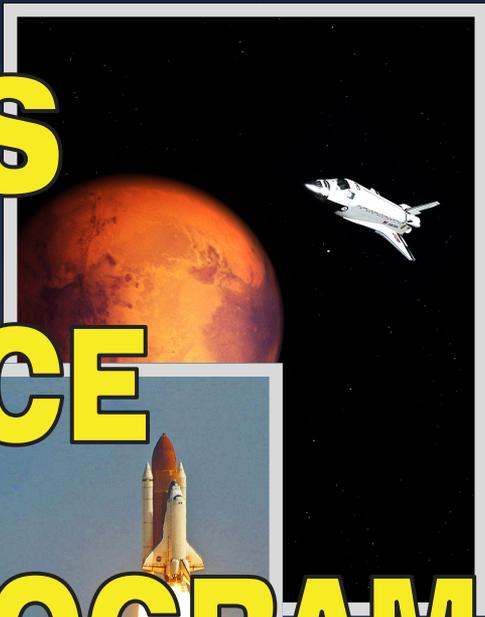


GOD'S

SPACE

PROGRAM



**A key to a Christian
life in a spiritual
realm**

Burt Asbill

God's Space Program

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life in a spiritual
realm**

Reaching Beyond Words
P.O. Box 955
Mahomet, IL 61853, U.S.A.

God's Space Program
By Burt Asbill

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Scripture quotations are from the King James
Version of the Bible.

Published by Reaching Beyond Words,
P.O. Box 955, Mahomet, IL 61853, U.S.A.

Printed in the United States of America.

ISBN: 978-0-9829348-1-4

Introduction

It was probably over the period of about a year, maybe a year and a half, that I began to see that, for the most part, the church had seemingly lost its focus on the truths of God. The more I examined the church of God, the less of God I could see. The church was, in reality, becoming more and more like the world. It caused me to begin to seek the Lord and question Him as to a specific reason why this world phenomenon was becoming more and more apparent. It was then that the Lord began to speak to me about a particular malady. He began to underline one of the root reasons for it. What He was telling me shocked me. He said that we had, for the most part, lost the reality of Who and What God IS. He was very specific in the IS and not the WAS for God IS a God of the living and not the dead. He IS the same today as He was yesterday and yet will be the same tomorrow.

It was during that latter part of last year, 2008, that I attended a week-long conference being held in the mountains of the Czech Republic. As we gathered ourselves together unto Him, He, by His Grace, met us in a true and living way. In the midst of those meetings, the words included in this booklet began to flow forth out of His throne. By the end of the week, God quite clearly defined for us what was wrong and how we could, if we were willing, fix it.

I trust the anointing that was upon those meetings will be upon those of you who dare to read and dare to challenge God to do for you what He had done and is doing for those of us that were in attendance. May God bless you and give you hearing ears and seeing eyes.

Yours in Christ,
Brother Burt Asbill

There is therefore now no condemnation
(*judgment*) to them which are in Christ
Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but
after the Spirit. ²For the law of the Spirit
of life (*spiritual thrust*) in Christ Jesus
hath made me free from the law of sin
and death (*gravity*).

Romans 8:1-2

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I am so very glad to be here because the presence of God is here. I am very excited about the move of God because I believe that God is girding His army. I sense and see in the Spirit the call. I hear the sound of the trumpet as it is sounding out in the villages and it is a call to arms. I see in the Spirit, by the Spirit, members of the army of God collecting their knapsacks, gathering their sacks of

food, opening their cupboards and pulling out their weapons, bidding their loved ones goodbye and moving out to answer the call of the sound of war. I see it in the Spirit this morning. Hallelujah. I don't only see it in a natural way, on a natural plane with natural people, but I see God assembling the ranks of heaven. I don't know if you have seen in movies where the battle begins to be set in array and they have columns and battalions of men. As the alarm is sounded or the call to arms is issued there is a scurrying in the camp. It seems as though it is mass confusion with everyone running this way and that way, but there is an assigned position, there is a designated meeting point. You see them moving like ants over the ground, but as they come to that place that has been designated to them, they begin to form ranks one to one, shoulder to shoulder, row to row, battalion to battalion, standing with their spears and swords, waiting for the command of the Commander.

The Bible says that in the last day, God is going to *gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth* (Ephesians 1:10) and there is going to be a great battle. And it is that call to arms that we are hearing. You know, by nature I am not a fighter. I know some fighters and I could almost say to God, "God, I would that I

could be like them, to contend, to fight, to get that excitement down into my being.” But God says, “You don’t have to be

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Shekinah
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Yes, in you!**

like them. All that you have to do is to be like Me. If you are like Me, then there is an anointing that will come upon you that will give you the tenacity and the courage to fight.”

I read about Jonathan and his armourbearer. There was something in Jonathan; he wanted to fight and contend with the enemy. He wanted to go up; there

was something pushing him. Oh yes, I feel something pushing me. I feel something kindling in me. I feel something burning in me. Oh, yes, I am telling you what I am seeing in the Spirit this morning. I see the forces down in the trenches and they are tending to their weapons. They are making sure that the shells are in the chambers. They are tuning up, looking down the barrels, and feeling the weight of their weapons. Oh, yes, some of them are sharpening their bayonets and putting them on the ends of their rifles. There is something in them, saying, “When is the call going to come? I am ready! Let us go up and engage! Let us fight the enemy!”

There is an expectation within them. There is a joy that is in their soul because they know that they are on the winning side. They have a realization that as their Commander comes forth, riding upon His white horse, clothed in His armor, they are victorious in battle. There is no fear within them. *O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?* (I Corinthians 15:55). Glory to God! You know, when the Commander rides in to His troops, there is something that bursts out of the mouths of His soldiers. They will lift their spears, they will lift their shields and they will say, The Holy One! The Exalted One!

Going into battle is very different. They are all facing death. They are all facing being injured or losing their companions, but all that is irrelevant in the presence of their Commander, the One Who is going to lead them into battle. Glory

to God! Praise Him.

I hear heaven this morning. I hear the cry and the praises of heaven. We are like a squeaking, squawking wheel in comparison to the adoration that is coming up out of the collective mouth of heaven. Oh my, I have had a taste of it; I have touched it; I have heard the sound. How can my soul be satisfied with that which is around me that doesn't compare to what I have tasted, touched or seen? We can't even imagine the radiant light shining forth from Moses when he came down off the mount. He had been there 40 days and nights in the presence of the unveiled King. They say the mountain is still black with the burning of His excellence. It is still black 4,000 years later. Why? Because He is eternal. Moses came down off the mount radiating God! I think that the ground was shaking with every step. I think the children of Israel were wimps, quivering, "What is coming down from the mountain?" Can you imagine? "He is radiating light brighter than the sun!" (Exodus 34:30). The earth was shaking! He had been up there 40 days and all of a sudden there is something coming down to them.

They said, "Cover your face, Moses. Cover your face. We cannot stand the glory. We cannot stand the position of excellence. We cannot look upon this perfection."

God wants to unveil Himself to us. He wants that Shekinah evidence in you! Yes, in you! He wants to break through that shell of humanity so that it cracks open and God comes out! No more intellect to interfere. No more emotions (or lack thereof) to interfere, but only God moving into the very depths of your being, changing your countenance to bring forth the radiant love of God. Can you imagine that same God is here? The God that was with Moses is here. He is right here. What right do I have to be oppressed? What right do I have to be depressed? What right do I have to be unhappy? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob, the living God of Moses, is here! Glory to God.

I want to share with you something that is upon my heart. It is very difficult for me to take something that is in the realm of heaven and explain it in a human language, but human language is what we have to deal with. So I am pray-

ing that you will pay attention. I am praying that you will be considerate of the presence of God that is here. I personally believe that if God were here in a physical sense that water, bathroom and exercise would become of minor importance. I can guarantee you that you would want your children to behave. I can guarantee you that if Jesus were here in the natural you would probably have your children's feet glued to the floor. Hallelujah. There is a reverence that we have to pay to God and not treat His emissaries irreverently. The ministry does not come to you, or at least they should not come to you out of their own desire. The ministry comes to you by the onus and the direction of God Himself. If we show irreverence to the ministry of God we are showing irreverence to God. We are telling God that we do not want to hear from Him. The Bible is very explicit that God has set in the Body certain ministries and we need to recognize that ministry and give due honor, not to the ministry, but to God. Hallelujah.

I would like for us to get into the Word. First, I would like to draw something for you. Here we have two separate pictures of platforms with table legs. The one on the left is labeled: "son of perdition". The other one is labeled: "son of God".

So there are two and only two objectives in the world that we can obtain. There are two objectives that have eternal consequence. The "son of perdition" on the left because the left hand is always indicative of flesh, rebellion and the devil. I am giving you some tools, too, which you might be able to use to interpret your Bible and to interpret some of your dreams and visions. That doesn't always mean that is what it is, but the tool can be used as a rule of thumb. I am going to show you how you can determine the difference.

We have two objectives that have eternal consequences. We are not dealing with the natural. Although we live in the natural, war in the natural and move in the natural, it is not a natural environment. That is one of the first principles or truths that you and I have to come to. You can say we have two objectives with eternal consequence. The Bible says, "First the natural and then the spiritual" (I Corinthians 15:46). There is another place in the Bible where it says that the

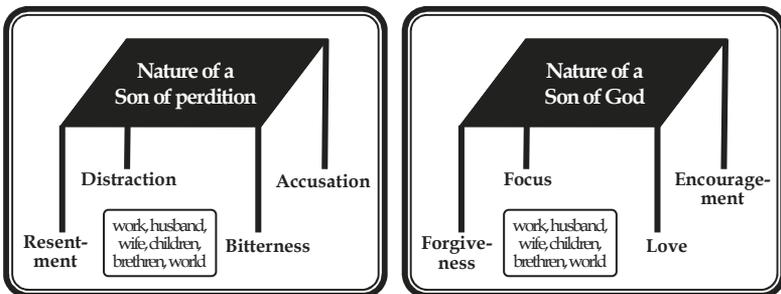
things that the Bible talks about in the Old Testament are a spiritual analogy (Hebrews 8:5, 10:1).

I think it is critical that you get this understanding. I say "critical" because we, more often than not, do not always look at our situation as such. You first have to come to the realization that there are only two objectives. Now, underneath the category of objectives you have work, husband, wife, children, brethren, world; or you could simply say life. All of these attributes of life are being subjected to the authority of these two objectives.

I have two objectives. I've got hell on the left and God on the right and everything that happens is working toward one or the other of these objectives. So we have to have that consciousness. We have to have that mental attitude and understanding.

