty land. It is an opportunity for me to give my love to the Lord, to give love to my brethren in Christ and to receive love just as I have given. These outweigh the tribulation I endure while getting ready for and travelling to the meetings. Falling behind on my work load and doing all of the double time in order to catch up is difficult for me, but I would not exchange it for a more easy-going pace and miss the gathering together of the saints. I pray that you will be blessed of the Lord in the coming days and that I will see you all again soon... perhaps at a conference! <sup>37</sup>

# Discipline Is Disciple(ing)

## My Child To Christ

By: Sally Hohnberger



To begin, we must realize that we **all** come to disciplining (correcting wrong behavior, thoughts, desires or feelings) from an unbalanced perspective. To a greater or lesser degree, we, as parents, are either unbalancing in being too severe, cold, harsh and dictatorial without compassion, or we come from an equally wrong and harmful perspective, which is being so kind and gentle that we lack decision, firmness and as a result, authority.

The too kind mothers, as I have the tendency to be, have an unbalanced love called **sentimentalism**. This kind of love lets the child have his selfish, disobedient way. The mother excuses their wrong behavior, coaxes, and reasons at great lengths with the child, hoping vainly that the child will choose to obey. She sees she has little or no authority and cannot change her child's heart or will through reasoning and talking. Since she has no real control, this mother fears to cross the child's will because of the upheaval that results. So, she lets the child express selfish words, play with things he should not play with, or behave loudly and distractively without correction. Often she excuses their behavior. This false love creates a weak, boisterous, undesirable, and selfish child, a child that is not pleasing to parents, friends, society and most important, not pleasing or acceptable to God. When parents accustom their children to indulging their selfish way, they are unfitting them for heaven. This is a terrible evil. Parents must come to see this indulgence of self is harmful and unloving. This method of parental government is without Christ's blessing and seriously misrepresents God's love.

On the other hand, the too severe and dictatorial parent has an unbalanced love called **brutality**. This kind of love dictates what the child is to do according to the parent's mood, in a cold, militant spirit. The parent's perspective is the only perspective. This parent is often explosive. The least little inconvenience can set him or her on a rampage of anger and merciless punishment with no hope of compassion, discussion or instruction in right doing. This parent strives to maintain order and obedience with a rod of iron from a forceful, my way perspective. Parenting this way also misrepresents the love of God. It is unbalanced, friends. Commonly, the children manifest a rebellious or bitter spirit. The child mirrors the parent's angry

outbursts. It's seen in physically dominating siblings or play mates. He hasn't been shown how to have love, patience and self-control in difficulties or trials, through a surrender to Jesus. Otherwise, the child is so dominated by the parent that he is broken as an animal into submission and as a result has no will or personality of his own. The child doesn't dare to think for himself. He doesn't know how to show godly love or even have hope to change his or her weaknesses. These children will also grow up unfit for heaven and this type of submission is not pleasing to God.

We must understand that every home must have reasonable rules of conduct and behavior in order to function properly. There must be consequences consistently when these rules are broken. The parent is the authority to establish these rules, oversee and give proper motivations or consequences when the rules are broken. The child is not to rule the home; the parents are to be the authority. The child is under obligation to God to surrender to and obey his parents. The parents are to be surrendered to God and be led by Him in the management of their children.

Friends, the **only solution** for us and our children is for each of us to learn "how to," unite vitally with Christ as our Savior. We all need deliverance from our former ways of thinking and disciplining. God wants to bring us each from our unbalanced disciplines to the right mix of firmness and justice with love and mercy. This can be done **only** as we come to Christ and surrender to be led and instructed by Him as a personal God, moment by moment. In Christ we can find His balance in discipline and change our ways. Christ leading me is the solution. We need to be walking and talking with Christ, amidst our disciplining, so He can lead us aright.

We can take comfort for God says, *I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee* (Hebrews 13:5). We are not supposed to be alone in those corrections, conflicts or trials with our children. God promises us, *I will guide thee continually* (Isaiah 58:11). We must seek His counsel situation by situation. See Acts 9:6. The Holy Spirit will call us to a life of self-denial and self-control. God wants parents to surrender their over-dominant or over-indulgent ways. Jesus will subdue these cultivated tendencies and feelings, as we give them to Him. Jesus encourages us in

Jeremiah 32:27, *Behold, I am the Lord, the God of all flesh: is there any thing too hard for me?* I must listen to God's directions for me now, and then cooperate. I must surrender, say no to my former ways of reacting and invite God in to direct me in the proper way. There is true freedom in following Christ.

