

# Keeping In Touch

May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2006



...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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# Info Center



**I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live: Deuteronomy 30:19**

Dear Readers,

May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2006

We are delighted to bring you this Spring edition of K.I.T.! As the early plants are springing forth and beginning to produce choice fruit here in Illinois, so we bring you more choice spiritual food. This whole bulletin is available for the eating, but I would like to point out some choice morsels contained in these pages. Several individuals have written and these personal testimonies are always thought provoking and encouraging! From the elements of fire to having a godly home, these articles are very nourishing. You will find some meat to chew on, yet tender enough to enjoy, in our two words from Brother Craig Chattic and Brother Burt Asbill. If you are looking for dessert, check out the July Convention information for here in Illinois and it will whet your appetite for what the Lord has for us then. Enjoy!

Please check out the K.I.T. Bulletin online at [www.kitbulletin.com](http://www.kitbulletin.com)! It is in full color and wonderful to see on the web. God bless all of you!

Please send us a line if you have anything for us to consider printing!

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

## Meeting Schedule

**Sundays 10:00 AM**

**Wednesday nights at 7:30 PM**

# June 2006

## Prison Ministry Schedule

**Sunday: 11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>**

**Monday nights weekly**

## Cleaning Crew Schedule

**3rd: Helping Hands**

**10<sup>th</sup>: Becky Adedoyin**

**17<sup>th</sup>: Peckmanns**

**24<sup>th</sup>: Kate Trotter**

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25	26	27	28	29	30	

# *We Must Fear God*

*Proverbs 9:10 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding.*

*Brother Craig Chattic*

*March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2006*

*Mahomet, IL*

I felt pretty good this morning. We got here and the service hadn't started. I thought, "For once, we are on time." Then the brother started saying, "Well, I am sorry we are a little late today." I thought, "My goodness gracious, I can't even be on time once in my lifetime." So, praise God; God is very faithful. God is very good, and His Word is very true to us. We thank God that He has not left us without a witness. Praise God, even the Word today is a blessing.

The disciples came to the Lord and they asked Him, "Lord, teach us how to pray" (Matthew 6:9). It is not an unusual request. Sister Smith was talking about praying as sons. The disciples must have seen something in the Lord's prayer life that made a difference. He got results. That was basically the difference, that when He prayed, stuff happened. So, they wanted that same ability, that same anointing. They said, "Teach us how to pray," and the Lord said, "After this manner, pray ye." He didn't give them a prescription. He didn't give them a formula. He gave them, "After this manner, pray by the Spirit, call upon your heavenly Father who is interested in you, who cares for you, who has a plan and a purpose for your life, and desires to bring that plan and that purpose to a conclusion." We thank God for His expectation regarding our end. He said part of the prayer was, "Give us this day our daily bread." I think God intended us to pray that prayer daily, because we need our daily bread today. Amen. So, we thank God for the life that He has given in His Word. We need to

learn how to extract it, how to get the life out of the Word of God to bring deliverance to our own soul.

*Prayer: God, help us to see with the eye of the Spirit, to have a wise and understanding heart, to know how to live and how to walk, how to believe and how to trust God. Lord, help us to rely upon Thee, to the degree that You have said, that when the Son of Man shall come He shall find faith on the earth. Father, help us to have the faith of God to believe that all things are possible, to walk as children of the day and children of the light, to walk in the knowledge of God. We thank You for this time in which we live. We believe that this is the last dispensation, the time that You are moving to bring a conclusion to the work that You have begun. So, Father, help us to be in the place, and to be in the Spirit, to have that attitude that is needful that we might receive the life that we need in order to overcome in our time. Help us to redeem this time, in Jesus' name, amen. Praise the Lord, praise God.*

I got up this morning and I turned on the television and I saw at least fourteen services. I counted them, and I don't know how many of them I missed. But, there were at least fourteen church services going on. God is at work. The Word says that we should not compare ourselves to ourselves, that is not wisdom (II Corinthians 10:12). I didn't make any comparisons, but I tell you, we need God. We need God to come and move in our midst. There is so much going on in the name of the Lord that it could be distressing if you were a per-



son given to being distressed. But we are a people given to overcoming. We thank God for giving us the desire for righteousness and holiness.

We are going to look at a couple of passages today. We will start in Revelation 22. There is a word here, to me, anyway, that is kind of interesting. I will try not to use my glasses, that way you guys won't quite know how bad or how old I am. You will start guessing, "How old is he, he is using his glasses." Revelation 22:10, ***And he saith unto me, Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for the time is at hand.*** There was a time that God told the prophet to seal the book, because the time is not now, that His Word and His purpose can be revealed. He said, "Don't seal it anymore, because the time is at hand." God isn't sealing anything up anymore. We need to have a certain level of understanding. We need to have a level of comprehension of the time in which we live, and God's desire is to have a people at this time. He is making us know plainly what His desire is, and

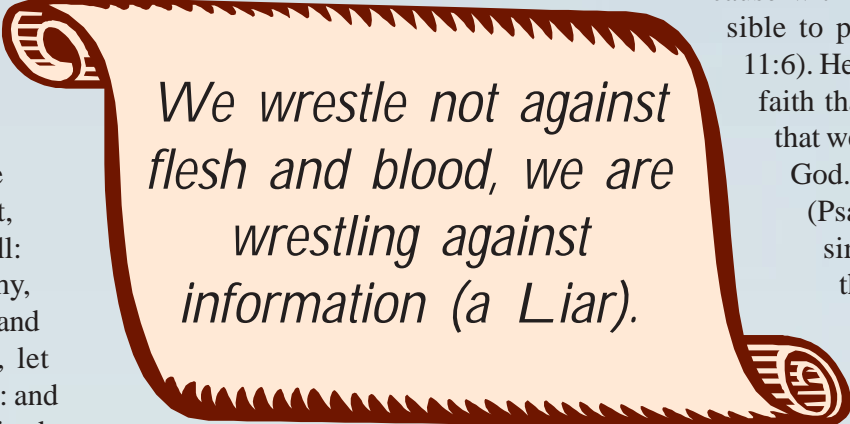
His desire is that we would move in righteousness and that we would move in holiness, because this is the time. Verse 11, He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still. At this time God

is calling for holiness in a people that He says bear His name. He says these people are a royal priesthood, a peculiar people, a holy nation (I Peter 2:9). And what does God require of that people? He requires holiness and righteousness in the inward part. Our desires, our minds, the way that we think must begin to be God. We must have thoughts that are pure, thoughts that are clean, and thoughts that are a blessing unto the people of God. He that is unjust, amen - we don't want to be in the unjust group. God is doing a work in our time. I believe that it is similar to the word that He had given to the priest Eli, that He was going to do a work that when people heard it, their ears were going to tingle (I Samuel 3:11). God is doing a work in our time. We had best begin to believe what the Lord is doing, what the Lord has said, what He has spoken. He said that He that has begun a good work in you, He shall finish it (Philippians 1:6). What frightens me - fear is not a bad thing, the fear of the Lord anyway - is that He is going to do that

work and cut it short in righteousness (Romans 9:28). He is going to complete the work. He is going to suddenly come to His temple (Malachi 3:1).

Revelation 22:11, ***He that is filthy, let him be filthy still...*** I don't want to be in that group. It seems like God is grouping people: unjust over there, filthy over there, righteous over there, holy over there right next to Him. So, that's the group that we want to be in, the group that is holy. And you know something, God says that, "My commandments are not grievous" (I John 5:3). The requirements of God are not above our heads, they are not above what we can reach. We can attain when we make that diligent effort. When we believe God with our whole heart, that which we cannot do, God will do. Thank God for that. God doesn't ask us to do what we cannot do. He gives us to do that which we can do and we trust God for the rest. We need to begin to believe that God is able to complete the work that He started in us, the work of righteousness. We started out

in this business believing God, because without faith it's not possible to please God (Hebrews 11:6). He gives us a measure of faith that we might increase, that we might desire more of God. As the hart panteth... (Psalm 42:1). As our desire for God increases, the strength to receive and to retain God increases. As we believe God, the faith attributes that we need increase to



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information (a Liar).*

believe God to a greater degree.

He has abolished death and He has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel (II Timothy 1:10). So, death has been done away with and we've entered into this realm of life and now He says, "Immortality is the goal." Come up higher; come up higher, come up to perfection. "Oh, you can't be perfect!" Any time you tell a person that God has called you to perfection, they tell you, "You can't be perfect." So, who are you going to believe, them or God? You know, I just say, "I think that I am going to believe God on this one. When you get some better information, then I will believe you." It's the truth, you know. We wrestle not against flesh and blood; we are wrestling against information (a Liar). I deal with people all the time, and if they have information that they believe in, that they trust in, don't even try to talk with them until you get better information. They are not going to receive the information until you get some better information, so I don't even deal with

them. I just say, "Okay, praise the Lord, God bless you." I have to go then and pray, "Open the eyes of their understanding, Lord, touch their heart, soften them, that they might hear Your Word." I don't give up on them, I just go pray, but I don't waste any time, any breath talking to people who have information, because they are not going to receive what you have to say. The Lord is doing something in our time and He is saying that if you are righteous, be righteous still and if you are holy, be holy still. It is not a time to draw back. It is not a time to get frustrated, to get weary in well doing (Galatians 3:9). It is not a time to get slack, because it seems like God is slack. "Where is the promise of His coming?" (II Peter 3:4). God is not slack concerning His promise (II Peter 3:9). That which God has said He will do, He will do. He is only merciful, giving us time that we might turn from the error and the wickedness of our ways, that we might be saved. God is not slack concerning His promises. He is going to do a thing in our time that is going to shock us. Us in this realm of the Kingdom of God, us in this realm of the Holy Ghost, us who believe God, and who can criticize the unbeliever and criticize the church at-large, God is going to do something to surprise us.

Let's move a little bit to Hebrews 12. The Word says that we have come to a particular place. We've come not unto the old Mount Zion, which was an awesome place to come. God said, "Prepare the people, because I want to come down and be in the midst of them. I want them to experience some words, I want them to hear My voice. I want them to know Who brought them out of Egypt, Who has been taking care of them these days in the wilderness. I want them to understand what it's all about." Israel didn't have a clue; Israel is much like we are today; we don't have a clue who God really is. That is really not a put down. It's a challenge. It's not a put down, it's a challenge. Paul said, "That I might know Him" (Philippians 3:10). We better know God, we better try to know Him. "God, I don't know You. I know about You, but I haven't known You. Help me to know You." That's what all this is about. The true worshipper must worship Him in Spirit and in truth (John 4:23). Just be serious with God. "I'm on the outside, God. Everybody else is getting blessings. Some people are having dreams and vi-

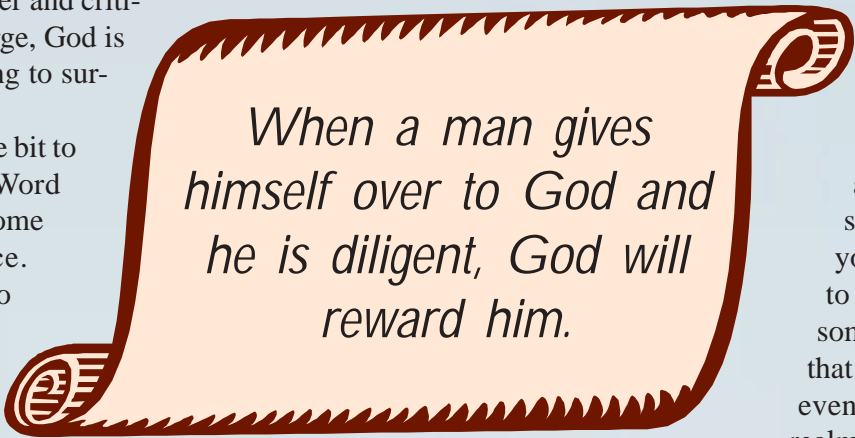
sions. Some people are even prophesying; Lord, that sounds exciting. Some people are playing instruments. I can't hardly (clap, clap) put my hands together to make a rhythm." You cry out to God and see what God will do. When a man gives himself over to God and he is diligent, God will reward him. God will bless him.

Now, don't ask me, "What is your excuse?" Don't ask me that. You see, I already know that God says, "Just stay the way you are, make a joyful noise, don't try to pick up an instrument." That is what God told me. "Don't try to sing too much, just make a joyful noise." So, I don't have a problem with, "Well, you are out of tune, you are out of key," I don't care. I went to visit a sister... This lady was in the hospital, and she went in for kind of a routine procedure and you know, five months later it almost killed the girl. I walked into the room and she says, "Chattic, they are trying to kill me." I said, "Well, praise God." Then she said, "Will you sing some songs for me?" Then I knew she was sick. I knew the woman was sick when she asked me to sing. I knew she was about dead, she had to be. You

are in bad shape when you ask me to sing. Brother Paul said to me in Jamaica, "We need to get some praise and worship going." I said, "Brother Paul, do you want these people to come back? Let's get somebody else up there that can do it." So, I don't even mess around in the realm of stuff that I should not be messing with, I don't

even do that, okay? Anyway, God is able. He will meet us and He will bless us. He will reward us for our diligence.

We have not come to the place where Israel had come to. Those folks, they should have known how to respond to God. They were in bondage. They were in slavery. Hard taskmasters and what happened? They get out of slavery and they enslave God. "We want something to eat, we want something to drink, we are tired of this kind of food, we want some meat." These people just complained, murmured, doubted God and they tempted God every step of the way. That's us, that's us. We are not thankful, we are not a thankful people to have a God such as we have, that we are still able to stand. "God, let me be God for a day." We would mess the whole world up real bad! Think about it. Somebody didn't agree with us. "That's okay, you will see!"



*When a man gives himself over to God and he is diligent, God will reward him.*

And then we would have all these thoughts about, "We will burn them up." You know that is what we would do, if we were God for a day. God would never give us the job, not for a minute. We would mess things up so bad. I have a friend who is always talking about, "Man, I wish the judgment of God would fall, then people would really get it." I said, "Brother, step back away from me, get away from me, because if the judgment of God falls, it is not going to be like you think that it is going to be. All you can see is other people getting incinerated. The judgment of God is going to hit you first if you think that there is any good in you. So, get away from me." We want God's mercy to fall, we don't want God's judgment to fall on anybody.

Israel did not understand the goodness of God. They took God for granted. They began to enjoy the new position that they were in. "We were slaves and now we've got a God that is fighting for us, that is feeding us, that has a canopy over our heads, and we are feeling pretty good right now." God said,

"Bring this people down, sanctify them, bring them down to the mount and I will have a word with them." Hebrews 12:18, *For ye are not come unto the mount that might be touched, and that burned with fire, nor blackness, and darkness, and tempest,*

*<sup>19</sup>And the sound of a trumpet, and the voice of words; which voice they that heard entreated that the word should not be spoken to them anymore.* You know what I love about this thing here? We are going to skip down a little bit here, in verse 21. *And so terrible was the sight, that Moses said, I exceedingly fear and quake.* Think about it now, this man here had spent time in the mountain with God. You know, forty days, sometimes back to back forty days. He knew of the presence of the Lord. But, this time was a time like he had never seen before. It said that Moses did *exceedingly fear and quake*. This is what we are talking about, this is where we have come, and the people of God in this generation, in this time have come to a place where God has something to say to us. We need to tune our ears and tune our hearts that we might hear what the Lord is saying. Not just hear, but hearken. Harken means that when I hear, I am going to do what I heard to do.