Let me give you the scriptural reason why. The children of Israel, as they were in Egypt, are a type and shadow of you and me when we came to know God. We were liberated out of Egypt, representing sin and death, and we had the promise of a place (heaven) that we had not yet seen. Now, if you will allow me, I will tell you the major problem with the children of Israel had from the start. They did not believe in the reality of the promise. Do you understand what I am saying? The message of the promised land is to us the message of sonship or perfection. Promised land = message of sonship/perfection.

They did not believe the reality of it and because of that they would always have some excuse not to succeed or achieve. It may be that there is more room for tolerance for them than with us because they did not have what God has



given to us. Now, the evidence of their unbelief was that every time they got in trouble they turned back to Egypt. When they came to a place of death or the possibility of death, what did they do? They murmured against Moses and against God. Of course, I'm sure that you don't murmur against God. "God, have You brought me to this place just to die? Where is the reality of Your presence? Where is the deliverance that I am seeking?"

The funny thing about it, or maybe not so funny thing, is that you and I find ourselves in that same position, that same place, in the same set of circumstances, only the consequences for us is greater than the consequences were for them.

Now, God gives us a supernatural experience called salvation and it is our deliverance from the bondage of Egypt. Maybe as you are looking back upon it now, it doesn't really seem like much happened. But I can assure you that if your salvation experience was like mine (I was eight years old), I knew that something tremendous had happened to me. I didn't know theology. I didn't know anything about the kingdom. All I knew was

**How can I be
unhappy? How
can I be sad?
I think about
the goodness
of God...**

that one moment I was in trouble and in a place of misery and all of a sudden I was feeling absolutely wonderful. So, you see, in my salvation experience, I witnessed the parting of the Red Sea. My experience of salvation was every bit as miraculous for me in God as it was for Miriam or Aaron. I was between a rock and a hard place. It was just like Jacob; he was between a rock and a hard place. Oh, yes. He had just had a confrontation with Laban and they had built this stone altar or pillar. It was like a gate because he couldn't turn around and go backwards; he couldn't retreat. All of a sudden here came Esau and Jacob was being squeezed (Genesis 31:43-32:8). The children of Israel were being squeezed, led, as it were, down a blind alley, blocked with a seemingly impossible barrier called the Red Sea.

Why? Because God wanted to demonstrate to them the

reality of His spiritual presence. Boy, you probably weren't as bad as I was. You probably weren't in the deep pit of miry clay as I was. Glory to God. God blew upon the waters of my inheritance. On one side of me I have the ancestry of my grandfather and grandmother towering up like a big wall. On the other side I have the ancestry of another grandfather and grandmother towering up like a big wall. I had no place to run. If that wasn't enough, I had the devil coming down on the back side of me, pressing me and all I could see in front of me was this deep sea of sin and death.

God said, "Stand fast!" *Stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD* (Exodus 14:13). Hallelujah. The wind came and the waves rolled up and the wind blew upon the ground so that I could walk across with no mud sucking me down; no residue sticking to my shoes, no evidence of that position of sin and death. Oh, my God, how can I be unhappy? How can I be sad? I think about the goodness of God and it is good for us to think about these things. The Bible says, *Whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest* (Philippians 4:8).

I am giving you something to grab hold of by which you might fight the devil, because the devil is who you are going to have to fight. Did you know that they are all lined up out there because they can't come in here? They can't come in here and do their mischief, not when the presence of God is in this place and is permeating the vessels of His people. It is only when you walk out of that position of covering that they have any position of authority. They are waiting, waiting, waiting. You need to speak forth, "I rebuke you, satan!" I am saved by the Blood of Jesus, Blood of Jesus, Blood of Jesus, Blood of Jesus, Jesus' Blood. Oh, yes, but I have to work at it. Do you know that your mind is the principal battleground? If you can get your mind under the subjection of the Blood, as the Blood comes down upon your mind, all of a sudden you have visions of heaven instead of visions of other things going over and over again like a music player that is set on repeat. You know how you set that little button to play something you want to hear over and over and over again? We are always pushing the "devil" button. Somebody says something

or does something to us and we hit the button and play it again in our minds. “Well, they didn’t have any right to do that. Let’s see, how did it go now?

**We have enough
power in this
room to change
the whole world.
Isn’t that
amazing?**

They came in. They said this. I said this. They said that. What I really should have done is said this and this and this. I could have really put them in their place.” We run it back and play it again. “Let’s see now, this is how it went.”

What am I doing? What am I thinking about? Why am I rehearsing this in my brain? You know, the first offense was enough. Why do I have to repeat the offense over and over and over again? I NEED TO PUSH THE “GOD” BUTTON! Now, we have these wonderful devices in our houses. There are VCR players, DVD players and MP3 players. You can hit the button and the menu comes up. Maybe it says salvation or children’s salvation or deliverance. “What is it I want to play? Oh, let’s play this one.” Let’s rehearse something that is God, not something that is devil. Let’s stop pushing the devil button and start pushing the God button. I am tired of pushing the devil button. I am tired of it. I am tired of the devil taking advantage of my ignorance.

I want to give you a revelation. There is enough power in this room to change everything. It is amazing, isn’t it? There is enough power in this room. Do you have the Holy Ghost? Now, if you are not able to raise your hand, yet you want the Holy Ghost, God will give you the Holy Ghost. The Word says to just ask of Him and He will give you the Holy Ghost (Luke 11:13). There is no reason why you should leave this place without the Holy Ghost. I’m not talking about the Holy Ghost outside of you. I am talking about the Holy Ghost inside of you.

Now, the Bible tells me that if I have the Holy Ghost inside of me that I have all of God (I John 5:7). I have all the past and all the present. I have all the miracles of the past, all the wonders of the past, and all the demonstrations of His po-

sition of authority. Does your Bible say that God is in everything? (I Corinthians 8:6, Romans 11:36). Doesn't your Bible say that if we have God we have all of God (Colossians 2:9,10)? It doesn't matter what language it is printed in, if it is a true replication of the Bible it says that God is in Himself in His fullness and if He is in you, you have everything that He is.

So, we have enough power in this room to change the whole world. Isn't that amazing?

Or we want to use God for other things. It is like a jet pilot. You know how a jet pilot sits in this little bitty cockpit flying this machine with all this power. Yet it can also be destructive to him if something happens, right? But he is not afraid. No, he is not, for he has this little button that he presses and it goes "Boom!" and his seat ejects and his parachute opens. That is how we use God sometimes. We get in a crisis situation and we go, "Where is my eject button?" "Boom!" Off we go! We have been raptured. If God doesn't go "Boom!" then we get frantic. "How am I going to get out of this thing?" You are spiraling down and the plane is out of control. The ground is coming up at you at supersonic speed and you are sitting there frantic. Usually God has to employ resurrection power, because we would go nose first right into the dirt. Why? Because we don't understand the concept or the terms of warfare. We are not a natural people living in a natural environment. We are a natural people that are being turned into spiritual people to live in a spiritual environment. BUT we have to believe in the reality of God. There are little things that God does for us that reinforce or give us that reality.

God is writing His laws on your heart. I'm not going to need the Bible one day, you know. You are not going to need it. It is not because you are going to throw it out the door. Oh no, it is because He is writing the whole thing on our hearts. Right here! He is writing the whole thing right here so that all that I will have to do is "verse search".

**Did you know
that we have
the computer
because God
exists?**

Did you know that we have the computer because God exists? The computer is a microcosm, a small version of something larger. A computer is a microscopic comparison of God's brain. Micro, micro, micro. I can sit here in this room, open my computer and talk to somebody in the States, talk to somebody in the Czech Republic or send an e-mail to go around the world 450 times in 3 seconds. I can pick up a phone when I want help with my computer. I've got this problem with my computer so I dial this help number and I get this voice, "Yas, may I halp you?" The first thing I know is that they are not in the States. I don't know where they are from. I don't know where they are and I don't know who they are. I get somebody in India, South America, or Chile. Anything I want is at my fingertips. Why can we use the computer so adeptly and we are still using flag signals [semaphore] for God? It is because we don't understand the principle of what it is that God has done for us and what He has given us.

The first revelation that God gives me is my need for salvation. Oh, yes, if I were to draw the picture of the tabernacle, the first thing I encounter is not the Brazen Altar. That is not my first revelation. The Brazen Altar gives us the ability to perceive or understand what God really did for us. It opens my spiritual reality. But before the Brazen Altar there is a gate that has four pillars (**three spaces** in between) and a multicolored curtain hanging there which is prophetic (Exodus 27:16-17). It tells me where I am going. It tells me what is going to happen and it expresses what God desires for me. When we look upon this, what we are looking at in actuality is scripture written in symbolic form (see Romans chapter 5). This is what you see from the outside. In conjunction with that, there is something very important here. If you were to take the measurement here you will find that each space between the pillars measures 6.66 cubits. What God is telling me is that the nature that I am coming in with (the beast nature) is not a nature that is compatible with the operation that is going to go on inside of the tabernacle and that is because I have the mark of the beast upon me. Hallelujah. What it is saying is that I am not born just for a natural purpose or rea-

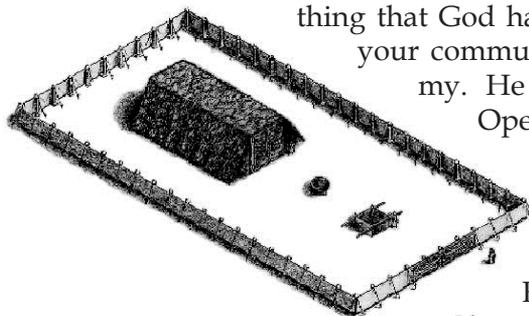
son, but I have one of two spiritual destinies to fulfill.

Let me read the scripture to you. Turn over into Romans 5:8. He is talking about Adam's sin and the nature that was created by disobedience. Five is a good number, the number of grace, and that is the chapter number. Eight is the number of new beginnings and that is the verse number. *But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.* ⁹*Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.* ¹⁰*For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.* ¹¹*And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.* ¹²*Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:* ¹³*(For until the law sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed when there is no law.* ¹⁴*Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, who is the figure of him that was to come.* It means that every one of us is born in this world; we are born, and in being born, there are these two destinies that can be achieved - that of the son of perdition or that of the son of God.

**The first
revelation that
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salvation.**

Now, one of the other things that you have to understand is that this spiritual destiny that we are born with is not passive; it is aggressive and it is dominative by virtue of its nature. The Bible says that it is the prince of this world that is over the things that pertain to this world (Ephesians 2:2). We don't understand that and we are not teaching that to our children or each other. We don't understand that basic principle of spirituality.

When God moves in your life, He invades and infiltrates it. They have a unit in the army that they will send into enemy lines to sabotage the enemy's infrastructure. So, the first



thing that God has to do is to sabotage your communication with the enemy. He sends a Special Forces Operator called the Holy Ghost. You know, the Holy Ghost snuck a lot of Bibles into Communist Europe. The Holy Ghost was very busy rescu-

ing souls under the regime of the Communist authority. The Holy Ghost was very busy in Africa, with all of the traditions and spirits and years of bondage and suffering. There was a Special Forces Operator infiltrating that spiritual darkness.