Such an experience must **first be mine**. As I learn, I can bring my child to Christ, for deliverance from his selfishness and wrong ways too. Through this kind of union, communion, trusting and surrendering to Christ, obedience is possible. The child must be taught to put his will on God's side and ask to be changed from being selfish, just as we were taught. Then he, too, can be enabled, through his connection with Christ to say "no" to his self and "yes" to God. This is how the child can obey his parents! Don't we want to be able to have our children know "how to" come to Christ, how to lay "self" down? How to cooperate with Christ so they, too, can let God change their selfish hearts, their wrong dispositions, desires, feelings, thoughts or behavior? Sure we do! As this experience is ours, we can instruct them successfully. See John 17:19.

This is not always an easy thing to do! It is formed by hard, stern battles with self. Conflict after conflict must be waged against hereditary tendencies. We shall have to criticize ourselves closely and not allow one unfavorable trait to remain uncorrected. The impossibility lies within our own will. If we will not, if we choose not, if we know not, then we can not overcome. The real difficulties arise from the corruption of an unsanctified heart and an unwillingness to submit to the control of God. It's the attitude of, "I will not have this Jesus rule over me in **all** things." This surrender of self is a necessary, ongoing, daily process. It's a battle that can only be won when I am **decidedly** under the control of the Spirit of God.

Friends, as you can see then, disciplining my child is much more far reaching and involved than merely correcting or punishing my child for his wrong behavior. True discipline is bringing myself and my child to Christ. It's training him "how to" yield up his will and selfish way, on his knees before God. Now, teaching is instructing the mind what is right. Training is seeing to it that they exercise their will to do what they know is right, which includes motivations and consequences. Training shows them how to get up off their knees and do what they have promised before God. So, true discipline brings our child to Christ so that Christ can soften, subdue, and change their hearts, dispositions and wills by divine power and his cooperation in self-control.

Only in this way, through this vital connection and

communion with Christ, is my child changed on the inside in mind and heart. Through this process, the child experiences the joy and power there is in grace. He experiences mastery over selfishness. He sees that obedience is possible. Through this experience he also learns that "self" serving is not a true lasting happiness and is really a state of abject slavery. He learns by experience that obeying mother, father and God is his greatest joy and happiness. With Christ, all this is real and possible. Let's apply these principles thus far to a situation to see how this all works practically.

An honest-in-heart, yet indulgent mother asks her 8-year-old son to rinse and stack the dishes while visiting at a friend's house. The child's selfish will was crossed and he temporarily rinsed the dishes, but soon he put forth a defiant step back, a non-verbal, "No, I won't." The mother reasoned, coaxed and tried her best to persuade her child to do this small, reasonable task. The boy began crying, acting up, whining and harshly arguing with his mother. His countenance, behavior and words had become most embarrassing. She kindly sat and reasoned with her child for more than 20 minutes, only to the increase of his defiance, tears and outburst of angry, disrespectful words. His evil only increased with this method of correction. Mother here is without Christ.

The friend shared with this distraught mother the need for firmness, giving consequences, making a decision and requiring prompt, cheerful obedience. To be firm and decisive wasn't in her character as yet. Through union and communion with Christ, He could instruct her what to do. Through listening, then surrendering and cooperating to do as Christ led her, she would find the proper balance of firmness and love. Jesus' authority would attend her, so her son would learn to yield his will and obey her as he should. As she learned how to work with Christ in this way, He could change her wrong thinking, feelings, emotions and even her cultivated indecisiveness. In this way, Jesus could instruct her how to bring her son to Him so he, too, could find the power to be changed in heart and mind. Each must willingly surrender to Christ before He could change them.

The following three major principles were shared with the mother before they entered the path of discipline that would be necessary to bring the child to Christ. Discipline is truly disciple(ing) my child to Christ.

(1) First, there is a **law of the mind** which must be understood. In CG 283-4\* it says, "Great harm is done by a lack of firmness and decision. I have known parents to say, 'You cannot have this or that,' and then relent, thinking that they may be too strict, and give the child the very thing they at first refused. A **lifelong injury** is thus in-

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flicted. It is an important law of the mind - one which should not be overlooked - that when a desired object is so **firmly** (not harshly) denied as to remove all hope, the mind will soon cease to long for it and will be occupied in other pursuits (It yields!). But as long as there is any hope of gaining the desired object, an effort will be made to obtain it." At times, this may be a super-human effort.

The mother and son were arguing and the son was winning. Why? The son was responding under the law of the mind. Self was ruling and reigning. The son's will was firm. He would dominate mother and get his way regardless of how unreasonable it was. When mother wasn't decisive, she did not give a firm authoritative "No!", he took the position to rule over her. Self will naturally reign and rule unless Christ is willingly given that position of rule. Like gravity, this law of selfishness rules. The apple always falls to the ground unless another law overrides it. The airplane flies because another law subdues the law of gravity. Christ in the heart is the only law that can override sin and selfishness. ***For sin shall not have dominion over you*** (Romans 6:14). But unaided by Christ, self will strengthen and rule the child. Self left alone will only get stronger and become more determined to have its way. This is why the son became firmer and louder to dominate the mother in a carnal way. The mother was very kind and courteous to his selfish behavior. This was harmfully indulgent, without consequences or motivations, and as a result her authority was met with mockery and contempt. In her unbalanced approach to discipline, she was without Christ and had no authority over her son. To her misery, this was a common occurrence.