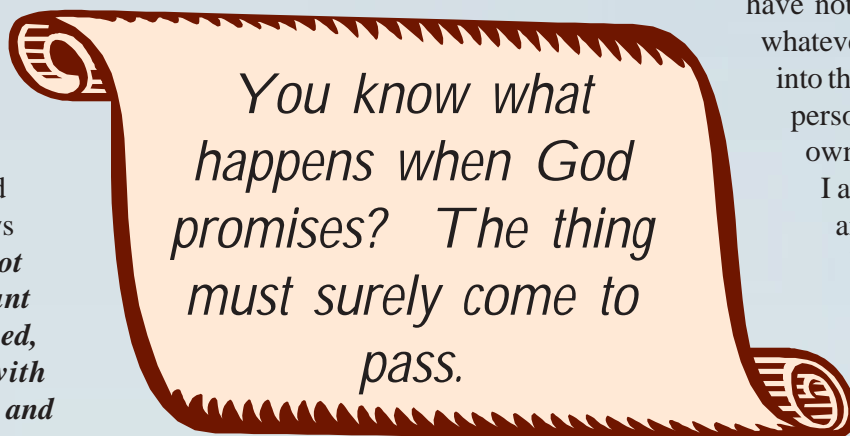
God delights no longer in sacrifices. He has no de-

light in our solemn assemblies. He has no pleasure in anything but that we would be for real, that we would be serious, that we would tell Him of the problems that are within our souls, and ask Him to deliver us. That is what God wants to do today. If you hear His voice, harden not your hearts (Hebrews 4:7). There is something within our souls that cause us not to be holy. God wants to change that desire, that attitude, that motivation, whatever the thing is that hinders us from coming up higher in God. You know, every man knows his own soul. When you hear the Word of God, that Word is quick, sharper than any two-edged sword. It goes right down to the joints and marrow, to the thoughts and intents of the heart (Hebrews 4:12). That Word is a discerner and it lets you know exactly where you are. We dare not compare ourselves with ourselves. We dare look into the Word of God and look into the face of Jesus Christ, and see how we measure up. This is what God is asking us. So, when we hear the Word and our

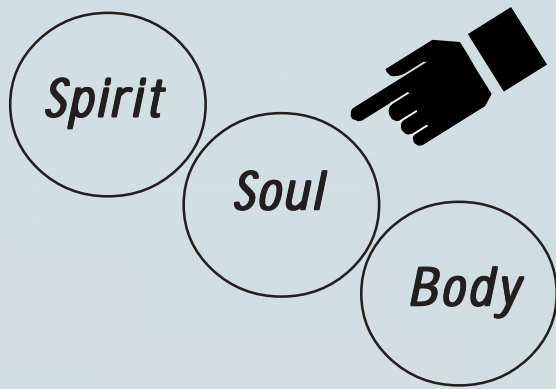
thoughts come, "Yes, Lord, I have not been as committed," whatever it is, I won't even get into the list of things, for each person knows within their own self. The reason that I am not going to get into any list is because I will be naming it about myself, and there is only so much a person can handle, so I won't go that way.

Moses said,

"I exceedingly fear and quake." "For you have come unto mount Zion." There are eight things that the Lord mentions here that we have come to, and we've come to the blood that speaketh better things than that of Abel in verse 24. *<sup>25</sup>See that ye refuse not him that speaketh. For if they escaped not who refused him that spake on earth, much more shall not we escape, if we turn from him that speaketh from heaven: <sup>26</sup>Whose voice then shook the earth: but now he hath promised.* The Word of God again. God has promised. You know what happens when God promises? The thing must surely come to pass. God has promised the thing, so it must come to pass. God has promised, saying, *<sup>26</sup>Yet once more I shake not the earth only, but also the heaven. <sup>27</sup>And this word, Yet once more, signifieth the removing of those things that are shaken, as of things that are made, that those things which cannot be shaken may remain.* It is not a mystery. God is looking for vessels that are purged, sanctified and holy - that are clean and pure. So, any-







thing that is in us that is contrary to that has to go. “I will have a church. It will be clean, it will be holy, and it will be without spot or wrinkle or blemish.” I love the next part. “Or any such thing” (Ephesians 5:27). God is all encompassing. You know, sometimes God will ask you, “Shall we sin that grace may abound (Romans 6:1), because where sin did abound grace did much more abound?” (Romans 5:20). And He doesn’t even give you a chance to answer the question, He just says, God forbid (Romans 6:2), because He knows how you would answer the question. “If there is a window for sin, I will take the window, Lord, then I will come back to grace!” No, no, no, He says, God forbid. God is answering the questions these days.

Verse 27, *...those things which cannot be shaken may remain*. Now abideth faith, hope, love... (I Corinthians 13:13). He says that every work is going to be tried and it is going to be declared by fire. Only the works that are of gold, silver and precious stones are going to abide, everything else is going to have a problem. So, only that which God is sanctioning is going to remain. <sup>28</sup>*Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear:* <sup>29</sup>*For our God is a consuming fire*. Serve God acceptably, present your bodies as a living sacrifice holy and acceptable unto Him, which is your reasonable service (Romans 12:1). You want to know what is reasonable as far as God is concerned? Present your body to God. Now, you see, that is just in the Outer Court. That is the lowest thing that you can give God - your body. He is not asking you for something that is yours, He is asking you for something that is His. Your body is not yours, your body is God’s. Your spirit is not yours, your spirit is God’s. This is you, you are just a soul. With no body, you can hardly manifest much! God wants our body, a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable unto Him, which is our reasonable service. But do you know, this is what God really wants. He wants you. He wants your soul. He wants us to offer Him a sanctified soul. Is your “all” upon the altar of sacrifice laid? He wants our soul.

Therefore, serving God acceptably with reverence and with a godly fear means that I need to be careful that I am not giving my soul over to other stuff, because God wants it. For our God is a consuming fire. Do we believe that? We have to think about that now. Do we believe that God is a consuming fire? The Lord was walking along one day and He asked the brethren a question. He said, “Whom do men say that I, the son of man, am?” (Matthew 16:13). You know, they knew the answer to that one. “Some say you are John the Baptist.” People can be slow can’t they? You see John the Baptist baptizing Jesus and you still think that Jesus is John the Baptist? “Some say you are Jeremias. Some say you are Elias or another of the prophets.” The Lord doesn’t care much about what people think. He said, “But, whom do you say that I am?” And it is still a pertinent question today. Do we believe that God is a consuming fire? Who do we say that He is?

I am so blessed. The brother prayed today that we would come into this place and that the Spirit of the Lord would be here. Sometimes people know what is going to happen. There was a presence of the Lord here today that was so sweet and God wants to just breathe upon us and speak to us and encourage us, and the brother tuned right into it. It is marvelous to see that happen. The Lord was saying, “Who do you say that I am?” You know, whenever we hear the name of Jesus, we should fall to our knees, lift our hands, give thanks, and we should do something! We should do something when we hear the name of Jesus because we understand He is my Lord, He is my Savior, He came after me, He came personally to find me, and to touch me, to deliver me, to give me life. We should be a happy people. “Well, what is wrong with you?” “I am happy.” We should be a happy people, we should be abounding in this joy of God. This is just something to think about. This should be a Hokey Pokey religion to us - put your whole self in! We just put one little foot out there. “Okay God, I’ve got one foot in, am I doing pretty good now?” Jesus Christ died on the cross. He went the distance for the joy that was set before Him, He endured the cross for the joy (Hebrews 12:2). We are just sad people. We need to get this joy of the Lord, we need to get this strength of being Christians. It is something that we should feel good about. The world tries to make you feel bad. “Well, you have got to lean on a crutch, you Christians, you can’t stand on your own two feet!” You had better believe that I have to lean on the Lord.

You know, only the fool has said in his heart there is no God (Psalm 53:1). Now, what say ye? You know what I mean? What say ye? If he says that there is no God, you know what you are dealing with. You know what I am saying? A person told me if you see two

people arguing, you can't tell which one is the fool. Don't argue with any fool! Do we believe God? We need to, if we don't, we need to begin to believe God. God has given us this ability. "But who do you say that I am?" "Oh, yeah, Lord, Lord!" You know Peter. "Oh, Lord, I've got this one! Brethren, take a seat, because I have got this one!" Every now and then Peter would get an answer, you know, and he wouldn't just let anybody else talk. But this time, he had it. He said, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God." I think that Heaven must have given a shout then, you know, "Yes, He is, and you had better believe it!" "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God." And Jesus said, "Simon Barjona, flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto you, but my Father which is in heaven" (Matthew 16:17). I am sure Peter just got real, you know, puffed up, "Hey, John, James, next time maybe you guys can get one!" We do that, too. We get a little puffed up when we get a little understanding. We should understand, we should get on our knees and say, "God, what should I do with this information?" Because once God gives you something, guess what? You become responsible and He is going to hold you accountable for what you did with what you had.

When I saw the fourteen services on television this morning, believe me, I did not criticize one time because I knew that we were going to service and we would say, "Lord, amen, what do You want to do in the midst of us? Are we going to let You do it, or are we going to rise up?" The Lord says that Jesus Christ should have the preeminence in all things (Colossians 1:18). And that word means first in rank. He's the Captain. And it means first in influence. Man doesn't live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God does man live (Matthew 4:4). He needs to have the influence in our lives. What is motivating us? What is in our hearts? What is driving us to think? What is driving us to do? It must be God. Every thought, every thought, the Word says, must become subject, must become obedient to Christ (II Corinthians 10:5). Our greatest problem is this mind. That's our greatest problem - ourselves. The man who can rule his own soul is greater than he that takes a city (Proverbs 16:32). We are our own worst enemy. The Lord said, Let this mind

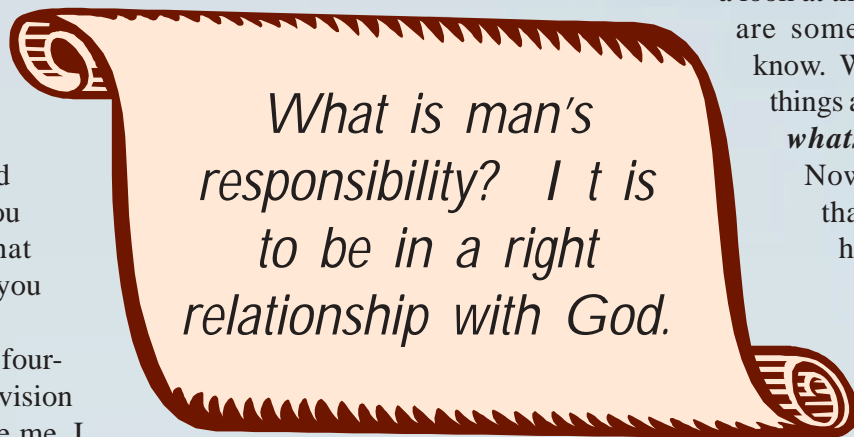
be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus (Philippians 2:5). That is what we need to have, that mind. "I do always those things that please My Father." This is the mind that is in Jesus Christ. He went not about seeking His own. "Judas, I have a job for you, you can be the treasurer of the group." Would we have ever made Judas the treasurer if we knew about Judas what Jesus knew about Judas? Would we make Judas the treasurer if we knew about Judas what we know about ourselves? No! But Jesus Christ went to every level to try to save the man. Every thing that could be done to a man He did to try to save him. Our God is a consuming fire, and we had better believe it.

Let us look here in Ecclesiastes 3. We will just take one verse out of there. We know that everything is happening under the sun. Solomon was a person who we would say must have been from Missouri. He had to check everything out. He just wouldn't believe anything unless he checked it out for himself. And in chapter 3, look at verse 14 here. He came to some wonderful conclusions and we need to take

a look at that, too. You see, there are some things we need to know. We can't guess at some things anymore. ***<sup>14</sup>I know that whatsoever God doeth...***

Now, how do you think that he knew that? He had to search it out, find it out over time. He had to prove God. ***I know that whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ever: nothing***

***can be put to it.*** Have you found that out yet? Okay, you will! ***Nor anything taken from it: and God doeth it, that men should fear before him.*** God has not left us without a witness and He has not left Himself without a witness. What God doeth is going to be forever, you can't do anything to it or against it. Don't put your hand to it, don't even try. God does it that men might fear Him. We should fear God, that is what Moses learned, that he did exceedingly fear and quake. Look in Ecclesiastes 12. These are scriptures we know. "Well then, why do you read them to us?" We read them to you because sometimes we need confirmation. Thy word is very pure: therefore thy servant loveth it (Psalm 119:140). Ecclesiastes 12:12-14. Listen to what the brother said here. ***<sup>12</sup>And further, by these, my son, be admonished: of making many books there is no end; and much study is a weariness of the flesh. <sup>13</sup>Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God***





**and keep his commandments:** What is man's duty? What is man's responsibility? It is to be in a right relationship with God. Fear God and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. Do you want to know the reason why? It gives it to you. <sup>1</sup>**For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.** Everything is going to be judged. The Word says that all of His ways are judgment (Deuteronomy 32:4). That is a pretty frightening thought. God looks upon a man. He saves a man, the man accepts salvation, and the guy sitting right next to him doesn't respond. It was a judgment unto him.

Let us look in Isaiah 11:1, **And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots: <sup>2</sup>And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD;** Sometimes we have

that spirit of wisdom resting upon us. We do. Sometimes we have that spirit of understanding. We get it sometimes, you know, especially when you listen to your wife. The spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the spirit of the fear of the Lord. I think

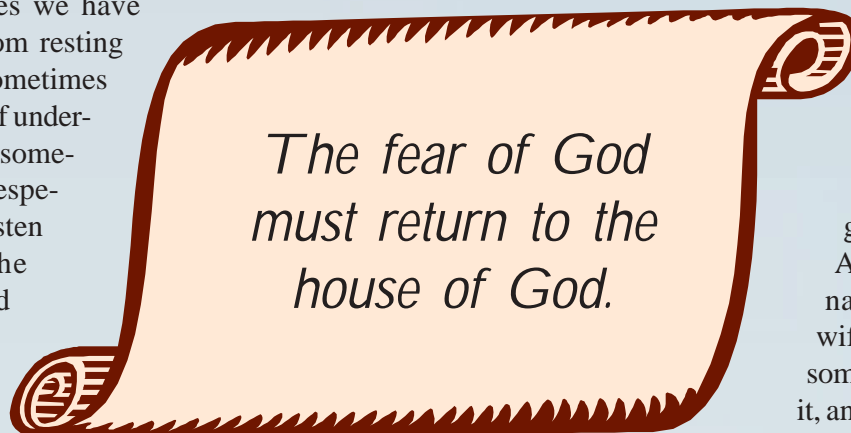
we need the spirit of the fear of the Lord upon us. I don't think we would do half the stuff that we do if the fear of the Lord was real for us. If we were aware that the eyes of the Lord are in every place beholding the evil and the good, if I were conscious of the presence of God, I think that my thinking would change, my actions would certainly change, and my speech would be null and void! I wouldn't be saying very much, if I were conscious of God. God has to get into our minds. God has to get into our conscious mind. The Word says if you walk in the Spirit, what shall you do? Live in the Spirit (Galatians 5:25)! We are in and out, in and out. We have got to walk in the Spirit and live in the Spirit. We have got to get God in our minds and keep God there! Israel, they sat down to eat, they rose up to play, and they soon forgot. We have got to get God in the right place. The fear of the Lord is what we need. <sup>3</sup>**And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the LORD: and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears:** Now,

this is talking about the Lord, we know that. But do you know, the Word says that when we see Him, we will be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is (I John 3:2). It is talking about us. God wants to make us wise concerning the fear of the Lord. <sup>4</sup>**But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked. <sup>5</sup>And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins.** The fear of the Lord is important, brethren.

Do you remember Ananias and Sapphira? (Acts 5). The church had just gotten started and was moving out in a vibrant way. Five thousand people were saved, the Holy Ghost was moving mightily. The brethren were preaching and they were believing God, and they had Levites and priests and everybody selling what they owned and bringing it and laying it at the apostles' feet.

No one at all was in competition with one another. No one was saying all that they had was their own, they were sharing all things common. To get back to those days! Anyway, there was a man named Ananias and his wife, Sapphira. They had some property and they sold it, and they conspired among themselves. "Let's agree that we sold it for so much," and

they got their story straight. They came and laid down the amount at the apostles' feet and they were asked the question, "Did you sell it for so much?" Now, sometimes a person asks you a question, and you think, "Why are they asking me this question? Do they know something that I know, or something that I don't know?" He should have thought, and at that moment he should have said, "I better rethink my first position. You know, at first, I was going to lie to you guys, but I sold it for this amount. Will you forgive me?" He didn't do that. He thought, "Nobody knew but me and my wife and she certainly is not going to tell anybody with her stingy, old self." I am just kidding now. I am sure that they were very gracious people; Lord, forgive me. So, the brother said, "Why did you decide to lie to the Holy Ghost?" (Acts 5:3). Now, what did Jesus say? If you speak a word against the Son of man, it will be forgiven you, but if you blaspheme the Holy Ghost, it's over! (Mark 3:29). The Holy Ghost must have something to do with bringing us into this place of holiness, where



*The fear of God  
must return to the  
house of God.*

we can stand before God. Let us allow the Holy Ghost to purge us and to cleanse us and to deliver us. Let us allow the Holy Ghost to heal us of us. I will just put it this way. If you are satisfied with you, if that is your information, you are never going to change. But if Jesus tells you, "I want you to be like Me," "Yes, I think I like that! That is better than me," you might change. Okay, it's information against information. Hath God said? (Genesis 3:1). Yes, He has said, and that is good enough for me. This needs to become our attitude. God has said and that is good enough for me.