When we first came to Nigeria, there was a man there from England named Pa Elton. He had given up his home and nationality, and went to minister salvation to Nigeria. From what I have heard and have been told by those who knew him, he had a glimpse into some of the deeper things of God. Since he didn't understand some of those things and could not bring clear understanding, he began to prophesy that there would be someone coming that would bring the information and an enlightenment of those things that are hidden in the scripture. About the time that Pa Elton passed on, Brother duCille came and they overlapped just a little bit. Brother duCille wanted to meet with Pa Elton, but it wasn't in the framework of God. The torch was being passed, you understand. The mantle was being passed on. So God is sending His Special Forces into the spiritual environment of your natural circumstances.

One of the first things that we have to understand is how God operates. Now, God doesn't "eject" me out of this environment. What He does is plant a seed inside the environment that is "me" and it is an incorruptible seed. He plants a seed in the midst of the heart of someone and it begins to beat "boom - boom - boom - boom - boom - boom." Blood begins to flow "boom - whoosh - boom - whoosh - boom - whoosh." The Blood begins to flow, a form begins to take shape and develop. All of a sudden there is static resistance. The bom-

bardment of the world's signals are encountering interference because there is something in you of spiritual significance that is plugged in to a dedicated socket. We get connected with God. What happens when you are connected with your mobile phone? "Can you hear me yet? Hello, are you there?" You begin to move around, trying to catch the signal. "Can you hear me? Are you there?"

We are kind of at this stage. We know we have a connection and are getting a message. *Have - - - - arrived - - - - in - - - space - - no - - - - and - - - -* "What are you saying? What are you saying? Stupid phone!" [begins to slap phone] "Hello?" Do you know I have seen some people get so aggravated with their phones as they are driving down the road that out the window it flies? I guess they cancelled their contract.

God doesn't intend for us to stay there. God intends for us to go on and He has tools for us. He expects us to go on and experience some of the other things in the tabernacle. It is not a natural thing, brethren, it is a spiritual environment. You have had a spiritual experience. Why do you suppose that Paul wrote to Timothy, *Stir up the gift of God, which is in thee* (II Timothy 1:6)? "Stir it up!" Timothy had a responsibility and an obligation and Paul goes to great lengths to describe the something.

The first thing that he told Timothy was that he had a spiritual inheritance. He went into great lengths to describe it. He said, *When I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that in thee also* (II Timothy 1:5). He said that there was something very godly, very rich in the grandmother, something very apropos to Timothy and his spiritual calling, his spiritual election. He was a natural young man living in a natural environment with earthly parents but something had been bequeathed to him that was spiritual. You know, some of you have a spiritual inheritance by virtue of someone in your lineage. We may think that we are the beginning of it all and that there is something very special about us, but it has nothing to do with you. It is by virtue of the spiritual inheritance. There was somebody back

there in your lineage who, in some manner and way, knew God and maybe even said a prayer. Malachi 2:15 says, *And did not he make one? Yet had he the residue of the spirit. And wherefore one? That he might seek a godly seed.* "Oh God, I would that You would bring the reality of You into me." Maybe it didn't happen for that individual in their natural

John is one of my spiritual heroes. He was one that desired God and wanted to have an intimate relationship with Him.

life, but somewhere down the road, out of that blood line, there was going to come a nature that had the strength to destroy the works of the devil in that family. You have a spiritual inheritance. That means that you have a spiritual job to do. It is not just a natural thing, it is a spiritual thing. There are spiritual things that you have to break. There are spiritual things that you have to build.

For example, you are an electrician. Things have to be connected in the right way or you are in trouble. It is a matter of being hooked up to the right source and running around to the right place. What happens if you get your wires crossed? We need to get our wires hooked up in the right way and we need to be plugged in to the right source so that God might be able to do what God wants to do.

So, God gives me salvation, and I hope you don't misunderstand this, but salvation isn't enough. Let me illustrate it to you in this way. This is a picture of a rocket. Have you ever watched the lift-off of a space ship? They do the count down: "T minus 10; T minus 09; T minus 08; T minus 07; T minus 06; T minus 05; T minus 04" and you are thinking, "Come on! Come on!" "T minus 03" - Oh, boy, here it comes! "T minus 02" - Oh, boy, we are going to see it. "T minus 01" - You expect it to go BOOM! They say, "We have ignition," and you see a little glow down at the base of the rocket.

What we have is ignition. You are still right here. You are still right here in the world. You are still earth-bound, but you have ignition. It will sit there and it will rumble, rumble,

rumble, rumble. I have a picture that was taken on a night lift-off of one of the shuttles. Here you have this little kindling fire and all of a sudden you have this big cloud and out bursts a ball of flame. So we have ignition, but we are still in this place. We have the world all around us; we have all of these different things right here. So, God has to take us yet another step. God has to move us to yet another place; He has to bring us to the Brazen Laver. I am a spiritual person. I've got ignition, but God knows that I need lift-off, so He brings me to the Brazen Laver.

Turn with me to John 14. I love the book of John. One of the reasons I love the book of John is because I want to be like John. John is one of my spiritual heroes. He was one that desired God and wanted to have an intimate relationship with Him. I want to be a combination of John and Paul. I want to be a combo person, all encapsulated in Christ. It is good to have spiritual heroes. I have some very good spiritual heroes. In John 14 we see that Jesus is talking to the disciples. I will start in the 11th verse. *Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works' sake.* Now, I can believe Him for the very works' sake. That means that there is a power of belief in the works that He does for me. I am dealing with the spirit of unbelief, which is one of the major obstacles that the church has. The Bible calls it, in Hebrews 3:12, *an evil heart of unbelief.* Now if God seems to be something of a mythical thought in my mind, I have a focal point in the fact of the works that God has done for me. I have something spiritually substantial to think about in the fact of His works and it has within it the power to change my unbelief into belief. Don't ask me how it works, because I don't know. It is like taking a concoction, adding it to water, stirring it up and drinking it because they say that it does wonders for you. If I employ the principle, I don't have to know how it works.

I really feel sorry for people who have to figure everything out. They have to know all of the mechanics and points A., B., and sub-points A.1., A.2. and then sub-points of sub-points: A.1.1., A.1.2., A.1.3., A.1.4. Now, if that is what you do and God is in it, God bless you. But for me personally, that is

too complicated. I'm glad that I can take something that is somewhat foolish and believe it. For instance, God says, therefore I believe that I can take something that God has done for me and because it is a work of spiritual significance, I can use it against the spirit of unbelief.

The devil can come to me and say, "You are not a Christian." My reply is, "How can that be? I know that you didn't make me feel this good. I believe that something happened in my life. I changed this habit. I don't do this habit, I don't do that habit, and I don't do this habit anymore. I am not as depressed as I used to be. I am not as frustrated and disappointed as I used to be. How can you tell me that nothing has happened to me?"

You know, by the time I get through talking to the devil about the works that God has worked in my life, I wonder why I am even talking to him. There is something of a greater awareness in me of God's presence, so I can utilize that which God has done for me to fight the spirit of unbelief. Verse 11 says, *Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works' sake.* Verse 12, *Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he (you and I) do; because I (Jesus) go unto my Father.* So, you see, Jesus is not in this realm except for the fact of what He has done for you. Jesus is on the "son of perdition" platform working to bring you to a point of release and deliverance.

You need to get the understanding of the "son of God" platform. Jesus is not in subjugation to this earthly realm. Actually, what I should have done is to have the "son of perdition" platform drawn below the "son of God" platform. Jesus is not subjugated to this realm. If we can understand this principle on the basis of our salvation, then we can use the fact of our salvation to employ the power to move out from under this position of subjugation. What comes to me is the word proxy. My understanding of proxy is that it gives someone the authority to move under the auspices of someone else's authority. So what God gives us is a proxy endowment that we can utilize, not because we are something great

or wise, but because He has already gone through the process. He has overcome and now He is issuing His authority to us. That is just salvation. So the Father says in verse 13, *And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name*, (that is a proxy proclamation) *that will I do...*

Each one of us starts out in the position of son of perdition and is given the opportunity to become son of God. The son of perdition is designed to conform us to the destiny that is compatible with the world and the son of God is in God. Now, in the beginning you don't really see the sons of God too much. You know it is there and every now and then it makes its presence known. But the son of perdition is fairly dominant and it often seems like it is in a position of strength and authority. But as you begin to exercise, reiterate and rehearse, the reality of the sons of God, it begins to become more and more predominant and in control. The son of perdition is still making noise, it is still squeaking. It is still giving you a lot of trouble but it is slowly coming under the hand of something that is stronger than it.

Each one of us starts out in the position of son of perdition and is given the opportunity to become son of God.

What the devil wants to do to is to convince us that this position, the son of perdition, (carnal realm) is the one that is dominant and pre-eminent. So, the devil works on your mind, emotions and desires. He capitalizes on all those things that the heart of the nature of the son of perdition desires. Yet even in my weakness I can think, "Oh, I've got the Blood. I have salvation. God, You saved me and You lifted me up. You are in a place of pre-eminence and this entity over here, son of perdition, has no position of control. Devil, you are a liar."

It is as simple as that. There is nothing difficult or complicated about it. This young man, this little girl, if they understand the principle, or have a sense of the reality of God, they can do it. The power is unexplainable and un-definable.

But it is a power that always works.

You know, we really should not be teaching our children reading, writing, and arithmetic. We should be teaching them the Blood, Holy Ghost, and the pre-eminence of God. That is what we should be teaching our children. You know, if I have a child that grows up and realizes the authority of God and that all things are in God and God is in them, do you think that language is going to be a problem? Do you think arithmetic is going to be a problem? Do you think history is something that they will not know? Especially when they are plugged into the computer that is called Yahweh!

We really should not be teaching our children reading, writing, and arithmetic. We should be teaching them the Blood, Holy Ghost, and the pre-eminence of God.

“Oh, but we think that education is essential.” All right, it is essential, but let’s educate them about God first. Do you know there was a man in the United States who developed a Christian school program based on the Bible? He believed that if children learned the Bible, the principles in the Bible, and the things of the Bible that were spiritual, they would do much better in the scholastic arena. Do you know that he proved it? This man was not a Spirit-filled Christian.

He was an Evangelical Christian, but they found out that their students excelled in mathematics, languages and all of the different scholastic arenas of school. They did much better, grew faster, their mental capacities were more enhanced, sharper, and clearer when they put God first.