(2) Another counsel to the soft, indulgent mothers, 5T 45\* says, "Even kindness must have its limits. Authority must be sustained by a firm severity, (this is not harshness), or it will be received by many with mockery and contempt. (Isn't this exactly what happened?) The so-called tenderness, the coaxing and the indulgence used toward youth by parents and guardians is the worst evil which can come upon them. Firmness, decision, positive requirements, are essential in every family. Parents, take up your neglected responsibilities."

(3) Prompt consequences, in Christ, must be given. Ecclesiastes 8:11 says, ***Because sentence (consequences) against an evil (disobedient) work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil*** (disobey).

Is this not what was taking place? How would God govern in this situation? Proverbs 13:24 says, ***He that***

***spareth his rod hateth his son***. Now, the rod simply represents proper consequences given in Christ. It is not necessarily just a spanking of the child. Leviticus 26:14-29 emphasizes the need for firmness, also. God shows we are to expect obedience, and if not, given consequences must come, ***because I love you!*** True love will not allow my child to be in bondage to "self" serving. True love will not allow my child to be weak, paralytic in self-control, or in bondage to thinking, "I can't." True love will take them to Christ to be changed in heart and disposition, to be strengthened to cooperate with God, that they can have the power over "self" serving. The Christian's life is more than we take it to be. It does not consist in mere gentleness, patience, meekness and kindness. These graces are essential but there is need of courage, force, energy and perseverance, the sterner virtues, also. It's not love to raise our

children to be weak, without self-control, easily discouraged, or lacking courage to deny self. Our children need Christ in them. They need to experience the hope and spirit that says confidently, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."

Now, both mothers consecrated themselves to God in prayer. They promised to counsel with Him at every step and listen always for His voice of instruction, in order that God could show how to bring this wayward, unhappy, rebellious child to Christ to be changed in heart and life. They leaned upon God for strength, wisdom and guidance at every step. It was a battle, friends! This older child had never fully, unreservedly surrendered himself to his mother when his will was crossed. The child did all he could to resist and rule over the circumstance, just as the law of the mind says, "self" would do, unaided. His "self" wanted to reign and rule mother. He became more vile in his words and behavior, to the heart break of his mother. God did not forsake them. He gave instructions, what to say, what to do, when to pray for the child and when to give the consequences for a lack of decision on his part. For not to decide is to decide. Motivation was necessary when he refused to obey and come to Jesus in prayer. Intercessory prayer was often done out loud for the child to have evidence of their love and purpose for his life right now. God worked mightily in the child's mind, to direct the child to yield.

After one and one-half hours of many entreaties and consequences, the child yielded and finally chose to believe the voice of his mother and he chose to believe the voice of Jesus in his conscience and heart. He decidedly put forth effort to ignore those lying thoughts and feelings

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to the contrary. This is a true surrender! He willingly submitted and prayed a prayer mother led out in. It was a simple prayer of confession, forgiveness, and a commitment to obey and do those dishes or whatever mother asked him to do in its place. He also asked Jesus to take his selfish heart and give him God's clean, willing heart. Then, in faith, he thanked God for changing his heart and answering his prayer. They observed as his countenance, his body, his voice were softened and subdued by the divine influence, into a sweet submission as he prayed. It was wonderful!

The mother's approach to solve this difficulty with the child's will was very different this time. She knew her request was reasonable. She was firm and unyielding in expecting obedience to her wishes. Yet **in Christ** she was without harshness. No compromise was made with evil (disobedience). Nor did she reason with his unreasonableness, or his passions. She did not yield her will to meet his unreasonable selfish will because of his loud obnoxious behavior. Instead, she talked with God and did as He said regarding when and how to give her child external motivation to choose the right instead of the wrong. She stated plainly her request. Come pray to Jesus to be changed. She encouraged him that he must choose to do right; that was best. If he refused to choose, he would receive the consequence of disobedience. It was his choice. A firm love in Christ was ready to do battle, whatever it took in time or effort to keep her child from serving sin and selfishness any longer. Mother discovered this was not a battle with flesh and blood alone but with powers and principalities of darkness, and it made her well aware she needed Christ at her side and in her heart to battle against this mighty foe successfully. Her son's spiritual life was at stake here. If she would not do battle in this way, she saw she was letting Satan have her son without restraint. She saw this new kind of firmness, in Christ, as true love. It was hard for her personality. The results were worth all the hardness of it. God was a good general in this battle.