The fear of God is a serious thing. Let us take a look in Deuteronomy 10:9, Wherefore Levi hath no part nor inheritance with his brethren. Now, if you notice, we didn't read the story, we talked about that story in Acts 5 about Ananias and Sapphira. They were doing what they were doing because there was a person named Josiah who was a Levite who had sold his stuff (Acts 4:36-37). He sold his property and gave, so God had changed the order of the priesthood to Melchisedec, which He is making us a part of in Christ. Therefore, the inheritance of the tribe of Levi in the Old Testament is the same as ours. The Lord was their inheritance according as He, the Lord God had promised them. Verse 10, *And I stayed in the mount, according to the first time, forty days and forty nights; and the LORD hearkened unto me also, and the LORD would not destroy thee.* <sup>11</sup>*And the LORD said unto me, Arise, take thy journey before the people, that they may go in and possess the land, which I swear unto their fathers to give unto them.* <sup>12</sup>*And now, Israel...* Now church, now Chatic. *...what doth the Lord thy God require of thee...* Pay attention to this one here. What does He require? He hasn't changed His requirements, they are the same, they always have been the same *...but to fear the LORD thy God.* Number one on the short list of things that God requires. *...but to fear the LORD thy God, to walk in all his ways, and to love him, and to serve the Lord thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul,* <sup>13</sup>*To keep the commandments of the Lord, and his statutes, which I command thee this day for thy good?* This is what God requires. Now, we could talk about these things a little more in depth. I am not going to do that, but just look at them for yourselves. But to fear the LORD thy God is the first thing on the list. The fear of God must return to the house of God. We must begin to have respect for Who God is, a consuming fire. It doesn't mean that He wants to destroy us. In Luke 12 the Lord says whom you should fear. "I will show you who you should fear. Don't fear the man that can kill the body, but fear the one that can destroy the body and the soul in hell." He is not trying to get us to be afraid, He is trying to get us to understand that there is life being

offered us. There is immortality within our grasp, and we need to choose, come out of that place of derision, of indecision, of doubt, and choose to serve God with a holy reverence and a godly fear. We need to be just like Moses, "I am exceedingly fearing and quaking." Think about it now, how differently we would respond if we knew that we were touching the things of God. "Touch not thou Mine anointed and do My prophets no harm." Lightly we say that. We say it okay, but speak a word against one of these little children, and what did the Lord say about that? It may be better for you that you put a big stone around your neck and take a swim, than to offend one of these little ones who believe in Me (Matthew 18:6)! I didn't write the Book, but He who wrote it meant it. He said it, and He is serious.

Let's look in Job 28:28, *And unto man he said, Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom...* This is wisdom, people. *...and to depart from evil is understanding.* I think he started out in Job by saying there was a man who lived in a certain place who eschewed evil (Job 1:1). He loved God and he hated evil. Job had an understanding and he had been given wisdom because he feared God. Now, he didn't have perfect understanding; there were still yet some things in Job that he had to find out about himself. Man, would you want to take Job's place? Do you want to change places with Job? Well, guess what, you are in the same place Job was in; don't think that you are not. God just gave us Job as a way to encourage us that we can come out on the other side okay. But we are in the same place Job was in, having to make a decision to rid our lives of the pride of life, to enthrone Jesus Christ, to endure as seeing Him as faithful who has promised to bring us to the other side. I will not be satisfied until I awake in His likeness (Psalm 17:15). The fear of God will get us to that place. Now, our problem is that we have not feared God, we have become familiar with God. We are comfortable with God. "I serve a living God!" Think about it now. We begin to boast in our understanding of God. If we understood it, we wouldn't do that at all. So, we've become very familiar with God. We treat God like God is us, as a neighbor, we invite Him over if we feel like having Him over and we will call on Him when we need Him. You know, if I need any extra help, I will call on my neighbor to give me a hand. God is the most uncommon thing that there is in all the world. God is not common at all. I hope you understand what I am saying. God is beyond how we think about God. The Word says that He has numbered the hairs on your head (Matthew 10:30). He says that there is not one sparrow that falls to the ground without the I AM being aware of it (Matthew 10:29). Nothing gets past God. He is *continued on page 34...*





THE ELEMENT OF AN ACCEPTABLE OFFERING  
 BY KATE TROTTER

**Genesis 22:1-13**

*And it came to pass after these things, that God did tempt Abraham, and said unto him, Abraham: and he said, Behold, here I am. <sup>2</sup>And he said, Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of. <sup>3</sup>And Abraham rose up early in the morning, and saddled his ass, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son, and clave the wood for the burnt offering, and rose up, and went unto the place of which God had told him. <sup>4</sup>Then on the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes, and saw the place afar off. <sup>5</sup>And Abraham said unto his young men, Abide ye here with the ass; and I and the lad will go yonder and worship, and come again to you. <sup>6</sup>And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering, and laid it upon Isaac his son; and he took the fire in his hand, and a knife; and they went both of them together. <sup>7</sup>And Isaac spake unto Abraham his father, and said, My father: and he said, Here am I, my son. And he said, Behold the fire and the wood: but where is the lamb for a burnt offering? <sup>8</sup>And Abraham said, My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering: so they went both of them together. <sup>9</sup>And they came to the place which God had told him of; and Abraham built an altar there, and laid the wood in order, and bound*



*Isaac his son, and laid him on the altar upon the wood. <sup>10</sup>And Abraham stretched*

*forth his hand, and took the knife to slay his son. <sup>11</sup>And the angel of the LORD called unto him out of heaven, and said, Abraham, Abraham: and he said, Here am I. <sup>12</sup>And he said, Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me. <sup>13</sup>And Abraham lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold behind him a ram caught in a thicket by his horns: and Abraham went and took the ram, and offered him up for a burnt offering in the stead of his son.*

**Hebrews 11:17-19**

*By faith Abraham, when he was tried, offered up Isaac: and he that had received the promises offered up his only begotten son, <sup>18</sup>Of whom it was said, That in Isaac shall thy seed be called: <sup>19</sup>Accounting that God was able to raise him up, even from the*



*dead; from whence also he received him in a figure.*

It is from this story that we understand that God calls for sacrifices from our own lives, just as He did from Abraham. In my own life, there came a situation with which I was dealing,

and God came to me and told me to put it on the altar. I was in a meeting worshipping the Lord, the presence of the Holy Ghost was in the place and in the midst of my singing unto Him, I heard Him say to put it on the altar. I was aware of the story of Abraham, so I humbled myself and placed the situation on the altar before God, trusting that He was able to raise it up even after I gave it to Him. Time passed and the requirement of leaving the situation on the altar and not taking it back became very evident to me. I was constantly reminded that God had asked for it and I was believing that He would take care of doing that which He would with it. I had a perception of what He would do, and in my mind, I could see what God did with the sacrifice of Isaac - he was simply removed from the altar and returned to Abraham after the test was over. However, God does not fit well inside a box, especially the one that a man's mind creates. We are finite and that is where our focus lies - on the temporal. He is infinite and knows all of eternity. God took the situation that I had placed on the altar in obedience and He consumed it. The fire came and licked up the entire sacrifice. We think if we lay something on the altar, God will give it back to us like Isaac. What is our behavior like when He chooses to consume it instead of replacing it with a ram? "Wait a minute, God! You didn't follow my rule book! That's not in the instructions! How could You do this to me?"

There is much that I  
*continued on page 26...*



# Song In My Heart



By Sister  
Terry Smith

I was awakened early this morning with a song in my heart. Actually, this song is also a prayer I had not heard for a very long time. As I lay meditating on the meaning of the words, I realized that the more I thought about what the words were actually speaking, the more I marveled at the thoroughness and the magnitude of our God and who He is for us.

The song comes from Job 5:8, *I would seek unto God, and unto God would I commit my cause:* <sup>9</sup>*Which doeth great things and unsearchable; marvellous things without number:* & Jeremiah 29:13, *And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.* <sup>14</sup>*And I will be found of you, saith the LORD:*

I have always been blessed by the way that the Lord has told us, "If you seek Me, I will let you find Me..." (Jeremiah. 29:13). I would like to share with you what the Lord was speaking to my heart. When I meditate on Who our God is, I have several thoughts that always come to mind. He is my desire, my strength and my song, my promise, my life, my everything. ... *if in any thing ye be otherwise minded, God*

*shall reveal even this unto you* (Philippians 3:15b).

*I always seem to come back to "He is my Living Word" (John 1:1). I love that the Word of God is constantly unfolding itself into an additional dimension to us. We really need the additional dimension of God, given us by the Holy Spirit, in order to know Him and to have the breadth, and length, and depth, and height of the love of God be increased in our hearts and minds (Ephesians 3:18b).*

He is our bread, our manna from heaven, given to us fresh every morning on the Table of Shewbread. He is our living bread to sustain us eternally. He is our light, our lamp, and even the way and the path that the light and lamp guide us along. *For the commandment is a lamp; and the law is light; and reproofs of instruction are the way of life:* (Proverbs 6:23). Amazingly enough, we rejoice that He is ever bringing reproof of instruction to us and "chastening us as sons" (Hebrews 12:7). For in the loving way the Lord chastens us, we are not only cleansed of the flaw, but it is such an additional joy to know that He is maturing us

I would seek unto God,  
and unto God would I  
commit my cause,  
Which doeth great things  
And unsearcheable,  
marvelous things without  
number.

And ye shall seek Me,  
And ye shall find Me,  
When ye shall search for Me  
With all your heart;

And I will be found of you,  
And I will be found of you,  
When ye shall search for me  
With all your heart.



as His sons.

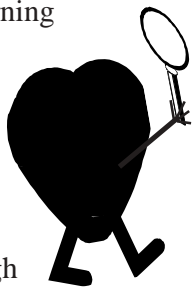
We are told over and over in the Word to SEEK GOD. Let's take a look at a few scriptures concerning SEEKING GOD. We are also given the benefits of our seeking Him. Psalms 27:8, *When thou saidst, Seek ye my face; my heart said unto thee, Thy face, LORD, will I seek.* Proverbs 8:17, *I love them that love me; and those that seek me early shall find me.* Amos 5:4, *For thus saith the LORD unto the house of Israel, Seek ye me, and ye shall live:* II Chronicles 7:14, *If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.* OR, if read in the converse, we are given the penalty of not seeking HIM. If the people calling themselves by His name

are not seeking His face, and not turning from their sins, HE will not hear their prayers; HE will not forgive their sins that they did not turn from; HE will not heal their land. Our land is our soul our earth. I know that for myself, and I'm sure for you, having our soul cleansed is a very high priority because we do not want to disqualify ourselves from sonship. John 6:26,

*Jesus answered them and said, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Ye seek me, not because ye saw the miracles, but because ye did eat of the loaves, and were filled.*

WHAT? There are also wrong ways to seek God? To us, seek means to look for to any degree from passive to fervently. Let's find out what *seek* means to God. Amos 5:4 says, "Seek God and live," but we want more we want the fullness of the benefits of seeking HIM. We are striving to be in His image and His likeness; the absolute complete fullness of the divine nature of God dwelling in our hearts. Let's start with this verse as a reference point to search for the way God desires us to SEEK HIM. II Chronicles 7:14, *If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.* *Seek* is Strong's Concordance H#1245 *baqash*: to seek to find; to seek to secure; to seek the face; to desire, demand; to require, exact; to ask, request.

Let's look at Isaiah 45:11. Isaiah 45:11, *Thus saith the LORD, the Holy One of Israel, and his Maker, Ask me of things to come concerning my sons, and concerning the work of my hands command ye me.* *Seek* in the Webster's Thesaurus means: to dig out; to hunt after; to fish for; to root out; to go in pursuit after; to run after; to go in search of. Webster's Dictionary for *seek* is: to try to



But seek ye first  
the kingdom of  
God, and his  
righteousness; and  
all these things  
shall be added  
unto you.

find; to aim at; to try to get; to attempt.

*Seek* is not usually passive, is it? For Example, it is like when you lose your keys and you hunt high and low until you find them. There is a very active part to be taken by us. When we lose our keys, we would be passive in seeking if we just sat and waited for them to come back to us we would risk never finding them. We can let someone do the seeking, but then we would not become exercised in the use of seeking in our own personal walk with the Lord.

Seeking God is something like using a muscle, or doing a task, that the Lord has placed within the grasp of each of us. If it is left unused, it will not be able to accomplish the fullness of God's purpose in you. If we do not exercise in this area of our walk with the Lord as we are commanded, just as lazy muscles get flabby and weak and useless, God will be blocked from revealing Himself to you.

Jeremiah 29:13-14a, *And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.* <sup>14</sup>*And I will be found of you, saith the LORD:...* This is a promise I can grasp hold of and depend upon. If I seek God with all my heart He will be found by me. Not maybe, not perhaps, but if I meet my responsibility, God shall also fulfill His promise. ALWAYS. This is in the New Testament, also. Matthew 6:33, *But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.* Matthew 22:37-39, *Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.* <sup>38</sup>*This is the first and great commandment.* <sup>39</sup>*And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.* Even though the word *seek* is not in the last scripture, one cannot obey the verses without coming to the place where you

are actively seeking to know the Lord better and more completely.

The Lord also showed me that one must search his own heart diligently before he can seek the Lord with all of his heart. If you do not search your own heart diligently, you will not be able to know if you are seeking or loving the Lord with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.

Another question the song brought to my mind this morning was about “my cause.” What does God mean by “my cause?” To me, before looking up the word, “my cause” is:

1. to become in the likeness of Christ Jesus
2. to die to self that HE might live in me (my soul)
3. to fulfill the desire of my Father which is to become a son indeed
4. to be a delight unto my Father, my Creator
5. to rise up to higher ground in the Lord and to remain there

What does God mean by “my cause” in Job 5:9? *Cause* is Strongs Concordance H#1700 dibrah, cause, manner, reason; cause; order; estate; end; regard; a suit or style. In the Webster’s Thesaurus it means: purpose; motive; power; basis; foundation; stimulation; mainspring; principles; conviction; belief; faith. The word *cause* in the Webster’s Dictionary is: anything producing an effect or a result; a reason or motive for producing an effect of a result.

With the knowledge that there is no middle ground, only God or devil, we would most certainly want our “cause” to be totally Godward, totally producing an effect or a result of more of Christ Jesus in us (our souls).

Job 5:8, ***I would seek unto God, and unto God would I commit my cause:*** I would like for us to look at the meaning of *commit*. So, if my cause is my foundation, my conviction, my faith, as well as my motive and basis and reason and purpose, what am I going to do with it all when I commit it unto God?

*Commit* is Strongs H#7760 suwm (soom) or siym (seem), meaning put; place; appoint; direct toward; extend; ordain; establish; constitute; determine; fix; plant; fix; make for; transform into; regard; mark; shew; give.

Webster’s Dictionary for *commit* is to give in charge or trust for safekeeping; to put officially in custody or confinement (as prison); to hand over to be disposed; to bind as by a promise; pledge; engage.

And Webster’s Thesaurus: the delivery of a person or thing into the charge or keeping of another; implies commitment, trust and confidence.

This just makes me think of the covenant that I have with God to give my all to Him and His purposes to fulfill His desire to have sons, and His responsibility to me that if I will seek Him, I will find Him. Not only that, but if I seek Him, I will also be stepping out in that faith to attain

to becoming what He is. We are so very blessed to have this privilege.