What are we doing? Why would I want someone in the world to teach my child something other than God? A man came to me for counsel one day about school. He wanted to send his children to school. I said to him, “All right, if that is what you want to do, then go ahead and do it, but I want to tell you what you are going to have to do to counteract the effect that school is going to have upon them.” I said, “I am

not opposed to you sending them to school. Send them to school, but what I would request of you is that you spend a minimum of 4 hours a day teaching them the Bible.” I said, “You may be fortunate just to equalize it so that they aren’t destroyed.”

I go to a place where they have a Christian school and I find this much Bible [little] and this much scholastic entertainment [big]. It should be this much Bible [big] and this much scholastic entertainment [little].

God equips us and wants us to understand the nature of the realm in which we are living. Turn to John 17. Listen to me, I do not believe that this is Brother Burt’s theology. I believe that this is a biblical principle. I believe that it is a biblical principle because it is in the nature of God. John 17, starting with verse 8, because 8 is new beginnings. *For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came out from thee, and they have believed that thou didst send me.*

Brother Mark Jantzi tells me that he studied John chapter 17 and he was given to understand that it was the fulfillment of promise. Fulfillment of promise. Praise the Lord. Well, it was a very good teaching. I enjoyed it immensely.

So, we have the fulfillment of promise in John 17 and in the midst of that we have the new beginnings. Verse 8, *For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came out from thee, and they have believed that thou didst send me.* Listen to what He prays. This is God Almighty praying. If you ever want God Almighty to pray for you, just open John 17:9. *I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine. ¹⁰And all mine are thine, and thine are mine; and I am glorified in them. ¹¹And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are (one).*

I want to jump down to the 15th verse. *I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil. ¹⁶They are not of the*

world, even as I am not of the world. ¹⁷*Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.* I would say that we have a mandate from God. Wouldn't you? Am I the only one that sees this as a mandate? I have a mandate from God to teach you, to teach myself, to teach my children. Well, they are grown now, but I have a mandate from God to teach my grandchildren that are growing up now. What does it say? *Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.*

I have to sanctify myself through the Word and I take that Word and I begin to teach my children those principles and those levels of attainment that are in God. Teach them how it is that God loves them. Teach them of the reality of the power that is in God for them and the liberty that they have to use that power in the time of need.

You know, I grew up in a home where every time somebody had a fever, we called the doctor. When I was growing up my family followed whatever the latest medical fads were. There was a time that they were saying that tonsils were bad for you. Isn't that like man? They said tonsils were bad for you and you had to have them removed. Mom put all of us kids in the car and took us down to the doctor and we had our tonsils out. If we had a headache, off we went to the doctor. If we had a fever, off we went to the doctor. If we had a stubbed toe, off we went to the doctor. Whatever the malady was, off we went to the doctor. My kids grew up and they didn't know, in the beginning, what a doctor was. They didn't.

They would say, "Daddy, I have an owie. This is my owie, Daddy. Will you pray for me? Will you pray for me, Daddy?"

I would put my hand on it, "Father, we come in the name of Jesus and we ask that You move and bring healing to this owie."

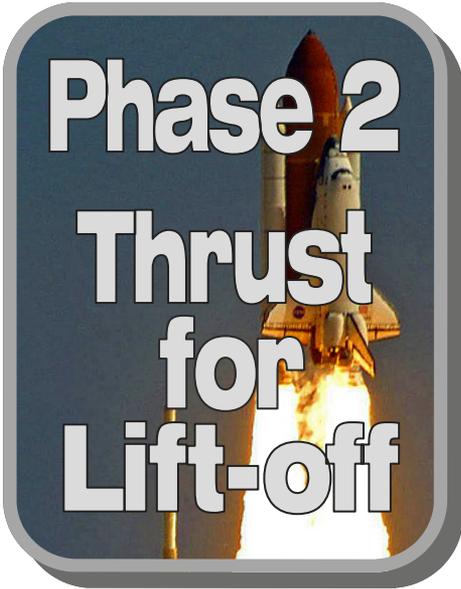
Then they were out the door, to go play, play, play.

We have to teach our children the reality of the kingdom but how are we going to teach our children the reality of the kingdom if that reality is not something we possess? It is time to rise up. There is an alarm of war. It is time to rise up and take the kingdom. Praise the Lord. Could we sing:

"Now is the time to take the Kingdom"

*Now is the time to take the Kingdom
Rise up ye strong, 'tis Christ's command
For every power and dominion
Is given now into your hand
Ye that have ears to hear the trumpet
Ye that have hearts to understand
Now is the time to take the Kingdom
Rise up ye strong possess the land
Daniel 7:27*

**We have to teach our
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There was a verse that Brother Mark Jantzi brought to my attention and it is found in John 17:2. We are talking about two eternal objectives. In the first message, we explained the position we find ourselves in at birth and we also discussed God's divine intervention in bringing us salvation. We were discovering that it was like a seed planted in the ground.

Let us turn to John 17 and begin with the first verse to get the context. *These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee.* Before I read verse 2, I think we should note in verse 1 that the focus Jesus had was that the Father might be glorified. There was no personal interest involved with His request regarding His glorification. If we want to come to the position of sonship, we have to pass through the process which purifies our intent so that that which motivates us is pure and holy. So, what is that glorification? It talks about it in verse 2 and two is the number of witness. There are many places in the Bible that indicate that the witness of God is the Spirit and the Word. Hallelujah. It is interesting to note that in the 17th chapter of John, Jesus capitalizes on the Word and the Spirit. It is the Word and the Spirit, the Spirit and the Word.

Verse 2, *As thou hast given him power over all flesh...* This means that the glorification of God is the power of God being exercised over the flesh; therefore we have no excuse or reason to sin. We have no reason to be self-centered. We have no excuse to have self in a position of pre-eminence be-

cause Jesus has the power to overcome all flesh. I think that if you take it in context and you look at the meaning of the Greek word, *all* is all-inclusive word. That means that there are no exceptions; there are no addendums; there are no attachments that give us the right to sin. Do you get the idea? There is no excuse! Now, if you are an Evangelical or Pentecostal in your thinking, and you don't have the revelation that God desires to bring you to a place of perfection, you could probably plead ignorance except for the fact that it is written in the Word.

John 17:2, *As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him.* Praise the Lord. That is not talking about someplace far away in the great by and by. That is not something out in the future that you are going to receive at the end of the day. To as many as have received Christ, they have received the totality of the provisions that are in Christ. *But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name* (John 1:12). What I am doing is taking away all of your excuses so that when you look in the mirror you are going to see the reality of sin. That way you can repent and it will not be me telling you to do so but your knowledge of God's desire and will for you. It is going to be you seeing the reflection of Adam.

Do you know that the space program is a spiritual principle? Do you know that we can go into outer space because of a spiritual principle and it is written in the Bible? Do you know that when they were sending a man to the moon, they could not figure out what they could construct that would give man the ability to see and yet not be destroyed by whatever environment he was in? Somebody went to the Bible and they read in Revelation about gold that was like glass (Revelation 21:18,21). So what they invented a shield that was made out of gold that you could see through. They made this shield for the helmet of the astronaut's space suit. Furthermore, they took that find and developed it so that it would be of benefit to you and me. They took the technology that they developed in the space program and put it in the windshield of some of the cars that they manufactured so that the air-

There is a law in the world called gravity. Gravity is like the pressure of sin: it is always trying to reduce you to one common level.

conditioning could effectively work in the cars. You can research all of these facts. I might have them a little mixed up, but the reality of what they are is there. Revelation 21:18 says, *And the building of the wall of it was of jasper: and the city was pure gold, like unto clear glass.*

Turn with me to Romans 8. I am going to show you God's space program. There is a law in the world called gravity. Gravity is like the pressure of sin: it is always trying to reduce you to one common level. You ask an engineer who designs buildings and one of the major things to be considered is the gravitational pull. It is actually a down-ward pressure that is going to be applied to the building. So, in order for a rocket to blast off of the earth, there has to be a force that has the strength to push it up, out and beyond the pull of the weight that is upon it.

You know, man thinks he is so smart, he thinks he is so intelligent. But all he would have to do is read the Bible and it would give him all of the information that he needs in order to do whatever he wants to do. Hallelujah.

So, they developed a high-propulsion engine that would produce enough power to give what they call thrust. It is a spiritual principal. Let us read it. Romans 8:1, *There is therefore now no condemnation (judgment) to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.* ²*For the law of the Spirit of life (spiritual thrust) in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death (gravity).* So, we have the principle of gravity: the law of sin and death. Yet we have the principle of propulsion: the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus. BUT we need thrust!

Verse 3, *For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh:* Verse 4, *That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in*

us - THRUST! This is thrust. You are moving now. Before you were just sitting there rumbling. We had ignition, but now we are witnessing the power of the thrust. The whole purpose of the thrust was that we might not be subjugated to the flesh (sin).

So, something is happening in the core of the seed that God impregnates within our soul. It is surrounded by the carnality of earth. It is being pressed down upon by the gravity of sin. The world and the sin of the world are doing everything they can to suppress the life that is within the seed. However, there is a process of development and God knows the strength of the character that is in His seed. He knows that at this particular point, there is the need for divine intervention because without that divine intervention the seed may sprout and grow, but it will never come to the position of its fullness.

When I first started farming, the ground that I was farming was like concrete - a lot like some of our hearts. We would grow plants in the greenhouse and once they were mature enough we would transplant them outside. We would go out and chisel a hole in the rock-hard dirt, plant the plant and expect to reap a bountiful harvest. Well, we really didn't know any better; we were learning. Days came, days went; weeks came, weeks went; and still those were the most pitiful looking plants you have ever seen. We watered them, we fertilized them, we weeded them, we talked to them, we rebuked the devil. Yet, those plants never grew or looked vibrant or beautiful and we could not figure it out.

One day God said, "Go pluck one of them out of the ground."

I said, "That is a novel thought. Let me go out and pull one of them up."

So, I went out there and I expected to have to really yank on the thing because it was fairly big. I reached down, I grabbed hold of it and it just popped right out of

The world and the sin of the world are doing everything they can to suppress the life that is within the seed.

the ground. The root looked more like a golf ball than the root of a plant. It needed a little divine intervention. The ground needed a big shank to come through and break it up in order for the plants to have the ability to penetrate and grow down. I am so grateful that God doesn't farm like I did, because God knows that there is the need for divine intervention. He knows the pressure. He is the one who gave the information to Paul when Paul penned the words in Ephesians 6:12, *For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.* How are we, like the little bitty plants, going to survive when the devil is trying to work destruction, unless God miraculously intervenes? Hallelujah.