When the child finally saw that his mother was the authority and would not indulge his selfish way, he submitted to his mother's wishes. But as long as the child felt there was any hope of getting his will and way, a super human effort was made to obtain it. Satan won't let his captives go easily, will he? Satan inspires rebellion. When at last he was convinced his mother would not yield, he chose, he yielded to heed the voice of God and his mother. He did the chore of his mother's choosing cheerfully and

well. He then experienced that this surrender brought peace to his heart. You see, without his choice to surrender to obey, he could not find peace. Why? Because, "Satan takes control of every mind that is not **decidedly** under the control of the Spirit of God." TM 79\* Submission to God (the parent stands in Christ's stead) is restoration to oneself. Through submission to Christ he gained the power of self-control. God leads us to surrender. His love will consistently allow us the consequences of our choices. Is it love to let Satan have and rule over our children through their feelings and emotions? Friends, do you then see that there can be no peace in our children's hearts, our own hearts, or our homes, while the child's selfish will is left to reign? It must be brought to subjection. He must be introduced to that power outside of himself (Jesus) that can change him on the inside and enable him to do right, and

he must submit to that. This surrender of self, we must all learn. This is how our child can be restored, recreated into the very image of God. Then the peace of heaven will reign in our homes.

Parents, this is where we often go astray. We do not insist upon the child obeying his parent's godly wishes. We draw back from the battle and as a result self and Satan strengthens their hold upon our children, binding them deeper in sin. This is the battle each parent must enter into. If we don't restrain our children's selfishness and take them to Christ, we are letting Satan have our children, and it instills chaos in our homes.

After this rigorous encounter, the friend read a story entitled, "The Battle for One Soul." MYP 52-3\* The boy identified personally with it. How the evil angels pressed the tempted soul, how darkness surrounded that soul, how the strong, good angels longed to help the pursued soul, but they must wait until the tempted one willingly cries out for help from God, because heaven does not force. It is not the work of good angels to control minds against the will of the individual. If he yields to the enemy and makes no effort to resist him, then the angels can do nothing. Jesus will not commission holy angels to free those who make no effort to help themselves. But when the pursued soul would call out for help and then cooperate to do right, then the good angels would press through the darkness and the evil angels must give back.

This child, age 8, then shared of his personal awareness of that darkness and how he was also aware that the good angels were there. Jesus himself was a mighty soldier he sensed in his mind. Jesus was often calling him to choose to trust and obey his mother. This boy was afraid,

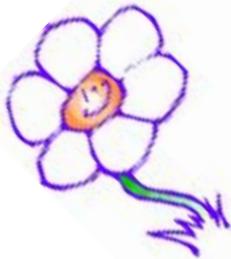
**If we don't  
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was stubborn to give up his way, but when he finally **chose to trust and yield**, God then gave strength to his submission and hope in his heart. Parents, this experience was remembered by the child as a loving mother caring for him in a very special way. Isn't this **true love**? Bringing our children to Christ to be changed. In most cases, if we disciple our child to Christ in this way, the child will eventually say, "My Mother loves me so much, she won't let me be naughty or unkind, miserable or selfish. She is my **special** friend."

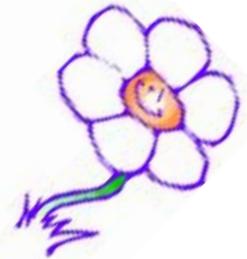
Not all situations will be this difficult, parents. Many will be easier with Christ. But for those hard times, I encourage you by this illustration to persevere, whatever it takes to bring your child to Christ to surrender himself, do it. God will be with you. He will instruct you personally.

Parents, we will all have to die to self, daily and hourly, in order to come from our unbalanced perspectives of disciplining to the perfect blend of justice and mercy, as it is in Christ. May we choose to unite with Christ to make this possible so that God may use us, to reach out to our poor children, to show them the way. May we learn to hear God's voice speaking directly to our hearts and minds that He may personally instruct us "how to" surrender ourselves and bring our children to Jesus in order to be changed. Discipline is discipling my child to Christ!

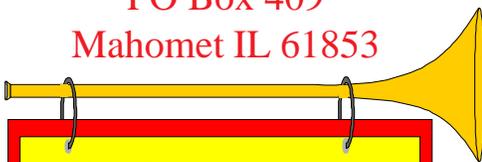
\*Bulletin Staff Note: The references cited in this article, for example, MH 290 or 4T 647, are referring to publications by one the Hohnberger's favorite authors. For more information, contact them. ☽



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**All Are Welcome!**

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