I guess you have noticed that I have been paying attention to the Words that the Lord has so graciously been giving us concerning our responsibilities and His response to our action or lack of it. I’m seeing, in the midst of the Body of Christ, all of the work that the Lord is bringing in each soul. He is at the same time blending and molding and causing the Words to not only work inside of each one, but as a collective group also.

One may read a Word that pricks the heart; another may have a song; the message will be given by the Lord to edify each heart. The Lord will encourage the one that had the Word that pricked their heart to continue. He will enlarge that Word for us all at the same time. Another may have had a scripture or an understanding, or a prayer that was on the heart. Our gracious Lord will somehow use that scripture, understanding, or prayer to continue enlarging His Purpose to the whole Body, while at the same time giving the individual with that portion the encouragement and edification that is needed for that individual to be blessed and encouraged to continue on in the things of God.

There will be one there that has not had much interaction with other brethren through the week, and yet the Lord will bless and edify what He has been teaching that individual through the ministration of the five-fold ministry to the corporate Body of Christ.

I fit in here in my personal walk with the Lord. Whether it is a word, or a song, or an enlargement, the Lord has been so very faithful to always encourage and edify and exhort me through the midst of the Body of Christ. If He did not, I might get discouraged or not be corrected as I need. I am reminded of the apostolic vision of the 1000 pounds of food for the wedding feast, and how the five-fold ministry were to take the whole grain and break it down so that the Body of Christ could feed on it.

I find it totally amazing how sometimes the Lord will bring a Word and my heart will think, “Wow! That was so simple! Why couldn’t I see that before?” The dispensation, and the timeframe that we have been honored and blessed to be allowed to become partakers in, just happens to be the most awesome unveiling of the dimensions of the Word that I have ever experienced. Not in a “miracle” or “showy” manner, but in a quite simple, quiet manner. One cannot help but think of the hidden coming of the Lord within His Body that is not seen or recognized by the rest of mankind.

Also, as each vessel of the Body of Christ “commits his cause unto the Lord,” all of our gathering as the corporate Body of Christ is enhanced and enlarged and becomes visible to the other members of the Body of Christ. We can see it by the Spirit of God and the Christ that is in me *continued on page 32...*



Brother Burt Asbill  
July 31, 2005  
Mahomet, IL



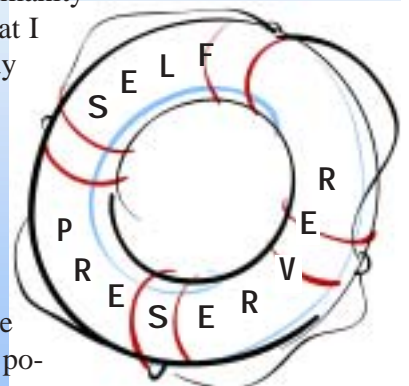
I personally do not know that the church is aware of what salvation really is. I grew up in a denomination, where the theme song was, "When We All Get to Heaven, What a Day of Shouting that Will Be." It's not that I don't appreciate the song, it's just that that theology is not in line with the doctrine of salvation. You see, it is not God's purpose to get you into Heaven. God's purpose is to get Heaven into you, and then get the Heaven that is in you out of you, so that it begins to invade the environment that you are in. Consequently, the theology of "when we all get to Heaven" is a theology that is prevalent in all of the different churches, and especially so with regard to the end-time church.

I appreciate Sister Shari's little skit for the children today because it accentuates a thought that all of us have to deal with, and that is the thought of self-preservation. They tell me the physical body will go to great extremes to keep itself alive. Where there is the deprivation of food, I am told (I do not know that it is a fact, although they say that it is a medical fact because they have done examinations on people that have starved to death) that some of the lesser organs in the body will give themselves up as food to sustain the other major organs in the body. So, those things that begin to shut down because of the lack of food give themselves up for the purpose of maintaining those things that are necessary for that body to live. It's self-preservation. It seems to be one of the strongest instincts in the human realm, and consequently, it is something that we as Christians have to deal with, and very often we are dealing with it without an awareness of what we are fighting.

If you have your Bibles, you might want to turn with me over into Romans 5. We know, as the scripture talks to us about creation and the things that transpired, that man was at one time in a position of life, and in that position he enjoyed fellowship with God. I don't believe that we really understand the environmental consequences of that place or, for that matter,

the position that Adam held. We really do not understand the reality of what Adam must have had in the very beginning, before sin came into the world and manifested itself, and gave birth to the spirit of self-preservation. You see, in the beginning, nobody would have had to tell Adam what he did not have to do. Do you understand what I'm saying? He was a living man with the breath of God in him, there was no sin yet in the world, and consequently, there was no evil that he was cognizant of. Therefore, there was no need for the spirit of self-preservation. Self-preservation is a spirit of antichrist. Self-preservation is a spirit that works contrary to the position of salvation. The sad fact is that most of humanity dies - not everyone - but most of us die not having overcome the spirit of self-preservation. There are many of those that are in the great cloud of witnesses that did not overcome the spirit of self-preservation. Are you familiar with the scripture that says that they without us could not be made perfect (Hebrews 11:40)? Well, perfection is the position or the fullness of the manifestation of salvation, or one could say, the destruction of the spirit of self-preservation. It's not just an experience; it's the culmination, it's the end result, it's the thing that happens at the end of the day that manifests the totality of the overcomer's nature.

I don't know if your life is somewhat like mine in that almost every major confrontation that comes to me in the arena of my humanity deals with who I am, what I am and what others may think or perceive me to be, and what my attitude is with regard to that aspect of their thinking. Somebody does something and I feel bad. Why do I feel bad? I feel bad because they did not consider my po-



sition. They did not consider me as a living being, and because of that lack of consideration, I feel bad. Now, we can feel bad in different ways. You can feel bad by being angry. You can feel bad by being depressed. You can feel bad in so many other different areas or ways, but the fact is, the feeling of badness or how we are viewing the situation, if it's less than life and liberty, the nature of the spirit of self-preservation is present and working.

There have only been a few individuals who seemingly have overcome the spirit of self-preservation. One of them was Enoch. Another that we are told about in the Bible is Joseph. To some degree, Joseph must have made great inroads into overcoming that spirit of self-preservation, because God continually put him into situations and circumstances where he was, to say the least, *less* considered than anyone. And yet, in those situations, he must have received or found the grace of God to overcome the attitude of "poor me." "Poor me" is your number one enemy attitude. "Poor me" is your number one enemy. When my mother told me many, many years ago, "Burt, you are your own worst enemy," I did not understand what she meant until God began to reveal to me the nature of "poor me" that is within me.

You see, God never intended us to end up in a place other than where He originally created Adam. There was something in the mind of God... Now, God could have put Adam anywhere. Do you understand that? We're not the only planet, we're not the only galaxy, we're not the only part of the universe. God could have put man anywhere He wanted to put man, but He chose to put man in the place that He did, in a position or place called Earth, and He breathed eternity into that man. Hallelujah. God doesn't want to take us somewhere as much as God wants to bring the somewhere to us, into the midst of our environment. First of all, your personal, individual set of circumstances. I'm not talking about your private, corporate (marriage) circumstance. I'm talking about your individual position and place, that personality that you know as you. Paul had the revelation that God has been trying to give the church for a number of years, for 2000 years, and that is: within you dwelleth no good thing. In me dwelleth no good thing (Romans 7:18). Now, we're talking about a man

who had a standard, a position of excellence in the natural realm that many of us really have no comprehension or knowledge of. And yet, God said all that Adam had in the realm of the cosmos, the realm of the world, was not fit for the things that he was destined for on an eternal level.

Romans 5 talks about being justified by faith in verses one, two and three, but also about the position of tribulation that we find ourselves in. Now, tribulation isn't just trouble, but it's trouble of a particular kind. God does not trouble you just to trouble you, to see you in trouble. God troubles you, or allows you to be troubled, for a particular reason, because it is the trouble that is to provoke you and to push you out of the realm that you are in, into a higher realm that is called spirit.

Now, trouble comes to you in many different arenas. Trouble can come to you in the arena of personalities. Trouble can come to you in the arena of economics. Trouble can come to you in the arena of physical maladies. But all of those troubles - you might have all of them, if you're really fortunate - are designed to provoke you, to push you into a different position of understanding, to give to you a different position or revelation of what it is that God is looking for in the midst of your particular trouble. Hallelujah. If, at the

end of the day, we do not have that revelation, to me, that is something of a great loss. I have seen many people, and I have experienced it personally, going through certain situations and not coming out of them as they would have come out had they had the understanding that it was God that was dealing with them, and not just something that was troubling them.

Romans 5:12 says, *Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world...* I said that Adam was alive at one time, he was without trouble. He had fel-

lowship with God. He didn't need trouble, but because sin came into the world, something about the environment changed drastically. *Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world...* Now, sin not only entered into the world, but sin took command of the whole environment in which man lived. It became a hell realm. Hallelujah. It became a hell realm. Some of us think the world is pretty good. That's because we don't know what it was like in the beginning. We don't know

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what it was like in the beginning, so we think that what we've got is pretty good. We think that because it's hot outside and it's cool in here we have it pretty good, but we don't know what it was in the beginning. I don't believe you needed all of this in the beginning. I believe that there was a power that was given to Adam in the way that he controlled his environment that is beyond our ability to even imagine. Did you know that Adam controlled his environment? He was in total, absolute control of his environment. We are born into an entirely different set of circumstances. We have been born into an environment that controls us. Hallelujah. God, to remedy the problem, was to put the fix *inside* of us in order to fix that which is *outside* of us.

The problem with the church is that they are satisfied with trying to get into heaven, making it through, hanging on. It says that, ***by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned.*** That doesn't just say that all men have sinned and therefore all men are dead. It's saying that the total environment that man was in was that of a hell realm, a realm of death and degradation. Anywhere you have death without the hope of life, you have hell. And it is maximizing, brethren. The only way that you could deny the fact that hell is maximizing itself is if you turn off your TV, turn off your radio, don't go anywhere, isolate yourself, and stick your head in the sand like an ostrich. But, quite frankly, you would still have to deal with yourself. This is a hell realm. I personally don't believe that God created this realm just to give it over to the devil. In the very beginning when He created it, He said that it was good. That, therefore, means that it has a purpose and it has a day that it's going to manifest that purpose in a people. It says, ***by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned.*** Hallelujah.

The ministry that has been given to the church is the ministry of reconciliation. Reconciliation means that you begin to bring back order into the midst of disorder. Hallelujah. You know, it's one thing to think about what Jesus would do; it's another thing to think about Jesus and the doing of it. You see, we as a church should be beyond the thinking of, "Well, what would Jesus do?" Because, in actuality, what God wants is that you respond and act as Jesus without thinking about

it. But you and I have a little problem and that problem is that we have "us" to deal with. We have certain characteristics that are "us." We have certain personal preferences that are "us," and we are not really willing to give up those positions or those things, those personal preferences. We have a certain way of thinking that is "us." I think that one of the major factors in the destruction of homes is the spirit of self-preservation, or the fear of losing one's own position of personal identity. We all want to be recognized for who we are, or what we have. We have certain talents, certain abilities, and when we think that those talents or abilities are not being appreciated, or that someone is trying to eliminate them or take them away, we become defensive. Being defensive is not a mechanism of the working of the Spirit of God in you, it is the spirit of self-preservation. Hallelujah.

Let's think about programming. There are a number of things in the scripture that talk to us about how one is to program themselves for the things that pertain to God. One of them that comes to me is Psalm 119:9, ***Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word.*** Then again he says, Thy word have I, what? ***Thy word have I hid in mine heart...*** (Psalm 119:105). Another place that the Bible talks about programming is where Paul says in Romans, ***faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God*** (Romans 10:17). Well, if you're not spending time in the Word, personally, individually, in the natural realm - I'm talking about the natural Word - if you're not taking time to ingest, or to digest - isn't that what you do before you digest? - the Word, then you're not going to be a person of faith. Faith requires Word. When I say, "Word," I'm talking about Bible; first the natural, then the spiritual. Hallelujah. You need to spend time in the Word. I know, as a young man, I spent a great deal of time, not only reading the Bible, but listening to the Bible and going through tapes and all of the things that we had back there as I was growing up in the Lord. I have found out that the more Word I consume, the more Word I want, the more I want to hear about God and talk about God. Have you ever gotten together with a group of people - I'm sure you have - and they're all Christians, and they're all loving the Lord, and they all might even believe in the sons of God message? How much time is spent dis-

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cussing the things of God as far as the sons of God message is concerned? What are some of the things that you talk about? Well, you may talk about your day, you may talk about some of the things that went on, you may talk about your children when you ladies get together. What do you talk about? When you men get together, what is the central theme of your discussion? Hallelujah.

You know, I traveled with the ministry for many years, and the one thing that I appreciated about the ministry that I traveled with was that everything was God-oriented. I can remember one time we were checking into a hotel. I was tired. We had been traveling all day and the only thing that I was thinking about was bed. All I wanted to do was get in my room and unpack my bag, if I could last that long, crawl into my bed and sleep. All of a sudden, the man I was traveling with was talking to the receptionist about where she went to church, and what it was that she was hearing in the church. And it was taking time. Now I'm telling on myself. I wanted to go to bed, and I found myself becoming irritated with the fact that we were spending so much time just checking into a room. Of course, you have never found yourself in that situation, right? Hallelujah. But the fact is, everywhere we went, everything was God. We would be talking about this, we'd be talking about that, and all of a sudden in the middle of the conversation, out of seemingly nowhere, this word or thought would be dropped in the midst of us by him, and we'd all have to kind of back up a little bit and begin to think about it. But, you know, the fact is, you and I do not think in a heavenly way, or that we have been created personally and individually and naturally and put in an environment for a heavenly purpose. Most of us are just trying to hang on, get by to the end, somehow, some way make it through the day, and by some fate, some means, some manner that God only knows, get our foot into the door of Heaven, and enjoy that land of euphoric blessing and live happily ever after.

Well, I suppose if that were the total intent and purpose of God it would be okay. I suppose if that is what gets you into Heaven, it's okay. But I do not believe that is the intent that God had in the very beginning. I don't believe that He wanted to create a people that would be self-serving, self-centered and self-oriented, who just give Him a little bit of themselves in order to get by so that they might make it into Heaven. I think He had a total, absolutely different thought in His mind. I think that when He created Eden, in the way that He created it, there was something of the nature and the consistency, as well as the quality, of Heaven. I think

that all those things that were in that environment were things that were pricking Adam to a position of greater God-consciousness.

I really believe that Adam had a lot to do with Enoch's training. I just believe that. He was a grandfather, and I know that, as a grandfather, I have an aspiration for my grandchildren to overcome the nature that they were born with. I have that aspiration. So, anytime that we have our grandchildren, or anytime that we have an opportunity to involve them in the things of the gospel and the things that pertain to the theology that we are pursuing after, I am very involved with talking to them about those things. I'm not interested in making them better sportsmen. I'm not interested in making them better athletes. I'm not interested in making them better lawyers or doctors. I'm not interested in even making them better community service people, an asset to the community. I'm not interested in it. What I am interested in is pricking them and stirring their consciousness with regard to the fact that they were created, not for a natural purpose, a natural place, a natural reason, but with a heavenly intent, on the basis of the Word of God. They were not created to carry on the progeny of Asbill. Do you hear me? I made a commitment with God that whatever I could do to contribute to the demise of Asbill, then that is what I would do, and that is what I would submit to with regard to my own personal set of circumstances. Hallelujah.

The Bible says that Adam sinned, and so death passed upon all men, for all have sinned (Romans 5:12). So, my home is that of a sepulcher and my heritage is that of a graveyard. It has embossed upon it, "May he always be restless." That is where I'm born. I'm born dead, I live dead and I die dead. Only, if I die dead, then I'm really dead, dead. In the fact that I am born again, I have a responsibility before God to LIVE. God designed me and my set of circumstances to prove that death has no power to reign and rule over me as an individual or over my family. It has no position of predominance. Hallelujah.