Well, God has the plan and in the tabernacle of Moses He tells us what that plan is. The first part of the plan is water baptism. Water baptism is, first of all, by its nature a prophetic work. It is a spiritual operation on a natural plane to demonstrate the reality of a spiritual principal called resurrection. That is why everyone that accepts the Lord Jesus Christ needs to be baptized. Not initiated - that means baptized into a church. Not a ritual of being sprinkled. But there is a necessity to move into the prophetic spiritual realm of God and to prophesy to the powers that be of our intent to become like God. Anyone that is baptized with the understanding is making a prophetic declaration. It is prophetic; you are all as prophets at that time. What you are prophesying or professing is, "Here I am, a dirty, defiled, weak, sin-drenched individual and I am covenanting with a living God, that when I go down into the water I am dying to self-satisfaction, self-preservation, and self-exaltation." I wonder why more of us that have been baptized can't hear in the Spirit? Because I think that there is a proclamation; there is a trumpet that blows in the realm of heaven that declares that Satan has another "Number One Enemy." We are not only covenanting or prophesying that we are going to be born-again, but we are saying to Satan, "You are finished! You are done! I am taking the initiative; I am moving from the defensive to the offensive. I am taking my position in the front line!"

You didn't know you were saying all of that when you were baptized, did you? That is why a lot of you are in trouble! That is why some of you are getting beaten bloody. Some of you are being massacred. You are being slapped around because you do not understand the spiritual reality of an activity the church has made in to a ritual. The act of baptism is not a ritual; it is a spiritual experience of growth and development. The Bible says in Romans 6:4, *Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death.* You know, up until this point, there isn't a lot that God can do for you that is offensive. Most of God's action towards you up until this point is defensive, very much like when you protect your children. You take this little baby and

there is a protection that you afford him. No matter where he is, or who he is with, you want to know that the environment is safe and that he is going to be taken care of. Let somebody inadvertently move against them and your covering immediately comes into play. Immediately! That is a defensive action. Now, you can even be offensive. If somebody grabs your child and

starts to run out the door with him you are going to get very offensive. You are going to do a flying tackle. Then when you separate the child and the assailant, who knows what might happen? Whatever offensive action you take is on the basis of a defensive response.

Praise the Lord. This is a scriptural position. Before I go on, can you see why the devil does not want you to know about the Holy Spirit? Can you understand why the devil has created organizations that will preach salvation, but they will speak against Holy Spirit baptism? Why? The devil doesn't want you to become "Number One Enemy." He wants to cancel out your candidacy. Most of us want to get baptized because we want to get into heaven. It is something that has to

How are we, like the little bitty plants, going to survive when the devil is trying to work destruction, unless God miraculously intervenes?

be done in order to achieve that. That's right! But, we don't understand the spiritual reality of the environment that we are affiliated with. My God, no wonder the church is so wimpy in its position or attitude. Wimps! No wonder the church is like a wet dishrag. You put a wet dishrag on the counter and what does it do? You hang it on the towel rack and what does it do? That is Christianity today! It is not the devil's fault. It is the church's fault because the church does not understand the ramifications of the spiritual environment that it is associated with.

So, we come in and we are confronted by this pool of water that the Bible calls the Brazen Laver. My goodness, I am so glad that God is bringing revelation to us. You know, I really don't feel bad about telling you all of this, because I know that

My life must demonstrate the reality of the trumpet that is blowing in the Spirit.

when you go out of this place, you will be able to kick the devil. I want to tell you something else. The devil needs a lot of kicking. He has been kicking the church around for a very long time. He does not have a very good opinion of you. Did you know that, Brother Roman?

The devil says, "Oh, yes. Give me Brother Roman. Give him to me, let me work him over a little bit."

But he doesn't know that inside Brother Roman is a secret weapon. It is so secret that sometimes Brother Roman doesn't even know that he has it. But the good news is that Brother Roman is finding out about it.

First of all, the church needs to understand the natural application. But more importantly, the church needs to understand the spiritual implications. Now, if you didn't get baptized with this knowledge, I suggest that you go get baptized again so that you can know and then you can declare what needs to be spoken and your trumpet may be blown. When I am baptized in water I am sounding my trumpet. My trumpet begins to blow. The good news is that it joins in with all the other trumpets that are blowing. I don't look at that

blowing as a short breath of blowing, because the trumpet began to blow with the resurrection of Jesus Christ and every time I participate with Jesus Christ in obedience to His Word, I become another trumpet in the orchestra of God.

My goodness. You know, I see these guys walking down the street with headphones on. Their heads are bobbing up and down or their bodies are jerking in some weird fashion. Or, they are driving their car and doing the same thing. I should be saying to them, "Oh, yes! I hear it! Don't you hear that trumpet? Oh, yes! Don't you hear that trumpet?" When I meet someone on the street and God quickens something to me about them, I am responsible to blow my trumpet. There is a trumpet that is blowing out here, but there is the trumpet that must blow inside of me that makes me the trumpet.

My life must demonstrate the reality of the trumpet that is blowing in the Spirit. Paul said, *Ye are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read of all men: ³Forasmuch as ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart* (II Corinthians 3:2,3). That means that you are a walking Bible and the Bible is the culmination of the Spirit and the Word. So, for me to be in that place, I must not only have water baptism, but I must also have what the Bible calls the baptism in the Holy Spirit.

You need to talk to your children. You need to pray with your children. You need to fast and pray for them to receive the Holy Ghost. Not the knowledge, not the intellectual understanding, but the actual experience of speaking in tongues because without the Holy Spirit, you are really not going to get the thrust that you need to break loose from the gravitational pull of sin, death, and the familiar spirits that have been handed down from generation to generation.

The church has eliminated this knowledge and, in lieu of it, they have developed a doctrine that will keep you in this condition so that you do not become a problem to *the prince of the power of the air* (Ephesians 2:2). What the church tells you is,

"You are going to get 'raptured'!"

"You are going to be caught away!"

"You don't really have to overcome the world!"

"You don't really have to overcome humanity!"

"Play it up! If it feels good, do it!"

"As long as you have been born-again, you don't need the Blood anymore - it doesn't matter!"

"You have to live under these conditions, after all, you are only human!"

This is what the churches tell you. Well, if you want to be human, this is where you are going to remain. But there is an unveiling that happens for me at the position of the brazen altar.

When I come to this place, He opens my eyes that were blind (because I was born blind, not because of anything that I did, but by the fact that God wants to demonstrate His glory). What do I see? THE KINGDOM! Isn't that what John says? He says in John 3:3, *Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.* Blind man, the man that was born blind, is the condition of sin that we were born into. Because when God comes to minister life to you, the first healing that comes is to your sight and you and I are able to see the kingdom. But He doesn't stop there; He talks about entering in. My eyes are opened and I see the kingdom. Praise the Lord. But it says that I cannot enter unless I am what? *Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God* (John 3:5). If I am not baptized in water and in the Spirit I cannot enter in.

You are not going to be rescued by dinner tonight. We do not have to worry about food. One of these days we are going to have a conference and food is not going to be so important. We are going to enter in and we are going to feast upon meat that is not on the natural plane. It is not going to be something that you put in the oven or that you pull out of the fridge. It is going to be something that comes out of the realm of heaven. Hallelujah. Can't you just visualize a nice, big, healthy, lovely, spiritual steak to chew on? Hallelujah. We are not going to have to worry about this rumbling and grumbling down here. Oh, no! I am going say, "Flesh, I have power over you! Here, take a little Holy Spirit! Take a little of

God here! Take a little of God there!"

My belly is not going to be my God. I am not going to be a guilty one, do you hear me? My belly is not going to be my God. ...*whose God is their belly* (Philippians 3:19). That wasn't written about me, brother. What is written about me are the things that I desire and that all

creation desires - to see that manifestation of Jesus Christ walking with me and in me, talking with me and in me. Hallelujah. This thing is not going to have any power over my flesh. We want the power, but what we need is God. We need God down in our innermost being. We need God and more of God and more of God and more of God - until we get so much God that we become like God is!

How can you be depressed? Can you think about God as being depressed? You have got God! God is not depressed! Hallelujah. Reach down into the very depths of your being, that is, the hem of His garment, and let the virtue that is within you flow forth and minister to your soul, to give you the strength to rise up! It is not dependent upon other people: what they do, what they say, how they respond, how they act. It is not dependent upon them. It is dependent upon what you do with what is in you! Hallelujah. Glory to God.

Well, we still have ignition. I don't know that we have thrust yet. There is still a kind of rumbling and rattling going on. Let's go to the scripture, John 3:1, *There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews: 2The same came to Jesus by night* (under the cover of darkness). I wouldn't laugh too hard, because this is how a lot of us are coming to Jesus. We are stealing in the back door, sneaking in as it were under the cover of night. *The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a*

How can you be depressed? Reach down into the very depths of your being and let the virtue that is within you flow forth and minister to your soul, to give you the strength to rise up!

Sound your trumpet! Blow your tune! Loose the vitality of God that is down in the very depths of your soul!

teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him. He wasn't bold enough to say "in" you. He wasn't bold enough because then he would be guilty of understanding that "this man is the Christ," because this is what he was saying. If God is in you, what is in you has to be called Christ. Verse 3, *Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.*

Blind! Blind as a bat! We need to read our Bibles with spiritual eyes, because we have no excuse now. Hallelujah. "Once I was blind and now I see." What is the rest of the song?

Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound,

That saved a wretch like me...

I once was lost but now am found,

Was blind, but now I see.

Let's go on. So, man now has his sight. He is impregnated with the seed of God; he can see the reality of this realm. Seeing the reality of this realm will also cause him to see the position of his bondage. That knowledge can be very condemning, because many who are born-again and who have not experienced the baptisms, do not feel the power to extract themselves from their place of bondage. But there is a remedy that is programmed into the Holy Spirit that gives man the courage to do what he would otherwise think impossible and without the Holy Spirit it would be impossible.

Turn with me to John 14. I want to read verse 11 first because it reiterates for us where we began in Hebrews 11. All that God gives us is dependent upon how we handle it in the realm of belief. John 14:11, *Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works' sake.* Verse 12, *Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I (Jesus) go unto my*

Father (God). What He is saying simply is that He is going to work a miracle in the midst of humanity that will change humanity and that He is leaving without changing the condition that the world is in because He didn't destroy the devil. You know, He could have changed the conditions of the world. But He left everything seemingly intact: seemingly in its order of disarray, confusion, and death.

You have an iceberg with water all around it. What we don't see is what is under it. Yet what happens under it determines what eventually shows up above the water. If there is something put here that causes a little explosion, what it will do is create fissures that go deep and are designed to totally destroy the iceberg. That is like what God did with regard to the world. He, God, invaded it. That is what God did; He came into enemy territory disguised as a human, but inside of that human was all of God. Oh, yes, He looked like a Hebrew. He had black hair maybe, maybe brown eyes. It says that He was "ruddy" in complexion (Song of Solomon 5:10). He talked Hebrew, He had Hebrew friends, and He grew up in a Hebrew village. But all the time He was an "Enemy Agent." I believe we call them "sleepers" - someone that comes in, integrates themselves with the society and looks like a part of society, but all the time in His mind is the destruction of that society. A little Hebrew village, with a little look-like Hebrew man and all the time it is the living, walking, talking, Almighty God. That is what the Bible says. It says that if they would have known that they had the Prince of Glory they would not have done what they did (I Corinthians 2:8). Isn't that what your Bible says? He was undercover, sneaking into the midst of humanity.