That's why He created me. He didn't create me to wait for Heaven. Hallelujah. Come on, brethren. There's something wrong with our theology. There's something really wrong with it. Because we preach and believe - at least, most of you do, because by coming here, you're preaching that you believe in a message that's called sons of God. I would dare say that any of you that went anywhere else would be dissatisfied with any message other than a message that tells you, "You can do much better than what you are doing at present. You can have much more than what you've got, and you can have it to the extent of your desire for



it.” Because the Bible says that God will withhold no good thing from him that walks uprightly (Psalm 84:11).

The problem is, we have us. We have certain aspirations and desires. I had a person say to me, “Well, what’s wrong with my desires? They’re not unclean, they’re not perverted, perverse in any way... What’s wrong with me?” I said, “Well, unless it is the new ‘you,’ it’s of no value to God.” Because it cannot fit, it cannot fit. Do you hear that? It cannot fit into an environment that is totally righteous. I don’t know if you understand that. I really don’t know that we understand the reality of that. We want God so much, don’t we? We really think that we want God, but yet, if we were in an environment that was totally righteous, absolutely righteous, I think that we would be uncomfortable, to say the least. Well, now we’re living in an environment that’s absolutely wicked, and because the nature we’re born with is the dead nature, it has a compatibility with the wickedness of that environment, and we are somewhat content. But what if you take that nature and put it in an environment of total, absolute, complete holiness and you can’t do what you want to do? You wouldn’t be able to think some of the things that you think. If you weren’t able to participate on the level that you participate on with other individuals in certain situations, what would you do?

You know, you all need to go back and get the word that Brother Gruver prophesied in the July 2004 Illinois conference. The word really was, “If I, God, pour out My glory upon you, what will manifest?” If Joseph had not attained to a position of excellence before God regarding his position of self-preservation, what do you think he would have done when he first came into power, concerning Potiphar and his wife? What do you think he would have done? He would have thought, “Well, I’m going to give her what she deserves and what she’s earned,” right? But he was like as Christ, not imputing. Isn’t that what it says? Not imputing. “For this ministry of reconciliation has been given unto us, in that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself - God - not imputing” (II Corinthians 5:18-19). That means that there was no place of self-preservation. “Self” was an aspect that was no longer a consideration or a detriment to his position of authority. Can you imagine that? I hardly can, thinking about the circumstances and situations I find myself involved in. “Not imputing,” means that you have totally, absolutely moved beyond the place of self-orientation. You no longer have the ability to be pricked or moved because somebody stepped on your toes, or said something about you, true or untrue, and told it to somebody you didn’t want to have hear about it. Hallelujah.

I got an understanding, a little light came to me this morning as we were sitting back there reading in John 1. I was reading verses 12 and 13. ***But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become...*** Now, you probably already have this revelation, but it excited me, so I want to share it with you. Hallelujah. He says to them that believe gave He power to become sons. To become something means that you aren’t in that position yet, you haven’t achieved it, there’s still something that needs to be done. You haven’t yet gone from point A to point B. Now, you may be in the process of movement, but you haven’t yet acquired or come to that position, that place. So, the place that you are presently in is not the good place that God saw in the beginning when He said it was good. It is not a place that you should stay in or be satisfied with as far as God is concerned. Come on. Are you following the thought? It says, “To them **that believe** gave He **power to become** sons.” The responsibility of becoming is on the basis of our believing that it is something that is available and that it is what God intended from the beginning. What if you don’t become a son? What is your accountability? What is your position of transgression? There’s a scripture that talks about frustrating the grace of God (Galatians 2:21). But it seems to me that, to him that knoweth to do right... Now, it’s not a matter of just not taking advantage of what is being made available, though there is a consequence to the fact of you and me not taking advantage of it. ***Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin*** (James 4:17). So, it is not a static position, is it? Well, my mom used to say, “No decision is a decision.” It’s just a lazy man’s way of making a decision.

Galatians 2:21, ***I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain.*** There is a grace that God gives in the midst of our set of circumstances. In the midst of the Word and the message that is delivered to us, there is a grace that is as an active agent. It has an ability to do something for you that you cannot do for yourself. That’s why they call it grace. But it’s not just some mystical, magical word or thought, some feeling of fuzzy-wuzzy. It’s an entity of God, it’s an active agent that is working on your behalf, and it’s working to produce one thing and one thing only, and it wants to see that manifestation. “To them that believe gave He power to become the sons of God.” Well, unfortunately, some of the power that God gives us to become sons, we squander in other avenues. We can become prosperous, we can become knowledgeable, we can become many different things on the basis of the power that

God gives us to become sons and yet not achieve the objective that has been set before us.

There's something of a revelation in the story of the prodigal son that I don't know that the church has really come to grips with.

You see, the prodigal son had a position, he had a place in the father's house, and he had an inheritance. Now, if you can look at that inheritance as being his portion or his position as a son, had he turned around and used his inheritance in a wise and appropriate manner, working with the father, things would have been different. But he chose to use his inheritance in a different way. When the Bible talks about you and me being given power, it's talking about an apportionment of God's grace

that is part of our inheritance. It is given to us to work out the purpose and the intent of God in our lives. There is an inheritance that we have via the virtue of the desire of God to have us be in a particular place at a particular time. The Bible says that you and I are to do what? Seek first the Kingdom of God. We are supposed to seek the Kingdom of God *first*. That means that everything we are involved in should be Kingdom of God oriented. It should be the first and foremost thought in our minds, no matter if we're out here doing this or that or somewhere else, raising children, working in the kitchen, doing the dishes, cooking the dinner, pulling the weeds, driving down the road or shopping in the grocery store. Whatever the situation is, everything should be overshadowed with the intent and the desire that God has for the purpose for which you and I were created. We weren't created for a natural set of circumstances, to be in a natural position of pre-eminence and predominance, unless it furthers the position and the desire that God has to bring forth sons. The Bible, from Genesis to Revelation, is full of God's desire to produce sons. God wants SONS! He doesn't want Christians. God wants sons! He wants us to think like sons. He wants us to raise our children like sons unto Him and not unto ourselves. He wants us to raise our *grandchildren* like sons. We are to promote the Kingdom of God, not the kingdom of this world, nor the kingdoms of self.

I'm not saying that you can't have times of fellowship and good times. I'm not saying any of that. You know, when I was young in the Lord and in the work of the Lord, we were in care of a fellowship for many

years. God told us that we needed to fellowship with them on a natural plain, in a natural environment. But I want to tell you, wherever we were in a natural plain and a natural environment, we were preaching the Word of God, whether it was out water skiing or whatever we were doing with the fellowship. The intent was not just to have a good time, but to bring forth and produce the Kingdom of God. It was to get those people in a position and in a relationship with God, to get them in a position or a place of God-conscious-

ness. Hallelujah. God ever before their eyes. God ever-present in their thoughts. Why do you think God commanded Aaron to wear the Plate of Gold upon his forehead, those little epaulets and plaques they put between their eyes? They were to wear them on their shoulders and they were to have them girded about them. The Word of God was always ever-present. What is the Word of God? It is God expressing His desire for you and me to be sons!

God wants sons! He wants us to think like sons! He doesn't want us cosmos-oriented, He wants us Heaven-oriented. We spend so much time programming ourselves for the things that pertain to this world. Jesus was praying His prayer of faith in John 17, and He says, "They are in the world, but they are not of the world." Well, that was a statement of faith. We know how much world they had in them when we read about what happened in the garden of Gethsemane and the Word that Jesus spoke there, "NOT MY WILL, BUT THINE BE DONE."

Doing the will of God is never easy. If you're looking for easiness, that's a lazy man's gospel. Doing the will of God is never easy. **DOING THE WILL OF GOD IS NEVER EASY.** Dying isn't easy. "Oh, we're ready to die." I had that experience one day. I found out I wasn't so ready to die. I had a collapsed lung many years ago, and I thought I was having a heart attack. I said to God, "I'm too young to die." It wasn't that I didn't

...no matter if we're...raising children, working in the kitchen, doing the dishes, cooking the dinner, pulling the weeds, driving down the road or shopping in the grocery store. Whatever the situation is, everything should be overshadowed with the intent and the desire that God has for the purpose for which you and I were created.





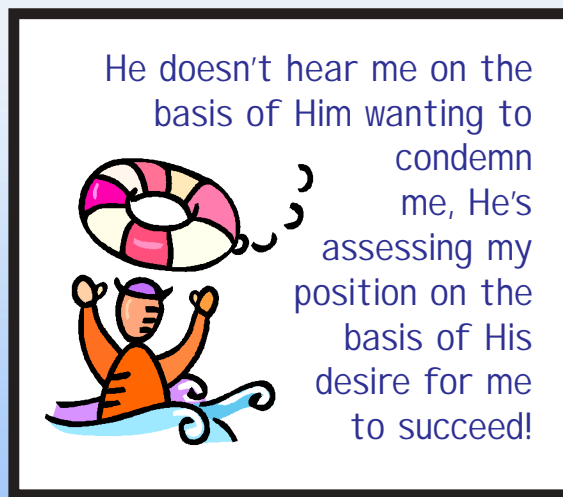
have this Word or this message. “Oh yes, I want to go all the way with You, God... (gaaaasp) ...I’m too young to die! I’ve got all these babies and they need me. God, what are You doing?” We think we’re ready to die. I found out that I wasn’t so ready to die, and I’ve been working on it ever since. Hallelujah. I hope next time around I do a little better. Hallelujah. Well, we had a situation in Africa one time. The only thing I was afraid of was that somebody else wasn’t ready to die! ☺ Hallelujah.

It says, ***But as many as received him...*** You don’t receive God to get saved, to do good, to be better. All of those are side products. They come because of the position. You know, the benefits. You go to work for someone and you get certain benefits. That’s not the job; that’s not the position. The truck you drive isn’t the position. The office you fill isn’t the position. Those are the benefits that come with the job. You know, eternity is something that you get at the end of the day. It comes with the job, if you’re doing the right job and you’re doing the right thing! There is no employer that I know of in the natural that will deal with you indefinitely if you don’t fulfill the obligation for which you were employed. And yet, we do it all the time with God! We think, “Well, because He’s God, He’s always going to extend mercy. He’s always going to love us in spite of our faults.” Well, it’s not that God doesn’t do that, but I want to tell you, there’s a time frame. There’s a time frame for everything. That’s what the preacher said, wasn’t it? There’s a season for everything (Ecclesiastes 3:1). We’re living in a dispensation of time when there is an intent that is drawing closer that God wants to have manifested in the nature and the quality of integrity in the individuals that are involved with Him.

We want a little bit of God, but we want a whole bunch of ourselves. We’re not willing, it seems to me, to give of our position, give of our place, give of our soul. We’re kind of like “ten percent” Christians. Ten percent of this, ten percent of that. Well, it should at least be thirty percent, or sixty percent. But somehow or another we got that ten percent, I guess because it’s less than thirty percent. If you have two cloaks, two coats, and your brother has none, what are you supposed to do? Give him the one you don’t want. Give him the one that you don’t really care

about, you didn’t like that color anyway. “You can have this, it’s a new coat. I didn’t like that color anyway.” Of course, you don’t do that. I had an experience one time. We went through a fire that burned our house down to the ground, and the church responded. I got worn-out sofas, broken dishes, worn-out clothes, and all the things that were necessary to live. But everything was broken, unfixable or had a patch on it. Something is wrong with our theology. Something is wrong with our perception - the way that we view things. Something is wrong! There is something definitely, definitely wrong. And you know something? I don’t know that the accountability is going to be as great out there as it is going to be in here, in accordance to the Word that we have! It says, Unto them that believe... or ***received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name.*** We’re not talking about semantics, a syllable-ized enunciation of vowels and consonants. We’re talking about the original intent, the pattern. Do you know that it says that Adam was the pattern or the intent of God in the beginning that prophesied of the coming of Jesus Christ? Most of us are satisfied with being part-time Christians. We’ll give so much of this, so much of that, so much of this, and that’s all that we’re wanting to give, on the basis of our environment! We have this demand here, this demand here, this demand over here. “Oh, I can’t do this because of that and because of that.” Now, I’m not saying you’re not supposed to do the “because of that,” but is the “because of that” promoting God and the reason for which God elected you, is it promoting the intent that God has for you in the midst of your circumstances? Is it going to produce a son nature, is there going to be a demonstration of that son reality and son authority? Is there going to come forth such a manifestation that God is going to say, “This is my beloved son in whom I’m well pleased”? Do you think that that was something that was reserved for Jesus Christ alone? Absolutely not.

The worst thing about it is that God hears everything. He even hears those things I don’t say! And He’s assessing me. He’s assessing me. He doesn’t hear me on the basis of Him wanting to condemn me, He’s assessing my position on the basis of His desire for me to succeed! So, He puts this into my path, and He puts that in my path, and He puts something else in my path. You

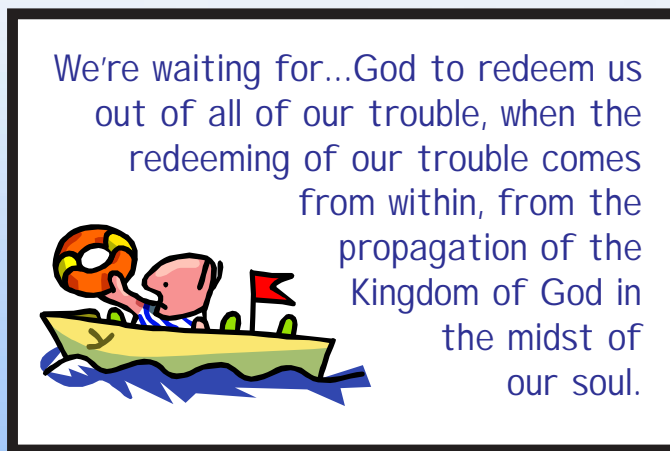


know, some of us are facing certain trials and tribulations, but what they are really like are final exams. Not really final exams, but those mini exams that lead up to the final exam. Quizzes. Little pop quiz here and there, right? You get involved in something and somebody asks you to do something, this or that or that, and you develop an attitude or a reason for why you can't do it.

There's something wrong with our theology if that is our response. You know, we need to understand the reality of the consequences of our non-participation or our non-action. To become a son means that you have a certain position. There is something of a requirement, there is something of God's earnest expectation and love and adoration for us to move into that certain direction! But in order to have that place, in order to have that position, we have to deny ourselves, we have to say, "No!" to the spirit of self-preservation.

You know, brethren, the whole structure of the Bible is based on this one intent, that in the very beginning God desired to make man after His image, after His likeness. Not just to raise children and to program them to be you all over again - only magnified and worse! You can't raise children the way we used to raise them and have the children survive. You can't do it. And yet, we do it, over and over and over and over again. We spend eighty-five percent, ninety-five percent of our time putting into them the theology of this cosmos. Reading, writing and arithmetic - that has nothing to do with it. It's a theology of worldliness, lawlessness, wickedness. Come on! The church should be functioning and moving in a position that is actively resisting that demonic overshadowing. But we're so wrapped up in our individual environments, and we come to church at a particular time, and we hear a particular word, and we sing particular songs without understanding or coming to grips with the reality of what is facing us, and the accountability that we have before God concerning the bringing forth and the manifestation of His Kingdom.

He says, *But as many as received him...* AS MANY AS RECEIVED HIM ...to them gave he power to become the sons of God. My goodness. Now, I suppose you could develop the doctrinal position that that power to become sons of God is in eternity, that it is at the last day, the last trump.



But what about the scripture that says, "They without us cannot be made perfect" (Hebrews 11:40)? Cannot be made perfect! *Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.* That means that, in spite of the position we are in as far as natural birth is concerned, there is the availability, the avenue of access that we have, not on the basis of our desire for God, but on God's desire for us to be in that position. So, any and every opportunity, any day, any minute of the day, things are coming down on us, pressing us this way, pressing us, that, in that time, in that place and in the things that God puts upon our shoulders or puts out in front of us, or the consciousness of the burden that is around us, there is something of God in that situation! He has an expectation with regard to us to perform in a manner that will be consistent with His theology! Not a theology of "some day on a shore far away, when we all get to Heaven what a beautiful day that will be." Some of us are waiting for that. We're waiting for that. We've kind of got this spiritual thought of raptur-ism, waiting for God to redeem us out of all of our trouble, when the redeeming of our trouble comes from within, from the propagation of the Kingdom of God in the midst of our soul. Hallelujah.

You know, as I was reading this verse, he says, John 1: 13, To them *which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.* That means that, no matter what your condition is, there is the power and the grace of God that is ministered to any individual in any given situation, to translate them out of that place! In natural understanding, to translate them out of that realm or mindset into a realm that is Heaven. As I was reading this verse, I was reminded of the scripture where Paul was writing to Timothy, and he said that in a great house, there are many vessels. II Timothy 2:20, *But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honour, and some to dishonour.* Now,

if God would leave us at that place, we would be men most miserable, and we would always be trying to figure out, "Well, who is the vessel of gold? Who is the vessel of silver? Oh, who is the vessel of earth, and who is the vessel of honor? And who is the vessel of dishonor? Oh, the vessel of dishonor



is over there.” But God doesn’t leave us in that position, He doesn’t leave us without a further Word. He says, *If a man therefore purge himself from these... What shall he be? ...he shall be a vessel unto honour...* So, it doesn’t make any difference where you are, what you are and what you’re doing or how you’re used, if you begin the active process of participating with Him in the working out of your salvation! Hallelujah. *If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master’s use, and prepared unto every good work.* There is something that God requires of us, there is something of an understanding that God wants to give to us with regard to the position of the church.

Let me read to you the definition of preservation. It says, *the act of preserving or keeping safe; the act of keeping from injury or destruction or decay, as the preservation of life or health.* Hallelujah.

Let’s read the philosophy of humanity. This is the philosophy of humanity and it is out of the pit of hell. Genesis 3, *Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? <sup>2</sup>And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: <sup>3</sup>But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.* Now here it is. Here’s the punch line. *<sup>4</sup>And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die...* Well, surely there can be nothing wrong with that? “There can be nothing wrong with doing that, we’re only human. We have to live in a human environment, we have to be human to a certain extent. God really wouldn’t require me to do this or to do that. He wouldn’t want me to be an extremist. God wants me to have some sort of peace of mind. After all, I can have more time to serve the Lord!” Hallelujah. *<sup>4</sup>And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: <sup>5</sup>For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened...* Your eyes shall be opened. All of a sudden, the conversation is away from God and on to who? On to self. “Your eyes are going to be opened, you’re going to have a position or place of pre-eminence, you’re going to have a place of predominance, people are going to recognize you for what you are. You’re going to have some sort of talent or ability, you’re going to be something that *excels* in a particular area!” Oh my. *<sup>5</sup>For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened...*

The cosmos is ordered under the direction of hell, under the direction of Satan. I believe all of this out

here that is not touched by the Blood of Jesus Christ or is not under the jurisdiction of the Holy Ghost has one objective, and that is to reduce everything down to its own level of depravity. Now, what happens if I submit myself to that environment? There’s a scenario I want to put before you. Have you heard of Special Forces? Do you know what they are? I think the army has their part that’s called the Rangers or something like that. Every branch has its own special unit. They are often involved in what they call “covert action,” which means they go deep down inside enemy territory. Oftentimes the government says, “We don’t know anything about it.” Now, do you think they’re going to take somebody off the street and stick them in one of these units? Do you know that they have special schools and training centers? You know, you’re not even aware sometimes of what they do with these individuals! They helicopter them out into the midst of the Mojave Desert, parachute them out with a little flask of water and some K-rations and tell them they have two weeks to get back! And we think that we can take our children, put them in that environment and think that they’re going to survive. It’s absolutely ludicrous. Those men go through training. They go through basic training, they go through advanced boot training, they go to special service boot camp, and then they go to other types of camps, and those camps are six to eight weeks long. I knew a man that was in training for two-and-a-half years before they even put him into a unit and sent him behind the lines! Yet, we think that in this environment out here, because we have a man in a blue uniform and a badge on his chest, our children are going to be safe! My God. It’s only really, quite frankly, mercy that God extends to us in certain situations because of our ignorance. But you know something, we’re not being ignorant any more. God is eliminating our position of ignorance. God is taking away our excuse, “Well, God, I didn’t know any better!”

*<sup>4</sup>And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die...* “Oh, it’s okay. It’s all right. God loves you, He wouldn’t let you die! He wouldn’t let you be put in a position like that. Oh, you know, God, He’s a good guy. He’s a good buddy.” *<sup>4</sup>And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: <sup>5</sup>For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. <sup>6</sup>And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food...* “Oh yes, a man has to take care of himself, he has to have an education to do that.” Well, my answer to that is, if education is something that God has for you, go for it. But listen to me: you have to be trained in the things of God. You

have to have the input, you have to have the discipline, you have to have the tenacity - that's tenacity and integrity. I just put two words together. It takes special equipment to be in certain environments. Special equipment. It takes special anointing. It takes an individual who loves God with all of their heart and with all of their being. God's not going to take some little wimpy wimp out of a protected environment and slap them down in the midst of a hell environment. God knows what the situation is.

***“And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food... We can always find an excuse - do you hear me? - to do something that brings ourselves, our children, our fellowship into a place of jeopardy. We can always find an excuse! Always. The woman saw that it was good for food, ...and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat. And so sin passed upon all men, and heaven was defiled.***

Turn with me over to II Corinthians 5:1, ***For we know... do we really know? ...that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God... Do we have a building? How much time have you spent building your house? What is the reality of Heaven that is within you? What is the reality of God's ability to be sufficient for whatever set of circumstances that you find yourself in? ...we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. I don't know that we really understand. <sup>2</sup>For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed upon with our house... Groaning entails more than just guttural sounds. Groaning is a demonstration or a reality of the desire that you have, and the tenacity with which you push toward God to achieve something that you see in the scripture that will bring a fulfillment and a deliverance to your life that you are aware that you don't have at that moment, at that time. Not talking about just groaning, “Oooooohhhhhh.” We're talking about the position of your participation with God, and working out your salvation in the intent of what God has for you in the place that He calls being a son. God wants sons! He doesn't want good citizens. Good citizens are a quality of sonship, it's a benefit, it's something that comes because of that. Hallelujah.***

***<sup>3</sup>If so be that being clothed we shall not be found naked. <sup>4</sup>For we that are in this tabernacle do groan, being burdened: not for that we would be unclothed, but clothed upon, that mortality might be swallowed up of life. Why would he be groaning for something that was unattainable? There was a reality that this man had. How many of you would have liked to travel***

with him? ***<sup>16</sup>Wherefore henceforth know we no man after the flesh: yea, though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet now henceforth know we him no more. <sup>17</sup>Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature... A new dimension, a new position, there's a new realm which he is striving to obtain. ...yet now henceforth know we him no more. <sup>17</sup>Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. Unfortunately, I don't know that we have the reality.***

***<sup>18</sup>And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; <sup>19</sup>To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation. <sup>20</sup>Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead... Get your dictionary out, get your concordance out, check out those words. It means just exactly what it's saying, only there is more of a definiteness with regard to the thought and the intent of where we are, and the accountability and the responsibility that we have before the Lord as individuals that carry the mark of sonship.***

One more scripture. Romans 8:18, ***For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed... Where? ...in us. Hallelujah. <sup>19</sup>For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God. <sup>20</sup>For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope, <sup>21</sup>Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption... Creature understands the position of corruption in hell. ...into the glorious liberty of the children of God. <sup>22</sup>For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now. <sup>23</sup>And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body. <sup>24</sup>For we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for? Hope in the intent, hope with a purpose, hope for the reason and the thought of what it is that God created in the very beginning, and the reason for which He created it. Hallelujah.***

***<sup>25</sup>But if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it. <sup>26</sup>Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself***  
*Continued on page 36...*

# Beyond ABC'S

by Stacy Asbill

Recently I ran into an acquaintance of mine, a fellow home schooling mom who belongs to our home school support group. Our children have been in several activities together, so we have had occasion to share the joys and challenges of home schooling with each other. I was taken aback a little when she shared that they had put their oldest in public school, and then I found out later on that they were inquiring about doing the same with their next child. Now, I am a one hundred percent, totally-committed-to-teaching-my-children type of mom. It has never even crossed my mind to consider any other option, therefore, in my heart I felt really sad after talking to my friend. The situation has been uppermost in my thoughts and it has caused me to wonder if there were other moms, even ones that we know, who have felt like “throwing in the towel” and just need some kind of encouragement.

Now, let me just say that we are all in different circumstances and so, perhaps some families are doing something else besides home schooling. What I am writing is in no way intended to offend anyone who is doing otherwise. There are many excellent instructions given in the Word that we are all to follow whether we home school or not; for me, I feel that teaching my children at home provides me with the greatest opportunities to apply these biblical principles.

The first thing I think that we have to ascertain is, “Why do we teach our children at home?” When you look in the Word, there are several places in Deuteronomy where God gives commandments to the children of Israel and immediately follows them with

the necessity of His people to teach the statutes to their children. Deuteronomy 6:7 says, *And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.* The word *diligently* is #8150 in the Strong’s Hebrew Concordance. It means “to point, to pierce, to sharpen, to whet,” and my favorite, “to inculcate.” I looked up the word *inculcate* in Webster’s 1812 Dictionary and found that it means, “to impress by frequent admonitions; to teach and enforce by frequent repetitions; to urge on the mind.” For those of us who have the blessing of teaching our children at home, we are given multitudes

of opportunities throughout the day to instruct our children in the ways of the Lord. If your family is like ours, it seems like everywhere you turn you are confronted with situations that provide opportunities to instruct in righteousness. I don’t know why this is, but every year when September rolls around and we officially start our new school year, I am always amazed at how much more character building and instructing in the ways of the Lord that takes place than even the “reading, writing, and arithmetic.” This alone excites me as to the depth of what I am actually accomplishing in home schooling my children. Teaching your children to read, write, and add is relatively simple; beyond that is the molding and shaping of their character and, ultimately, their destiny, that requires the work and is the greatest challenge.


Following this thought, for those of us who follow after the “sonship/death to self message,” we have a responsibility to instruct our children in how to overcome. Here again, in our family we are faced with numerous opportunities (throughout our day) to overcome; someone is sulking at Bible time and another complains about how they “hate!” handwriting. Yet another child might get upset with his little sister because she is engrossed in the story he is reading to me and his little sister is trying to see the picture in his reading book. Someone else may be mad at their sibling for taking their scissors without asking, two little ones may be fighting over toys while the older kids are trying to do school... and the list goes on and on. Interestingly, these situations may be happening simultaneously or in a relatively short amount of time. As



our lives continually seem to be in this pattern of tumultuous happenings, the question is, how do we, especially as the mom, view these situations? You see, how we view our circumstances has everything to do with how we respond to them and how we respond to them has everything to do with either becoming a burnt-out mom or a victorious one. I know that I have had my days of tripping from one catastrophic event to the next and have prayed, "Lord, Your Word says that Your mercies are new every morning. Help me, Lord, to make it to bedtime!" Yet all the while God desires us to view these situations as OPPORTUNITIES - opportunities for us to instruct our children in righteousness and in overcoming. You know, the neatest thing is that it is not all about our children's need to overcome, but we, as moms, are being given a golden opportunity to overcome, too! In fact, as I begin to overcome in the midst of my surroundings, I find that the avenue for my children to overcome becomes easier, also.

You know, bringing up children unto the Lord is not a job - it is a calling. How do you know if you are called? If you have children, then you are called! What we are called to is to bring them up as part of a righteous generation. I often think about the marvelous examples in the Bible of Jochebed (Moses' mother) and Hannah (Samuel's mother). Both of these mothers only had their sons for a very short time span of their early years, yet what Jochebed and Hannah must have taught them and ingrained within these two little boys shaped and molded their lives in such a way that they would influence nations, and ultimately, the world! Both of these boys were put in circumstances where immorality and worldliness were prevalent: Moses as a prince in Egypt and Samuel growing up alongside Eli's wayward sons, yet their natural surroundings did not dim their eyes to the spiritual calling they were called to. Haven't you ever wondered what exactly those two mothers taught their sons? I have and I am convinced that they must have used every opportunity

to instruct their sons in the ways of the Lord and of righteousness. You know, as a home schooling mom, you can be content to teach your children educationally, but we are called to a higher place than that. Looking back again at Jochebed and Hannah, they both were aware that there was coming a time when their sons would be taken from their care, and I don't believe their focus was on natural aspirations. If we consider their example, what are we as mothers imparting to our children today that will affect their outcome? If our emphasis is on education and that alone, more than likely our children will excel in that arena. But we have been called to go beyond that, and if we truly believe that we are in the end-time, then we will be diligent to utilize every opportunity to prepare our children for whatever may lie ahead. We should strive to pattern our children after the Son of God and not a son of (your last name goes here).

Many places in the Old Testament, as it lists the names of the kings and whether or not they did right in the sight of the Lord, alongside that assessment is given the name of that king's mother. I believe that it is a significant testimony as to the input and training by the mother to the child and, consequently, the outcome of their lives. I want to encourage every one of you, as mothers, as teachers, to fully embrace this gift and calling that God has given you. So many times we can lose sight of the "big picture" in the midst of our everyday life, and there certainly is a bigger picture than this natural, earthly realm. Let us press on for the mark of the high calling, not just for ourselves, but also for our children that they might excel in the Kingdom of God. ***And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not*** (Galatians 6:9). So, moms, keep up the good work, fight the good fight of faith and let us strive to reach that one hundred percent full potential that we have in God! Be encouraged in the Lord today! 



*...continued from page 11 (FIRE!)*




need to learn about my almighty Savior, but this I do know, He loves me and is doing the best for me so that His nature will be produced in my soul. We get so caught up in the "American Dream" (or the "Human Dream") that we forget that it is through suffering that we earn the Kingdom. When God consumes our offerings and sacrifices, there is suffering, but joy comes in the morning. There is comfort in knowing that God has it all under control and that I am safe as I follow His leading.



God wants willing people who will love Him more than anything else. He tried Abraham using his only son. He will try us using what is most dear to us, but that does not mean He will let us have it back when the test is over. He may instead show us that we loved the sacrifice more than Him and in the process of offering it up, we turned



our love and affections over to Him - where they belong. Look at your life - is there any aspect of it that takes higher precedence than the Lord? Therein lies a place where an offering must be made - to be handled according to the Lord's choosing. 





# An Overcoming Home

Brother Brian Owen

Bible Fellowship, Michigan, Summer 2000



The thing that the Lord put on my heart to share about is the home. I can remember about two years ago, as I was seeing many of my friends getting involved in various ministries, I began to inquire of the Lord, "Well, why aren't You using me in some great ministry?" The Lord began to speak to my heart very plainly, very clearly, that the most important ministry that I could have is that ministry which takes place in my own home. I said, "Lord, but the home is boring, there's not much excitement. Why don't You give me some deep revelations of prophecy, or give me some type of exciting thing, healing, or doing miracles?" But the Lord began to show me that if I don't have my home in order, if I don't have obedient children, ones that love the Lord, that I can do miracles and have all these ministries but it really doesn't amount to much. From that point on, the Lord has really spoken to me to search the scriptures and to find out what God has ordained for the home and what His plan is for the home.

The church, as a whole, has come so far from God's plan for the home. I mean, the world says that if you have kids that don't smoke or drink, then you have a good home. And you know what? The church has adopted that same philosophy. A Christian home now is one in which the kids are morally good, but God was showing me that He has so much more than that. We're to be spiritual people, called to know Him in a deeper way, and God has a plan for our homes that would blow us away. There's a price to pay in order to achieve this, but it's available to us if we would just open up to it.

I visit other churches and I visit other youth groups at various times, and I am hard pressed to find a family that's on fire for God, or that has their home in order. I went to three Friday night youth activities, and not one time, I don't believe, was a Bible opened. It just shows me that somehow the church is missing it, that somehow the church has put an emphasis on things that are not founded on God and not directing us to live godly lives. The majority of the church has just given up on the concept of a godly home - one in which they love one another, they all get along, the children obey their parents, there are not abominations in the home, and they are sold out for Jesus. "It's impossible, it's not available to us, let's just make do and whatever happens, happens." That's the philosophy. "I just hope my

kids turn out all right and don't get in too much trouble."