Sound your trumpet! Blow your tune! Loose the vitality of God that is down in the very depths of your soul! Loose! Hallelujah.

Well, if that isn't enough, they didn't even know that this "Enemy Agent" had something of an alien force within His Blood. So, God had to devise some means, some way that when this Man left, He could leave behind the ability to reproduce this destructive element. Loose! I told you the devil was dumb. God knew that he was dumb and God also knew what

he was going to do. Would you fight an enemy that knew what you were going to do before you even knew that you were going to do it? Well, if you did then you would be as dumb as the devil. We don't want to be dumb; we want to be "foolish" for God. Hallelujah.

So, now we have God bequeathing, or imparting Himself in this thing called "baptism." John 14:12, *Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.* That means that He is going to incorporate Himself with man so that the totality of God is at our disposal. Now, this Man healed the sick; He touched the blind eyes; He made limbs grow where there were no limbs; He raised the dead; He did just about every conceivable miracle that you can possibly imagine. What in the world could be left to do that would be greater than what He did? Not only did He do all of that, but He died and He resurrected again. What in the world could we do that would be greater than what He did? Do you have an idea?

"To destroy the devil."

Yes. We are to dismantle the infrastructure of this world and its kings and its princes. You are part of the wrecking crew. Have you ever seen those big cranes with one of those big balls? They get to swinging it. You know, I have often thought, "Boy, I'd like to operate one of those things." You have a building and you would swing that wrecking ball this way and you would swing it that way! You look at that building and the ball is swinging this way and it is swinging that way. The building is right there. Oh boy, here it comes! Ready or not! CRASH! Glass flies. Bricks fly. Roof falls. Dust flies. The thing collapses within itself. Hallelujah! GLORY TO GOD! Another piece of hell is brought down!!!

How about one of those great big tractors? You know, a bulldozer that opens up like a big mouth. You would get in that piece of equipment, aim it at the building and begin rumbling along. You are rumbling along and you hit that wall and you might feel this shaking here and there but the thing just keeps going! Keeps going! Keeps going! All the while its jaws are going like this, chomping down, chomping down,

and chomping down as it tears down the infrastructure of the building.

What is depression to a bulldozer? What is pride to one of those swinging balls? Better yet, have you ever seen them implode a building? They blow up a building so that nobody and nothing around it gets hurt. We should be in the imploding business and not in the exploding business, because when we explode there is usually collateral damage.

So, God sends His Holy Spirit deep into the heart of enemy territory and He goes in and He begins to plant this little bomb right in the midst of the structure of your soul. We have a Holy Ghost bomb

planted in our mind, we have a Holy Ghost bomb planted in our emotions, we have a Holy Ghost bomb planted in our will, and we have a Holy Ghost bomb planted in our desires. They go off incrementally. Not all at the same time, but incrementally. This one might go off first, then another, then another, and then that one - the big bang! (There is your Big Bang theory.)

**I have a job to do,
not that I might
reach or obtain
heaven, but that I
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which God has
appointed unto me
because I love Him.**

The building goes "KA WOOM" and it all just collapses in upon itself. The only thing that is going to be left standing is the heart that loves Jesus. My God! My God! RESURRECTION! Scripture says, "Out of ashes shall come beauty" (Isaiah 61:3).

I have a mandate from God. I have a trumpet to blow that God has given me. I have a job to do, not that I might reach or obtain heaven, but that I might do that which God has appointed unto me because I love Him. BECAUSE I LOVE HIM, DESIRE HIM, and WANT HIM more than anything else.

Listen to what He says in John 14:12, *Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I*

go unto my Father. Verse 13, *And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.* What are we waiting for? Is God *a man, that he should lie* (Numbers 23:19)? Or maybe we want some sort of self-exaltation? In the midst of all of this glory do we have the idea that we might be able to retain some of the attributes of this environment and still accomplish something of God's will?

Let me give you the story of the ten, the five and the one talent. The one talent person took his talent and buried it in the earth (Matthew 25:18). No reward. No positive return. *And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do,* (Why?) *that the Father may be glorified in the Son* (John 14:13). Our purpose, our motive is not self-appointed. Our position, our place of acceptance is not something that we carve out in accordance to our own desires. God was glorified in the Son so that the Son in the Father might be glorified in us. That means that everything that I do should be in the realm of Christianity and it must bring exaltation and glorification to God.

We have a wrong concept. We think that we are in the remodeling business. We want to remodel the house. God doesn't want to remodel the house. God wants to destroy the house and bring forth a new house, a house that is fit for His habitation. You know, if God were to inhabit us now it would kill us. We are too self-orientated; we are too self-preserved. We are like a jar that is sitting on the shelf. Every once in a while we get it down, blow the dust off of it and put it back on the shelf. SELF-PRESERVED! Saving it for a rainy day.

John 14:15, *If ye love me, keep my commandments.* ¹⁶*And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;* ¹⁷*Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.*

So we now have LIFT-OFF! Praise the Lord.



Father, we want to thank You tonight. We want to thank You for the strength that comes out of heaven. Father, we want to press through and touch the hem of Your garment, for we are in need of the virtue that is in You. We stretch forth our hands tonight, Lord, and we ask for Your divine intervention. Father, we pray for the words that come out of the realm of heaven. Loose! By the power of the Blood of Jesus Christ, we exalt You tonight. We exalt

You above every principality and power. Father, we command the blessing of God, that You might move into the very depths of our being. Oh, yes, my God, we are asking that You bring forth Your kingdom and Your pre-eminence. Let our souls, oh, God, now bow down before Your throne.

Father, we come against these rulers of high places, we come against the spiritual wickedness, the wickedness that rules countries and governments. We ask, oh, God, that You raise up the authority within Your body, that we might begin to exalt and to bring into pre-eminence Your name.

Father, I pray for the ears tonight. Oh, yes, Father, I am not only praying that blind eyes would see, but I am praying also that deaf ears would hear. Father, open our ears tonight that we might hear the voice of the living God, that we might be regenerated, and that we might be resurrected. Let the power of the living God now flow through every vessel; let it bring into subjection every thought, let it bring into subjection every emotion; by the Blood of Jesus Christ, we say Amen.

I am convinced that the devil is very mad at us. He doesn't like what is happening. Many of you are seeing something that you have never seen before. Many of you are mak-

ing resolutions and promises, and you are moving into a position of commitment. Hallelujah. The devil doesn't like what you are doing. Can you say, "Praise the Lord!"?

But change is dependent upon you and upon what it is that you do with what you have received.

"Praise the Lord!"

We don't want the devil to like us. We don't want the devil to think that he doesn't have anything to worry about as far as we are concerned. We want the devil worried. I want to tell you a little secret. You can overload the devil's circuits and cause the devil to blow some fuses. We don't just want to blow fuses; we want some major power failures. We want to

break some lines of communication. Hallelujah. We want to be a deterrent as well as a vessel used to sabotage the enemy network.

We are being prepared for battle. We are being prepared to go to war. Believe me, brethren, you are not going to have to wait too long or go too far, because the moment you go out of the door the war is going to begin. Hallelujah. Can you say "Amen!"?

"Amen!"

Praise the Lord. I want to try to finish what I started. Phase 1 was the position or the place of ignition; Phase 2 was that we had lift-off; Phase 3 is that we have a breakthrough, otherwise known as resurrection (the power of life over the power of death).

Turn with me in your Bibles to John 14. We have been going through some of the basic principles of the operation of God in the spiritual realm. My hope is that when you leave this place you will leave with a different understanding of the environment in which you are living, and if you have that understanding, then you will behave differently.

Many of you have said, "I do not want to leave this place without a change."

I can say, "Amen!"

But change is dependent upon you and upon what it is

that you do with what you have received. If you do not do anything with what you heard, then whatever change that God has worked in you in this environment will not be something that is lasting or strong enough to withstand the temptations, the trials, the tribulations and the trouble that you are going to run into in your everyday living experience.

In order to be strong we have to exercise. It is a natural principle; it is also a spiritual principle. So you are going to have to exercise some of the things that you have heard in this conference. There has been a lot of practical information given to you that will give you the understanding and the ability to beat the devil.

I can say unequivocally that this is probably one of the best conferences in quality that I have been at for a very, very long time, from the start and I hope to the finish. Hallelujah. I have been in some very good conferences where the Spirit of God has moved in some very, very special ways. I have been in conferences where there has been strong meat coming “line upon line, line upon line” (Isaiah 28:10) giving us a look deep into the heart of God, and coming away with the knowledge and assurance that God is in control of the whole situation. I have been in conferences where the Spirit of God moved in deliverance and in the ministration of healing. “Precept upon precept; line upon line.” When people left the meeting, they left behind a lot of those maladies physically and spiritually that had plagued them up to that time.

This conference in particular seems to be a conference in which God has called us into His situation room, very much like a war counsel, giving us the information of what it is that we are involved with, how it works, what it does for us and how to use it. One of the

predominant thoughts is that if we want to be victorious, then there is a need for us to understand the reality of the pre-eminence of God in our personal lives, the priority of God

In order to be strong we have to exercise. It is a natural principle; it is also a spiritual principle.

I believe that the baptism of the Holy Spirit is probably the most misunderstood gift that the church has.

overshadowing our mind, our emotions, our desires, so that the business of God that is God takes that one central place.

We have been discussing the various attributes of salvation, how it works and what it does for us and we have been discussing baptism, both in water as well as in the Holy Spirit. Tonight I want to touch upon the subject of the Holy Spirit.

One of the things that the Holy Spirit does for you and me is to improve our ability to communicate with God. When God baptizes us in the Holy Spirit, to liken it to our cell phone reception, we have “full bars.” The line of communication is clearly open. I believe that the baptism of the Holy Spirit is probably the most misunderstood gift that the church has, not because we did not possess the knowledge in the beginning, but because men took the knowledge and they perverted it, twisted it and used it for every other thing than that which God intended for it to be used for. The Holy Spirit is, in the economy of God, a tool that works in total harmony with God. It also can be a vehicle as well as a data bank of information that not only gives us the knowledge of all things but it also gives us the ability to do anything and everything.

In the beginning of the church of Acts, when the Holy Spirit fell, it revolutionized Christianity. Maybe I should say that it initiated Christianity, but, quite frankly, there were Christians there before the Holy Spirit fell. Yet, it was the falling of the Holy Spirit that propagated the church. The instructions to the disciples were that they were to go to a certain place at a certain time and tarry before the Lord. They were to tarry before the Lord and wait for God to manifest Himself in their presence. Praise the Lord.