I have a goal that is a little higher than that. God wants us to see that we have a responsibility to train our children in the way of the Lord. Sometimes it seems like people believe it is the church's job to give them spiritual food. I think that the church has a part in teaching the children, but the fact of the matter is, the majority of parents are not doing their job in training their children in the ways of righteousness. What foolishness it is for a husband or a wife to prepare a Sunday school lesson week after week, but be too busy to spend any time training their own children at home.

The verse that comes to me is Deuteronomy 11:18, *Therefore shall ye lay up these my words in your heart and in your soul, and bind them for a sign upon your hand, that they may be as frontlets between your eyes. <sup>19</sup>And ye shall teach them your children, speaking of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.* We have a responsibility to be training our children constantly, and I'm not just talking about sitting down and having a meeting, I'm talking about on-the-job training, looking for opportunities. Day in. Day out. Moment by moment. I believe it's a promise from God that if we train our children in the way they should go, when they grow up they will not depart from it (Proverbs 22:6). People have said, "It's not a promise. We don't have control over the way our children grow up." But the Bible tells us that we have a responsibility to raise our children godly. We need to realize that we can determine the way that our children turn out.

What God began to speak to me is to prepare now, as a young man, not to wait until I get married, or until I get engaged. Now is the time, young people, NOW is the time to seek the Lord. "God, what would you have for my home? Give me a vision for my home and my family. God, I want Your highest. I'm not satisfied with the way the church system is going. I'm not satisfied with the way the majority of Christians are going. I want reality in my home. I want the presence of God to consume and overshadow my home!" Oh, that we might have that vision today, that we would just know that God is all that's important, that we would experience the Spirit of God dwelling within our homes, and that it



wouldn't be a burden to have family time, but it would be a joyous time, a glorious time, a time of fellowship one with the other, singing praises unto God in the highest. I'm so thankful because He's going to bring it about. There's only going to be a remnant that is going to partake of this, but I choose to be in this remnant. There are some sacrifices that I'm going to have to make, but I choose to make them because I want the highest for my family and my children. I don't want second best.

If we don't have godly homes, we won't have a godly church. If we don't have the Spirit of God in our homes, then we won't have the Spirit of God in our church. It's a fake, it's a phony. You can say, "Oh, my church is doing wonders for God, we're doing mighty things for God, we're having many miracles," but it's not of God if it's not beginning in the home. If you don't see love, joy, peace or righteousness in the home, then it's not of God! That's what we have all throughout the church system; it's just coming to a meeting and putting on a religious front, then going home to chaos and disorder. I've never seen such disorder in the home and it has gotten worse and worse. God is not going to fit into your schedule. He will not fit in it! **GOD MUST BE THE FOCUS**

**OF MY LIFE.** I want Him and only Him! I want Jesus in my home! If we would get a hold of that, then we would have time for Him. I don't believe that we have time, in our human efforts, to train our children like we should, but I believe if we would get desperate with the Lord and say, "God, I want You to be glorified in my home! God, I want to raise my children in the way of righteousness!", that God will bring it to pass. There's not a person who could pray that prayer day after day after day that God would not bring it to pass. I believe He would! If we would just get desperate enough with God, He would do the supernatural. What did He do for the Israelites? He made their shoes so that they would last 40 years. He gave them manna from heaven. How much more does He want to bring spiritual food into our homes? How much more does He want to bring Godliness into our homes? We have not because we ask not. We have not because we haven't gotten desperate enough.

Our homes are a full-time ministry. You should not participate in any other ministry until you have first taken the proper place in your home. Before you go out and preach to others, there needs to be a love and a joy and a teaching in the home. There is no way that we should get involved in other things until our home is in order. The devil wants to wear us out running here and running there. He wants to wear out the saints of the Most High but the Lord says, *They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their*

*strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint* (Isaiah 40:31). I believe if we would wait upon the Lord, He would tell us those things to get involved in, and those things not to get involved in. A lot of times, the reason why we're weary and burdened is because we have not waited upon the Lord to get His direction. If we will wait upon Him, we will have just enough energy to do that which is pleasing before the Lord, to do His will.

I don't know why it is, but it seems as if there is a veil of flesh or a hindrance in that we can't worship the Lord with just our family. I don't know if it's that the world teaches us that we can't get along with our parents, but there's something there that hinders a family Bible study from really flowing in the Spirit, really breaking forth, really letting love flow. But I'm telling you, it can be broken, and it must be broken! Those hindrances that don't allow us to flow together as a family, to enter into the Holy of Holies as a family, must be broken! It does not happen overnight, but we must press in and press in, have study after study after study if we have to, worship time after worship time, until it is broken and the enemy is exposed. We need to break that veil

of flesh! We need to break it so love might flow, so peace might flow, that we would not have any bickering or fighting in our homes. God has a home of peace and love but the devil is a roaring lion. That is why it says to be sober, to be vigilant because your adversary the devil is as a roaring lion walking about seeking whom he may devour (I Peter 5:8). The devil has been hunting for the precious home. That's what he's after, the precious home. He has destroyed home after home after home. If he can't get them with the world, he gets them with ministry, he gets them with gifts, he gets them with anything he can, because he does not want righteousness to be displayed in our homes. I'm telling you, and I mean this with all my heart, that one family sold out for God, one family on fire for God, one family that has their home in order, one family that would get desperate with God can do more for eternity than an entire mega-church of lukewarm Christians! I believe it with all my heart! Having our homes in order is ministry. There is no greater ministry. As young people, we need to get desperate with God. I pray, "Oh God, I don't want to get married and just live life how everybody else is living. I don't want to just have my little family, do my job, and go to church a couple times a week. Oh God, I want righteousness to reign! Oh God, if I can't have the fullness for my family, then I don't want a family. If I can't have the highest for my family, then I don't want one. I want You, oh God, to have Your way. My life does





not belong to me, my family does not belong to me, it belongs to You. Oh God, direct my home. Oh God, have Your way in my home! Oh God, whatever hinders me, if it is pride that keeps me, or whatever it is, let it be broken.” I believe a lot of times we don’t try because we’re afraid that it might not work. We’re afraid to get desperate with God and really seek Him and really pour our hearts into the home because we’re afraid, “Well, what if it doesn’t work?” Where is our faith to believe that what God has promised, He will do? If you choose life, then both thou and thy seed shall live.

Let’s turn to Deuteronomy 30:19, *I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live: <sup>20</sup>That thou mayest love the LORD thy God, and that thou mayest obey his voice, and that thou mayest cleave unto him: for he is thy life, and the length of thy days: that thou mayest dwell in the land which the LORD sware unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.*

It’s another promise. When we choose life for ourselves, or as parents, when we choose righteousness, it’s not only for us, but it’s for our children, and it’s not only for our children, but it’s for our children’s children. Let’s go to Psalm 103:17, *But the mercy of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children’s children.* This Bible is full of promises to those who would give themselves to Him, that would forget everything and say, “God, I don’t care if I ever have any type of ministry, I don’t care if I ever get into the spotlight, I don’t care if I ever go on a mission trip, but God, I want to have You in my home.” You know, there are a lot of gifts that God has for us. I don’t want to belittle them; God gives different gifts to each one of us, but God wants a godly home for every single family! It’s not just for one or two in a church. It is for every family! I don’t believe that there’s a parent that, if they would get desperate with God, that He would not grant them the cry of their hearts. You know, a lot of people have faith to believe for a bigger house, or a nicer car or more money in the bank. “God, give me the faith to believe for a godly family! God give me the faith to believe that my children shall be trees of righteousness planted by the Lord, that they would be olive trees full of the Holy Ghost. Oh God, that they would have an anointing on their lives. God, that they would know You in a deeper measure than I ever did!” That’s my cry. I want them to know Christ in a deeper measure. I don’t know how long it is before the Lord comes; I believe it could be very soon.



But I’m not going to just sit back and say, “Oh, He’s coming in the next two years,” and not prepare for my family today. I’m going to realize that no man knows the day or the hour. He says to occupy till He comes, and I don’t think He meant occupy with the things of the world. I think He meant to press into the Spirit. I think He meant to go about as if you don’t know when the time will come. If we will begin to press in now, we won’t have to make some of the mistakes that those that have gone on before us have made. If God would give me children, I don’t want my children to make some of the mistakes that I am going to make. I believe that God’s plan is for every generation to get more and more righteous, more and more holy. But what we have found is that we have been passing curses on to our children. If I can’t seem to get victory over an area in my life, I may let it go. But it doesn’t just stop there. I will pass it on to my children. That’s why it is so important before I get married to start breaking the chains of wickedness, to get a hatred for the world, to renounce every thing of darkness, to get it out of my life. Don’t start a home until you have come to the place where you don’t want anything to do with the world. Don’t start a home until you have given yourself wholly to God. Don’t start a home until you have come to the place where you are complete in Him. That is a foundation for a home. That is what He has called His children to come into. At 22, I am not ready for marriage, but God is making me ready. He’s stripping me of flesh, of hidden things that I like to hide. He is ripping out those things that I try to hold on to, so that when I do have a family I will not be a hindrance to my children.

If I don’t have time to spend with God now, if I am not putting Him first now, how on earth am I going to put Him first when I’m married? These are questions that young people need to ask themselves. I believe that over 99 percent of Christians that get married are not ready for marriage. I believe that with all my heart. I don’t believe that we see the seriousness of marriage. I believe we take it too lightly. We treat it too frivolously. It is a high calling and it is a serious thing. When you come to the altar and you say, “Till death do us part,” you’d better mean it! I’m going to get in trouble now, because I’m going to talk about divorce a little bit. I don’t want to talk about anything in the past, you know, people that weren’t saved before they got married and all that. This is my thrust for people that have not been married: that divorce must not be an option, because if divorce is an option, the marriage is headed for disaster. People talk about finding their “spiritual wife” or “spiri-

tual husband,” but God doesn’t give us any license to exchange a spouse for a more “spiritual” one. Marriage is a covenant that you make with God. As long as you think that there is an option of escape, then it’s likely that you’ll exercise that option. I think that our forefathers had it right in their stance on marriage and remarriage. Maybe there were some situations where they were too harsh, but at least they didn’t have divorce as rampant as we have it today. Now we’ve come to the point where pastors will marry somebody three and four and five times. You know what so much divorce and remarriage has led the way to? Homosexual marriages. I mean, we just keep opening up the door! I hate to see divorce and remarriage in the church, because they say, “Brother so-and-so over here, they remarried and it seems to work out.” You know, “My husband, he’s just not too spiritual.” “My wife, she just doesn’t seem to really be getting it. Maybe I didn’t get it right the first time.” It is a LIE from the enemy that will destroy your home. “Oh, you’d be happier with somebody else.” The devil is constantly trying to bombard our minds because he wants to destroy the home. That’s why we’d better know that we know that we know that this is the person God has for me. There better be no doubt in your mind! Because if there’s a doubt, then if you do have trouble in your marriage, those doubts will come back to you. “Well, I guess I must have missed it, I guess I was right. There were some bad signs.” I just can’t stress enough the seriousness of marriage.

For too long we have accepted the world’s views on the home and we’ve brought it into the church. Yes, we might be ten or maybe twenty years behind the world, but slowly and surely we follow and follow and follow the world, staying just far enough behind to have a comfort zone, when God’s true church is going the opposite direction of the world! There are two types of homes today: one that is becoming conformed to the image of Christ, and one that is becoming conformed to the image of the world. I would hope that we want the one that’s becoming conformed to the image of Christ. But there’s a cross there, there’s a laying down of one’s life to get it. But you know what Christianity has said today? They want something in between. They don’t want the world’s home, one full of chaos, full of wickedness, anger, bickering, fighting. They see a home that has totally given themselves to Satan and they say, “I don’t want that.” Then they look at a godly home and they say, “Well, I’m not willing to pay the price to get that home, so I want something in between.” Well, there’s no in between in God. You either are going the way of the world, or you are going the way of Christ. As long as you are willing to settle for something in between, it will lead you to darkness, it will lead you to hell. That’s



where the majority of the church is, wanting something in between for their homes. God wants a people that will say, “I’m not satisfied with something in between, I’m not satisfied with a mixture, I want God and nothing else. I want a godly home!” “Oh Jesus, grant us our cry for godly homes. God, we know it is not a one-time prayer, we know it’s a daily prayer, but God, we’re willing to pray it. Oh Jesus, we need You, oh God, that You might be glorified in the homes of Your believers. Oh, that the world might see Christ through our homes, that they would look and see, “There is a home where love is.””

I believe that the average church today is much like the parents of today in that they give the people what they want. Isn’t that what parents do today? They give their children what they want - there’s no discipline. The people want fun, they want activities, so the pastors give it to them because they don’t want to lose their jobs or cause turmoil. The homes are the same way. The children cry for things and the parents just give them what they want. It hurts me to see the way in which the church is going. You know, I don’t get any delight in seeing most of the church’s families being in discord, being in turmoil. I want righteousness for them. But the only way I know to show them is that I myself would have that godly home that God has called for, that they would see it in my life, that they might see there is hope for them. Because you know what? There are not many examples today of a godly home. There are not many examples that you can go to and say, “That is a godly home, founded on Christ. That is a home where they don’t tolerate the world, they don’t tolerate compromise.”

I go to these youth groups and I find it very difficult to find somebody that has a hunger for God, that wants to talk about God. I mean, I went to the three meetings and I had my Bible, and they looked at me like I was strange walking in with a Bible, like I’m out of place. Did you know that a godly Christian young man or young woman is going to be very much out of place in the church today? Very much out of place. If you are not out of place when you are around the majority of Christians, then something’s wrong with your Christianity. I believe that! I believe that if you do not stick out drastically, that something is wrong with your walk. There have been times that I didn’t stick out, and I’ll tell you what, there was something wrong with my walk during those times.

You know, our forefathers came against movies and they came against TV, against rock music, and they used to come against what we would call “dating” now. They used to come against these things. Then the church said, “Oh, they’re old-fashioned. You can go to movies, you can watch TV.” What is humorous to me is that the mov-

ies they were showing back then were like *Lassie*. My grandfather was telling me that one time when he was a teenager, about 14 or 15 years old, he snuck out to the movie theater and watched *Lassie*. Oh God, that if our children today would sneak out, that the worst thing they would do is go and see *Lassie Come Home*! But it's not *Lassie Come Home* anymore. It is the same thing with the TV. A godly home would not have had a TV in their home some years ago, when they were showing shows like *Father Knows Best*. Now we'd be hard pressed to find a family on TV that's not dysfunctional. I heard they came out with a remote control designed for kids that have TVs in their own rooms. It has three buttons on it and you can program it to have three channels they can pick from and watch. I thought, "Oh, that might be pretty good." Then I thought again, and I don't know that there are three channels that I could let my children watch. I don't think I could find three channels. And so, to me, it's an all or nothing thing. It's much like my life. You know, it's an all or nothing thing for me. You know, people want second best. People are satisfied with what they call the acceptable or good will of God. But I believe that the overcomers - the overcoming home is one that would not take anything except the highest, would not settle for anything except what is best. As long as we say, "Well, I don't think this is too bad, I don't think this is so horrible," we'll bring it in our homes. We need to use discernment: is what I'm bringing into my home glorifying to God? Is what I'm bringing into my home going to lift up the name of Christ? I think we need to get radical about the things that we allow to be in our homes. There are a lot of people that won't go to movies, but they rent every single movie that comes out on video. Somehow, when they rent it and they watch it in their home, it's better. Well, there's a verse that says, "Thou shalt not bring an abomination into thy house" (Deuteronomy 7:26). I think that the philosophy is that, as long as it comes through a screen in to the home, then somehow the bad stuff gets filtered out as it's transmitted through. I know that there are things that come through the screen that if the people were actually there in the room doing them, the parents would say, "Oh, this is horrible." But as long as it comes through that screen, then somehow it's okay.

I want to expose another lie that is very prevalent, and that is that having a godly home is boring and no fun, or that the godly home is just for the old people. We're going to have struggles, but I tell you, if we will just open ourselves up to God, He will show us what a glorious plan it is, what a wonderful thing a godly home is. I cannot think of anything more beautiful in this whole world than a family that loves Jesus.