I think the perception that the churches have of the baptism of the Holy Spirit is like the drive-through at McDonald's. I don't use that analogy lightly; I didn't just pick that out of the air. I consider McDonald's the lowest of the low in

the food chain. They don't really serve you food; they serve you something that is disguised to look like food.

Many of the churches could just as well hang out on the front of their buildings "McChurches" because they have taken the Holy Spirit and made it something that it is not. They tell you to use it for something that it is not designed to be used for and they come up with many different variations and varieties of "Holy Spirit." They probably have as many different varieties of "Holy Spirit" as there are colors in the earth.

They have a "Holy Spirit" that laughs and does all sorts of foolish things.

They have a "Holy Spirit" that will give you prosperity.

They have a "Holy Spirit" that will bring you into fame.

They have a "Holy Spirit" for anything and everything.

It is just like the menu at McDonald's. Whatever you want, you give your order, you drive up to the window and you get it in a little brown bag. That is not the Holy Spirit that they received at Pentecost. The first thing that the Holy Spirit did at the first Pentecost was that He started a fire. Amen. John the Baptist said in John 1:27, *He it is, who coming after me is preferred before me, whose shoe's latchet I am not worthy to unloose.* Elsewhere he says, *I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Spirit, and with fire* (Matthew 3:11). So fire, whether metaphorically or in actuality is a quality that comes with the Holy Spirit. If you have no fire, you have no Holy Spirit.

Turn with me to John 14. I am going to pick up on this scripture where I left off. I want to start with verse 13, because if you don't have the Holy Spirit, I want you to know that you

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can ask for it. *And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.* Then He says it again, verse 14, *If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it.* Now, we can probably go around saying:

“In Jesus’ name.”

“In Jesus’ name.”

“I want this in Jesus’ name.”

“I want that in Jesus’ name.”

“Be healed in Jesus’ name.”

“Be done in Jesus’ name.”

THAT IS NOT WHAT IT MEANS!

That is not what it means. It is out of context, because the next scripture talks about how it is that we are supposed to ask and what it is that we are supposed to ask for. Verse 15, *If ye love me, keep my commandments.* You know, you have to keep the scripture in context. I don’t believe that Jesus had a problem keeping His train of thought. I think that when Jesus was talking, there was continuity or a thread of understanding that was running through from the time that He started to the time that He finished. I am sure that in many churches, John 14:15 is probably crossed out, or cut out, or something is added to it. Absolutely. He said, “You can ask anything in My name, I will do it. If you love Me, keep My commandments.”

Now, I come to you and say, “Brother George, I have a million dollars in the bank and whatsoever you ask of me, I am going to do it. Okay, Brother George, whatever you ask of me I am going to do it. If you love Me, keep My commandments.”

What is he saying? What is the key to the asking or the receiving? What is the qualification? Why is it that we think that verse 14 is separated from verse 15? Why do we think that the asking is divorced from the thought that God says, “If you love Me, keep My commandments.”? To make it more confusing He says, *And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever* (John 14:16). You have to understand what it is that God is saying. He says in verse 14, “Ask anything in My name.” If He left that verse by itself, then you would have a legitimate

position to go to God and ask Him for anything. No matter what it was or what the nature of it was, you would have a legitimate position to ask Him anything. BUT there is a qualifying statement that says that first and foremost I have to love Him and then there is a need for me to have something from the Father that will facilitate my asking. Basically, putting it this way: that anything that I ask of the Father that is for the Father, the Father is going to give me.

God has put something into the heart of man that is like a shut door. That door is called the world...

Verse 17, *Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive.* The amount of truth that you are going to receive is going to be dependent on how much world you do not have.

Turn with me over to Ecclesiastes 3:10-11, *I have seen the travail, which God hath given to the sons of men to be exercised in it. ¹¹He hath made every thing beautiful in his time: also he hath set the world in their heart, so that no man can find out the work that God maketh from the beginning to the end.* If I may paraphrase this in my language, that means that God has put something into the heart of man that is like a shut door. That door is called the world and as long as that door is in that position, man is hindered from finding out about God from the beginning to the end. It says "God hath." Well, if God did it, then God can fix it. But God did it for a reason because He does not want to give His mysteries to just anybody. God says, "Do not cast your pearls before swine" (Matthew 7:6). He is not talking about pigs and pearls. He is talking about values and that those things are mysteries in God and humanity will not appreciate them. I mean, what value does a pearl have to a pig? Did you ever see a pig wearing a pearl necklace? Or, a pearl bracelet upon a pig's leg? How about this - have you seen a pig with a pearl nose-ring or a pearl earring?

So, God is not going to throw these things that are about God before just anybody and everybody. We have a situation

in the Bible that tells us that. Do you remember when the people rebelled against God? They set their hearts in one accord to build a tower to reach the very heavens (Genesis 11:4). God said, *Go to, let us go down, and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another's speech* (Genesis 11:7). It wasn't just the natural tower that they were building. There was a very spiritual position of understanding and excellence that they wanted to attain.

Let us go back yet even further in mankind's history. Let

What miserable creatures we would be had God not made a provision.

us go back to the very beginning when man was walking and talking with God in the garden. Everything was fine until somebody did something that they weren't supposed to do. When they did that, they transgressed against God, and for that transgression, they were driven from the garden. God commented in that driving out, "Let Us drive them out lest they..." (Genesis 3:22-24). Lest they what? Lest they live forever in this condition. So, there was this situation that God had to do something about. He didn't just drive Adam and Eve out of the garden, but He placed cherubim with flaming swords at the entrance.

Ecclesiastes is reiterating not only the situation that humanity is in, but the solution to the dilemma; one must go through the swords of fire to enter. I could just as well say it another way. The world that is in us must be subjected to the flame of the angelic sword in order for one to enter into that realm from which humanity was driven.

We see the same theme again in Romans 8:20, *For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope.* God could do that because He had already made a provision for this situation in the beginning. Revelation 13:8 says that the Lamb was slain from the foundation of the world. What miserable creatures we would be had God not made a provision. Yet, He went to such great lengths to hide the thing (I Corinthians 2:8), and then turned around and gave us the key to

unlock the door.

Do you remember Christian in Pilgrim's Progress? He was given a sword, a shield, a helmet, and a key. He was given a golden key and all he had to do was use the key to get out of the door to escape from the dungeon of Despair. I think it is very symbolic of our position. I think many of us find ourselves in the dungeon (pit) of Despair (humanity). Maybe your humanity is not as strong as mine, but I go from one despairing situation to another. I get up in the morning and my truck won't start. I finally get it started only to find out that I should have just left it sitting there because it is not running right. It amazes me how quickly things change; I can go into a store and by the time I come out of the store my truck, which had been running fine before, won't start up and run right now. I'll finally get it running and go out to the farm with my day planned. You know, you're going to do this and going to do that, but out of nowhere come these rain clouds. All around the farm there is sunshine, yet overhead there are clouds and rain. Now, all the while these things are happening, I have a key in my pocket.

So, I was watching this show of Pilgrim's Progress and I was thinking, "Hey, there's a key in your pocket!" Yet, he was wallowing around in his misery, giving up all hope. I was sitting there thinking, "What is wrong with this guy? He has this key right in front of his face. That is me! I mean, that is me!"

Jesus said, *I will pray the Father...* (John 14:16). "I will pray for you to the Father." God has already done it; He is already at that point of intercession for me. Not that I would be delivered some miraculous mighty way or be healed. You know, if I really want to have a day of overcoming, if I really want to test my overcoming ability I just have to go look at my farm bankbook. This account has a vacuum cleaner on it and it has about a 5 horsepower motor on it. Even water doesn't evaporate that fast.

I've got the Holy Spirit. What is the Holy Spirit for? To fix my truck? To fix my bank account? I suppose if I was in a church that moved in the "Name It and Claim It" Holy Spirit, then I could probably utilize that "Name It and Claim It" the-

ology. No, it wouldn't work - not for me! There is a higher position, a higher place that God is calling us to.

God gives us the Holy Spirit to be able to communicate with us. Let me tell you something. We are like a one-way street. Communication is always going up.

"Oh, God, I am in a crisis! I am suffering in my body! I am suffering in my wallet! I am suffering in my relationships! Nobody loves me, God! I am so misunderstood!"

How about this one?

"God, You are the only One that I can come to because You are the only One that understands me!"

If we would just be quiet for a moment, God would say, "Yes. I really do understand you and you have a wrong concept."

The purpose for the Holy Spirit is for God to be able to communicate with us.

I love the book of Genesis. Somebody told me that the entire Bible is written in the first five chapters and it is just because of humanities hard-headedness, or I could just as well say hard heartedness, that we have all of the other books. Let's read Genesis 3:8. This is an interesting verse. *And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden.* There is a position of communication that God had to establish with humanity. As you read the life and the history of Jesus, you are impressed with the fact that there is very little said about Jesus in His talking with God. Yet there are several instances where Jesus says that God talked to Him. He said, "The words that I speak are the words that I hear My Father speak" (John 12:49). He said, in essence, "My thoughts are not my thoughts but they are the thoughts that the Father is thinking." So it is not that He wasn't talking to God, but the emphasis is on the talking of God to Jesus. It is not so much the aspect of man talking to God as much as God talking to man. I think God is the only One Who could have a one-sided conversation and it would be a full dialogue.

Number 1: **God is omnipotent.**

Number 2: **God is omnipresent.**

Number 3: **God is omniscient.**

Man has none of these qualities.

So, what is it that man could talk to God about that God doesn't already know? Now, you might think that I am kind of exaggerating it and pushing it to the limit to make a point. The purpose of conversation, from what I understand, is mutual sharing of information.

I am in conversation with a brother here and I say, "Brother, how was your day today?"

So, he begins to tell me, "Well, it was good!" or, "It was bad." Or, "It was mediocre." He tells me some various circumstances, informing me of something that I do not know. Then he asks me, "Well, how was your day?" and I begin to communicate with him the information about my day that he doesn't know.

But God was there when I got up. He walked with me all through the day until the time that He came to talk with me. Now the above communication is somewhat moot point in talking with God, don't you think? What in actuality should be happening in the communication that we are having with God is God moving into our being in some form or manner that is beyond our understanding and imparting information about Himself.

All right, turn with me back into John 14:16. Jesus said, *And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; ¹⁷Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.* Then He says in verse 18, *I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.* In John 17, Jesus reiterates again the aspects of the Word, or the thought of communication that He has with the Father. Verse 6 says, *I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word.* Skip down to verse 8,

**The purpose
for the Holy
Spirit is for
God to be able
to communicate
with us.**

For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received them (the words), and have known surely that I came out from thee, and they have believed that thou didst send me.

**The understanding
of the Holy Spirit
is that He is first
and foremost
a vehicle of truth.**

So, the understanding of the Holy Spirit is that He is first and foremost a vehicle of truth and that truth is not about things.

Maybe I should stop here and kind of jump back a little bit. There are many things that happen that are created because of the Holy Spirit and what He is. But they are not main issues. They are side products; they are like byproducts. There are many examples I can give you in the spiritual sense. The gift of healing, the gift of prophecy, discernment, word of wisdom, healing, all of these are byproducts. They are something that happens because of the Holy Spirit, because of Who He is. They are not the reason for the Holy Spirit.

Now, man has taken and built denominations around these side issues or byproducts. We have a major church denomination called the Pentecostal Church that is built on the basis of the baptism of the Holy Spirit and speaking in tongues. So, if you come into the Pentecostal Church, you might get salvation and you might get filled with the Holy Spirit. There are people who get baptized in the Holy Spirit and some way or another they have the liberty to flow in healing; so they will go and buy a tent and they will create an organization and go from town to town healing people. So we end up with the Church of the Holy Spirit and Healing.

There was a man called A. A. Allen that had a healing ministry. He built a healing empire down in Southern California called Miracle Valley. People were healed, people were delivered, but for the most part, it did nothing for their position of righteousness. Why? Because they did not understand the concept, nor was the church teaching the purpose for which the Holy Spirit was given.

There was another organization that called themselves

The Holy Spirit Teaching Mission. (They were also known by some other names.) They believed in the casting out of demons. It became very popular in the 1970s. It was Basham and Mumford as well as Derek Prince. They would go around and get people baptized in the Holy Spirit (maybe) and then they would start casting out demons and devils. When you came into their meetings they handed out towels at the door because when the “spirit” began to move, people began to retch up their demons. There were some big hotels that began to bar them from coming, because every time they came they had to change the carpeting. That organization became full of sin, homosexuality and all kinds of degradation. Why? Well, if you use something the wrong way, you are going to have repercussions.

You know, I am a carpenter by trade. I have been a carpenter for many, many years and I have a saw that is very, very powerful. It is a motorized hand-saw. It is not like these little piddly things that you guys have that you call saws. This is a “man’s saw.” This saw, if you don’t know how to use it right, will kick back on you.

As a carpenter, when you need to cut a board, you don’t usually take the time to place it on a table before cutting. The reason is that you have been doing this type of thing for so long that you are fairly accurate with your cuts. You lean the board up against your leg and you start cutting. Occasionally the saw will kick on the board which will come back on you. If you are not careful it will come right back into your leg. That is why they put a guard on it. But “us professionals” that want to move faster (you see, the guard on the saw slows you down), we will put the guard up and stick a nail in it and then start cutting away. Sometimes the professionals get careless and they end up in the hospital. Well, it is the same with the tools

If you don’t use the tools that God gives you properly and in the way that they are supposed to be use, it can not only harm you, it can kill you.

that God gives you. If you don't use them properly and in the way that they are supposed to be used, it can not only harm you, it can kill you.

There was another move that went on and it was called the "Discerning of Spirits." I have found that if you are not grounded in truth... Now, I am not talking about the revelation of the end-time and all of that, but truth about God. Then the things that God gives you can be perverted and subversive and used to divert you. There was a person I knew who had the ability to discern and the Lord would speak words of knowledge to them about people and circumstances, but that person wasn't grounded in the reality of God, nor were they using their gift to discern God. They began to use their gift for their own benefit and profit. They were a Blood-bought person, filled with the Holy Spirit, but slowly and surely I saw the gift that God gave them being usurped and taken by another spirit.

The Spirit is given to us that we might understand the concept of who God is, what God is, and how God works.

It didn't become a spirit of discernment, but it began to change into a divining spirit. By the outward appearance they looked very similar. Don't you remember the spirit that was following Paul around heralding the messengers of the gospel? "Hearken unto these men. They are men that are sent by the most high God" (Acts 16:17). It was not a spirit of discernment, it was a divining spirit.

In other words, an evil spirit.

The Spirit is not given to us that we might discern spirits or heal or have words of knowledge or move in the prophetic realm. It is given to us that we might understand the concept of who God is, what God is, and how God works. If we would use our Holy Spirit to find out more about God, we would find ourselves in a better and more secure position than what we find ourselves in today.

I will tell you another thing. The more that God communicates to you about Him, the more you will find wrong

with yourself. The more that you find wrong with yourself, because you are communicating with God, the more there is a desire that is building in your heart to be more like God and less like yourself. We thought that the Holy Spirit was given to us so that we might know the faults of the people around us.

You know, I was talking to somebody today about dreams. I was telling them that dreamers are often like runners. They are like couriers, but sometimes the dreamers really want to know what they are dreaming. They want to understand it; they want to figure it out, but a lot of times a dreamer dreams a dream that has nothing to do with them and it is really none of their business. All they are to do is to dream a dream and to send it off to whoever is supposed to look at that dream and receive some sort of understanding. One of the things that the church, as well as this church, is lacking is the manifestations of some of these gifts.

Now, don't go out of here saying, "What gift do I have?"

There was a phase in the history of the church where everyone was looking for their ministry.

"Am I gifted in prophecy? Do I have a ministry of healing? Do I have a ministry of (whatever)?"

Everybody was fasting and praying to find out what their ministry was. My goodness. All they really had to do was read their Bible. The Bible tells us that our ministry is to minister unto God. We minister unto God first, God ministers unto us and what God does in us ministers to those that are around us. It has nothing to do with me ministering to you. The more that I am ministering to God, the more I am ministering to you, because the more that I minister to God and the more that God ministers to me, the more I am changing and the more of God you are getting because you are getting less of me. That is the way it is supposed to work. That is the way it is supposed to operate. If you are ministering to God, then you can be sitting here in the congregation and the Word and the Spirit of God can flow and move in the midst. It can touch this one and a word of prophecy can flow out of our mouth and into the arena where we can hear God.

The Spirit of God moves in this one, she comes up, she

sees a vision.

This one over here has a word of knowledge.

This one over here has a testimony of confirmation.

Hallelujah. BUT I FIRST HAVE TO FIND THAT POSITION OF MINISTRY TO GOD!

God gave me the Holy Spirit, not that I might be able to speak in tongues and that you could interpret. The Holy Spirit is given for my benefit; the Holy Spirit is given for your benefit; not that we can impress people and speak in this strange and funny language. But it is given to us that we might make intercession for ourselves. That is why the Holy Spirit is given. The Holy Spirit is something that is very personal to you and God. The manifestation of the Holy Spirit in you is like fingerprints. They say that there are no two fingerprints that are alike. You can smell God. You can taste God. All of these things are gifts of the Holy Spirit.

So, when the Holy Spirit comes and begins to move in our service, the Word begins to flow. Then, a brother gets up and confirms the Word of God. He didn't know what I was going to be preaching. He didn't have the idea that we were in a military operation and yet God tells him that it is a Holy Spirit invasion. There should be multiplicity of most types of manifestations that are going on. There are more of those, but some of you are sitting on your Holy Spirit. You are just sitting on Him. He wants to get out and you just sit on Him. It is like you have glue on your seats or nails in your shoes and when you do that, you grieve the Holy Spirit. You don't know what it will do for you or for anyone else in the congregation. A lot of you do not even believe that it is the Holy Spirit.

I hope you won't get this wrong, but I do not have to fear deception. I did not say that I could not be deceived. I didn't say that. I said that I do not have to fear deception. The Bible says, *perfect love casteth out* (all) *fear* (I John 4:18). I have to believe that if I really, really desire to know God, that God has a responsibility towards me. God has a responsibility towards me. Now, I have a responsibility towards God. I have to keep myself in the Word. I have to keep myself in prayer. I have to be fasting and praying and seeking the face of God. I

have to have, not only a routine of fasting, but I have to have special times of fasting where I am fasting. Not for the sake of changing somebody's mind that they believe like me, but that I might be changed to believe in God. I do not want God to be a figment of my imagination. I do not want God to be some theoretical or intellectual concept.

I want to walk with God! I want to hear God talking to me! I want to feel the presence of the Living God! I want to be like John, close to the Lord's heart! I want to be like Paul, understanding the mysteries of what it is that God is like! Not for the sake of revelation or knowing what is going to happen in the future, BUT I WANT TO KNOW THIS ENTITY THAT I CALL GOD! My Bible tells me that if I want to know God, God is going to reveal Himself to me.

Now, can I trust Him? Can I believe Him? Can I put my life, my soul, my salvation into His hands and believe that He can keep me? If I can't, then I have to get to a place where I can. When

Jesus said that He was going to give us the Spirit of truth, He meant just exactly that. You know, I really think the organization of religion must take pages out of the Bible to change it so drastically, in order to believe some of the things that they believe. For it is very clear, it is very concise.

Paul said it this way, "Fools, don't you know that a seed has to fall into the ground and die before it will produce anything of fruit?" (I Corinthians 15:36).

A bushel of corn is probably a 50 pound sack **about this tall, this wide, that deep** of corn. A one bushel bag can plant maybe one to one and a half acres of ground. If I have a good harvest, it will give me back 100 bushels. One bushel of 50 pounds will give me 100 bushels, making 5,000 pounds. That will fill up one of those great big dumpsters that you put trash in. That is all from one bushel bag. What does this say about us and what it is that we can produce? It says of the church in Acts that after the baptism of the Holy Spirit, they "turned the

My Bible tells me that if I want to know God, God is going to reveal Himself to me.

world upside down” (Acts 17:6). This is because the Spirit of Pentecost gave them the power to turn the world upside down.

Several years ago, Leonard Ravenhill said that there are something like 262,000,000 Pentecostals who profess to be filled with the Holy Spirit and yet what they accomplished is a shadow compared to the fact of what the few in the beginning did. Well, let’s not judge them too harshly until we look in the mirror. What are you doing with your Holy Spirit? It is not to promote your church. It is not to promote your ministry. It is not even to give you revelation of the end-time. The Holy Spirit is given to you for the purpose of glorifying the Father.

My question to you is, what are you going to do now with your Holy Spirit? God bless you.

What are you doing with your Holy Spirit? It is not to promote your church. It is not to promote your ministry. It is not even to give you revelation of the end-time. The Holy Spirit is given to you for the purpose of glorifying the Father.

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I am going to show you God's space program. There is a law in the world called gravity. Gravity is like the pressure of sin: it is always trying to reduce you to one common level. You ask an engineer who designs buildings and one of the major things to be considered is the gravitational pull. It is actually a down-ward pressure that is going to be applied to the building. So, in order for a rocket to blast off of the earth, there has to be a force that has the strength to push it up, out and beyond the pull of the weight that is upon it...

There is therefore now no condemnation (*judgment*) to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. ²For the law of the Spirit of life (*spiritual thrust*) in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death (*gravity*).

Romans 8:1-2