I don't care if my kids grow up to know theology. You know what's amazing to me? There's a lot of kids that grow up in the church, and then they leave the church and they're way out in the world, but they know their doctrines. They know once saved, always saved. They know either speaking in tongues is of the devil or it's not of the devil - all these little doctrines. They come and they tell me, "Well, I believe once saved, always saved," and they're in the world, and that's all they remember. How sad it is that they don't remember any love, they don't remember any teachings about knowing Christ in reality. All they know is doctrine! I don't want to raise children that know doctrines, I want to raise children that know Christ in reality, that have His Word deep within their hearts and know that He's a real and living God. That is a necessity!

We blame a lot of things for how our children turn out. We say, "My children wouldn't be so bad, but they just hang around these worldly friends that influence them." We say, "Oh, Hollywood is bad," and it is. "It's society; it's this or that." Parents need to take the responsibility and say, "It's MY responsibility. It's MY fault. I need to get hold of God. It's because I have not been doing what God has called me to do. That's why my children are such and such. That's why they're going this way." I'm telling you, the single reason why God is not coming forth in a greater power in my home is because of me. I believe it with all my heart. You know why this fellowship is not coming up higher? Because of me, because I will not get diligent and seek the Lord more. I know that if I would seek Him with all my heart, then God would draw me and we would all run after Him with all our hearts. If we would just say, "God, you know, it's me. There are things I need to work on in me." Isn't that what happens when there's a problem in the home with the man and woman? It's always the other person's fault. "They just don't love me anymore. They don't spend enough time with me anymore. They're no fun any more. He is just not spiritual enough

for me." Any godly man or woman that would go around belittling their spouse has some serious problems themselves. If you are really hearing from God, walking in the truth, you will not say anything bad about your husband or wife. I don't care how deep they've gone, you will protect them and cover them. And you will come to the place where you say, "God, he's going off track," or, "She's going off track. The problem must be me. I'm not loving enough. I'm not seeking the Lord enough. I'm not taking my responsibility."

I could speak for a long time on the home, and I'm sure that I will in the future, but I think that I've said quite a bit. God has been convicting me. I'm just as much at fault, probably more at fault, than anybody here. You might



wonder, "Why would somebody that's not married preach on the home?" You know, I don't pick the things that God has me speak about and He has chosen on this day to speak about the home. No matter who you are, even if you're a grandparent, you have a responsibility to pray for your children, and not concentrate on worrying, but just begin to pray and intercede, taking advantage of those little moments that you have with your grandchildren. As we begin to seek the Lord together, God is going to bring us into a deeper love for one another, God is going to restore order in our homes, and it's going to be a glorious thing. God is not going to bring our fellowship into the higher depths that He wants to, until we get our homes in order. As we begin to take our responsibilities seriously, God is going to begin to move. Sometimes when I see the picture that God has for our homes, it overwhelms me that our God would take so much thought about just one home, that God would care so much about just one little home. But He does! He cares more about your family than you do. Let Him direct your steps! Let the Holy Spirit direct your steps. If you lack teaching ability, ask Him

to make you a teacher. He will! If you lack wisdom, ask God to give you wisdom. He will!

I know it's easy to say, "There are a lot of homes that are worse than us. In fact, I might have one of the better homes that I know around." We could say that, but as long as we're satisfied in the place that we are in, God is never going to bring us into the plan that He has for our homes. The standard must be Christ-likeness.

*Dear heavenly Father God, we repent for past failures. There's nothing that I can do, nothing that we can do to go back and change anything in the past. If there's any condemnation, let it be gone in the name of Jesus. But God, we know that there is something we can do today. We can start afresh. We're stepping out in faith, and saying, God, we cannot live righteous lives and have godly homes in our own strength. But God, I know that You are more than able to bring us into that which You have planned. Oh God, that You are not slack in keeping Your promises, and that if we would be obedient to You, that You would bring them to pass, and we thank You for it. 🙏*

Brian & Karen Owen  
May 2004



*...continued from page 14 (Song In My Heart)*

is more blessed by the Christ in you that is more blessed. The eyes of our understanding begin to see the Christ in our midst and recognize it more readily in all of our brethren. I am watching this actually happen in our midst. I go and am just blessed by the growth of my brothers and sisters. I love to see the flow of the Spirit of God touch others in our midst. We are being able to view first hand the melding and flowing of the Life-Blood of the Body of Christ moving and rising in each of our beings corporately.

The Christ in me is so very blessed by the Christ in you. I want you to know that! Sometimes I will just be filled with such joy at the presence of the Lord yet in His presence I am more aware than ever that I am in need of so much more of Him. I would like to encourage each and every one of you to go an extra step and tell another one how you see the Lord in them, how you are blessed by them, how the Word is life to your soul, how you appreciate having such wonderful brethren. And do you want to know a secret? That thing that we love so much about each other is Christ in them and that thing in us that they love so much is Christ in us. The Christ in me dearly loves the Christ in you. As all of our carnality and souliness is shed/burned/tribulated the union will grow and the love will flow and it will become even more easy to be one than it already is now.

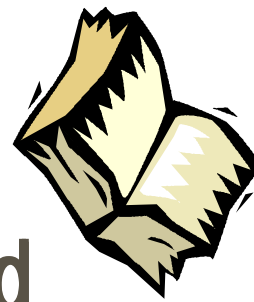
I love the way the Lord is moving. I love what He is doing in His people. I most of all love that He has promised to "never leave nor forsake me."

Though trouble is all around us, do not look at the trouble – "look up, lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh" (Luke 21:28). God bless you, brethren! Be encouraged in the Lord! 🙏





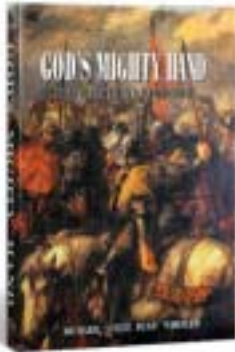
# Book Nook



By Tim Culver

## God's Mighty Hand

Author: Richard "Little Bear" Wheeler



The sky was filled with the constant clap of cannon fire, as the earth strained under the boots of 130,000 French soldiers drilling in formation changes and battle engagements.

It was evening, June 17, 1815, south of Brussels, Belgium! Europe was being smothered by fear, as if preparing for a long winter of which they would see no end. Armies had been mustered overnight! Generals were whisked away in carriages from their beloved families without prior notice. Sleep fled from Kings as they huddled in counsel chambers recalling the chilling defeats of the prior 20 years of war with France. And there, south of Brussels, just outside Waterloo, Napoleon Bonaparte, Emperor of France, stood with his generals and captains of war boasting about this new dawn! He was boasting about his 3-month prior triumphant entry back into Paris after escaping from the heavily guarded island of Elba! With this news, the French armies began to swell, as he was re-crowned Emperor with an army of 130,000. He had the most advanced artillery in the world and soldiers that moved in unison and complete obedience to his leadership. This night, full of zeal, he raised his hand with a thunderous voice stating, "We will attack at six in the morning! The Prussians are too far away to reinforce the English before late tomorrow afternoon. My heavy artillery shall have a complete and overwhelming victory by two o'clock in the afternoon." The English army had just landed from their ships and Napoleon had them outmanned, out-gunned, and outmaneuvered with their backs at the sea! Like the children of Israel, God was setting the stage for the miraculous!

I'm always looking for a very good history book to add to my library especially something that can be taught to children of the mighty hand of God moving to thwart the plans of darkness. Praise God, one has fallen into my heart! It is written by Richard Wheeler titled "God's Mighty Hand," purchased at [mantleministries.com](http://mantleministries.com).

It has been a great encouragement to read a book full of short stories about people and events that have

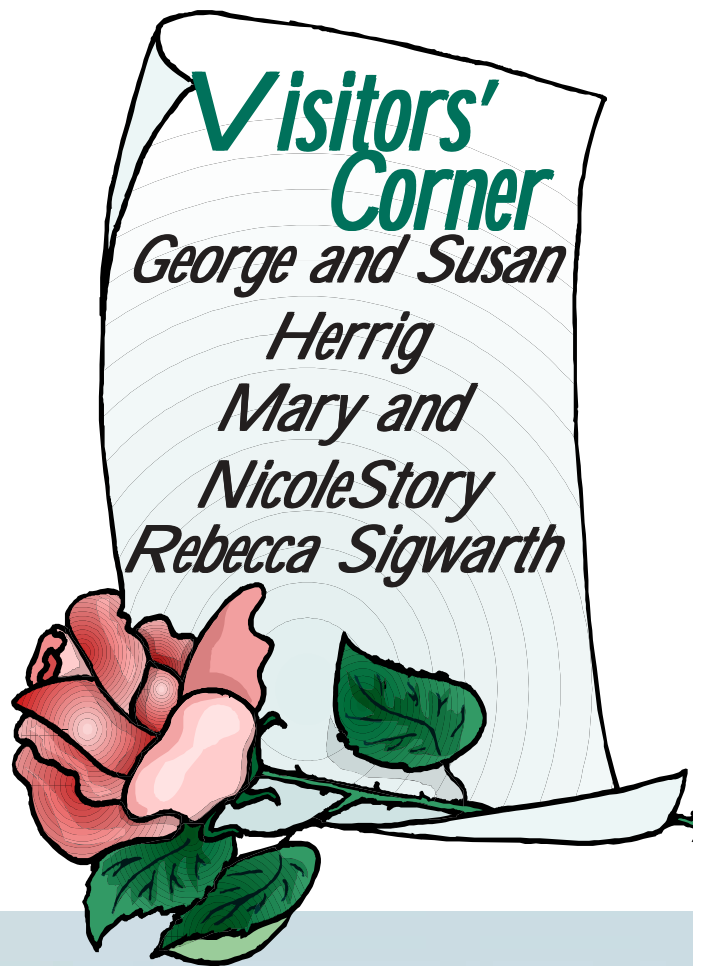
changed history. The stories about former saints caused my heart to leap with joy as I saw some of the same principles working in my life as had been taught to the previous people of God. It's very refreshing to see that God has always had a remnant that he called, prepared and sent, people who took a stand for what was right, even though it cost them. Some paid with blood, others sacrificed careers, others went somewhere not knowing why, being misunderstood and mis-represented, but in spite of it all they held fast to the assurance that God was preparing them for something much bigger than themselves. He was preparing them to be history makers, channels of the power and reality of God. I felt my heart aching to be numbered among the Hebrews 11 dispensation of grace. We never know what people have done or the prayers that have been prayed which have loosed the angels of God to do warfare on this earth. But by seeing the outcome from God's perspective, we can have our appetite fed a little by seeing the miracles that came to pass. It also caused me to see the brethren around me as being prepared to be history changers also. All of us are being prepared to be used of God all over the world to stop the flood of hell that is sent to devour the people of God. Yes, we are still being prepared, but there comes a point when the high priest can give that which has been prepared, it being ready!

I used to read it to brother Wesley Schell every day during lunch at the farm. He would sit there chomping down heartily on his gourmet peanut butter and jelly sandwich while I rattled off an incredible story of God protecting His people and changing the course of history to preserve His plans. Wesley would smile and listen while, with childish delight, I told... I mean, read short stories about the preservation of the righteous in times of conflict. For example, the pilgrims' leaving England and going to Holland, only to eventually leave Holland to come to America. But Wes didn't only hear about war and settlements. There were stories of great missionaries, pioneers and kings, and nation-changing speeches written so well that I couldn't help but jump to my feet from time to time to accurately portray the setting and tenor of the book.

*continued on page 34...*

...continued from page 33 (Book Nook0

There are stories about Reese Howells and the prayer band of young men and women, David Livingston and the faithful preacher that touched his heart. George Washington, John Newton, Corrie ten Boom, and Ira Sankey, the great pianist for George Whitfield. The list goes on and on. If you're a home schooler, find this book. If you are hungry for encouragement, get this book. If you want an avenue to testify of the miracles of God in the founding of the United States, get this book! It should give you zeal, touch a chord of passion in your heart and establish the truth that God is looking for overcomers in every generation that He can breathe through to bring nations in line with His desires. Oh, let us rise up and fulfill our calling in Christ, take hold of godly character and with perseverance, demonstrate the reality of God like this book is full of. ✨



...continued from page 10 (We Must Fear God)

cerned about the nuts and bolts, the nitty and the gritty of our life, and if we don't think that it is important, wrong, it is important to God.

Do you guys remember Brother Rick Durfield? I appreciated that brother. He said something once that I never forgot. He said, "You know, I am going to have to give you a lot of scriptures, I don't know any other way to do it." This guy was really a man of the Word, so I appreciate that. He said, "I don't know how else to do it." And, I tell you the truth, I don't know how else to do it. The Word of God just kind of keeps going and going and going. Psalm 19:1, *The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handiwork. <sup>2</sup>Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge.* You walk into the room, God's presence is there, rejoice, be glad, Jesus Christ the Son of God died for me, and you, too, but I know He died for me. <sup>3</sup>*There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard.* This is God now, He is making the creation know Him. Every place is in His view, you cannot hide from the sun (Son). The sun (Son) comes right through these walls here and beams on you. <sup>4</sup>*Their line is gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them hath he set a tabernacle for the sun,* <sup>5</sup>*Which is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, and rejoiceth as a strong man to run a race.* He causes the sun to shine on the just and the unjust, because He wants to make the unjust just. <sup>6</sup>*His going forth is from the end of the heaven, and his circuit unto the ends of it: and there is nothing hid from the heat thereof.* <sup>7</sup>*The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple.* <sup>8</sup>*The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes.* <sup>9</sup>*The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.* <sup>10</sup>*More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than the honey and the honeycomb.* <sup>11</sup>*Moreover by them is thy servant warned: and in keeping of them there is great reward.* You want to be blessed? Just do what God says, and keep His Word. If a man's ways please God, He will make even his enemies be at peace with him (Proverbs 16:7). Let God do the work. <sup>12</sup>*Who can understand his errors? cleanse thou me from secret faults.* <sup>13</sup>*Keep back thy servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me: then shall I be upright, and I shall be innocent from the great transgression.* <sup>14</sup>*Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer.* We must fear God, for He is worthy of our fear. Praise God. ✨



# Tape List



**Femi Adedoyin**  
 We Must Take Heed.....12-3-97  
 I Will Sing Praises.....10-25-98  
 The Purpose Of Salvation.....2-13-00  
 Depart From Me.....8-20-00  
 The Perfect Prayer.....12-24-00  
 Love & Joy.....10-7-00.....Love.....3-3-02  
 Peace.....10-21-01  
 Longsuffering.....11-18-01  
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The Mahomet Fellowship is pleased to host the . . .

# *Sonlight Gospel Illinois Convention*

**July 1 - 4, 2006**

**Living Word/Omega Message Fellowship  
1202 N Lombard St  
Mahomet IL 61853**

### Meeting Times:

Saturday, Sunday & Monday:  
10AM and 6:30PM

Tuesday morning: 10AM

A meal will be served after the morning meeting on all four days.

**For housing with the brethren or for more information:**

Mrs. Stephanie Schneider at (217)202-1055

E-mail: [sonrisebrothers@hisurfer.net](mailto:sonrisebrothers@hisurfer.net)

Mrs. Joyce Shaffer at (217)367-1237

### Hotel Information

**Baymont Inn & Suites**

Champaign, IL (217)356-8900  
block of rooms reserved until June 15<sup>th</sup>  
under "Living Word/Omega Message"  
2 queen beds, continental breakfast

\$69.00/night

**Microtel Inn & Suites**

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**We ask that every family that attends brings 5 dozen cookies to share. Thank You!**

Living Word  
Omega Message

PO Box 409

Mahomet IL 61853

2272 County Road 350 E  
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North from Mahomet. We are  
the first right after Briar Cliff  
Subdivision.

**All Are Welcome!**

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

*...continued from page 24 (Self-Preservation)*

*maketh intercession for us with groanings... everybody's groaning ...which cannot be uttered. <sup>27</sup>And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.*

Now listen to this. <sup>28</sup>*And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.* Not your purpose, not your aspirations or desires, HIS purpose. <sup>29</sup>*For whom he did fore-know... This is His purpose ...he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son... HIS Son ...that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. <sup>30</sup>Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.* That is the position, that is the place, that is the thought, that is the intent, and that is the will and the desire of God.

God bless you, and thank you very much. ☺