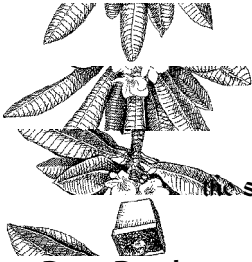


Keeping In Touch

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

February 27, 2005



Info Center

As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. 1 Peter 4:10

Dear Readers,

February 27, 2005

We are pleased to bring you this bulletin! It contains very many interesting, captivating and thought-provoking articles! Please read further to find some testimonies regarding ministering in Jamaica. Many of us have written about the recent conference in Florida and it brings to remembrance what we heard there. We have an excellent word brought by Brother Burt from the Jamaica Convention. Look down at the Table of Contents for a list of all the other good things contained in here! Don't forget to send us your favorite recipes for our new cookbook!

We welcome anything you would want to submit for possible publication in the bulletin. Submissions for the next bulletin are due March 8, 2005. Please remember your children and encourage them to write for the Kids' Chronicles!

Please send any submissions to:

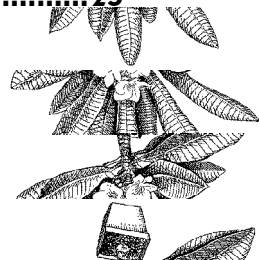
News Bulletin, PO Box 409, Mahomet, IL 61853

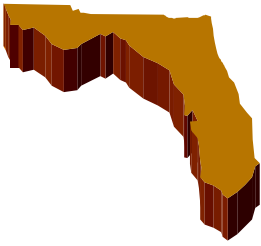
or you may reach us via e-mail at:

KITBulletin@truevine.net

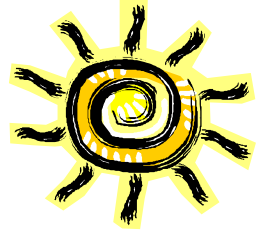
Table of Contents

| | |
|--|----|
| Being Led by the Spirit of God - By Nathaniel Chattic..... | 22 |
| Florida 2004..... | 2 |
| Thank You From Jamaica..... | 42 |
| The Desires - By Kate Trotter..... | 51 |
| The TV Psalm..... | 21 |
| Word: Say Not Unto Me Sleep On - Burt Asbill..... | 25 |





Florida 2004



By Wesley Schell

A big sigh, that sounded more like a moan, came forth out of the near exhausted mountain climber. The climber had thought the task of climbing this mountain wouldn't be too difficult at first. So he had prepared a backpack of miscellaneous items to take with him. But, in reality, the task was proving more difficult than he had anticipated. After toiling for a time up the steep slope of the mountain, the climber was nearly exhausted because the resistance of his backpack increased with each step. The weight of the backpack was draining his muscles of the energy needed to complete the climb. He decided to sit down a while to rest. While resting, he began to search his backpack. Only it comes to his awareness, the items in there are not for mountain climbing, but scuba diving. Realizing that he is going up a mountain, not under the ocean, he casts off the scuba gear. In his exhilaration he exclaims, "I feel lighter and refreshed to climb again."

Of course we are not speaking of a man actually physically climbing up a mountain, nor do we believe that a person who is going to climb a mountain would pack scuba gear. But it relates a spiritual problem that we all have in some measure. We are speaking of climbing the spiritual mountain that brings us into the presence of Yahweh, and in ourselves, we are all as ill equipped as this man who had the scuba gear. Micah 4:2, *And many nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.* The mountain can be related to a person's destiny in God. In order to reach the top/ fulfill the destiny, every hindrance and weight of this world must be cast aside.

Isn't it interesting that many of the items in the soul of man will hinder him in his trek up the mountain? This idea first came to me after the Jamaica Seminar in June of 2004. During Jamaica, I surrendered a portion of my will to God and dedicated myself to Him to fulfill the destiny I have in God. I covenanted with God through water baptism to die to myself: i.e. aspirations in life and desires. After Jamaica, God searched the depths of my soul and brought to light hindrances that I held onto from

my rebellion. Some of them were pacts that I made with friends, thought patterns of wickedness, wrong motives for doing actions, whether good or bad, and many others. But it took God to reveal them to me. Hebrews 12:1, ***Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us.*** With all that, the thought of breaking more ties that I have to this world and removing the excess baggage prompted me to go to Florida.

The Bible states in Hebrews 10:25, ***Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more as ye see the day approaching.*** Do you see that day approaching? If your answer is yes, then you should have a specific desire for the assembling together. God has been telling us that we are not ready, and conventions are an opportunity of preparation. One of many reasons why we are not ready is division among the Body of Christ. I know this personally because I was encouraged during Florida 2004 to overcome this with a particular Christian. Before Florida, we never really spent time together, or even talked much beyond hi/bye. It was God's timing to change my stinking attitude of having my nose too high in the air to acknowledge others and PRAISE GOD for it. I prayed and prayed, but nothing changed until I changed my attitude towards the person and chose to love them. Now one month later, our relationship has skyrocketed to where we can have conversations together and enjoy each other's company. We both know that God is shattering our jagged edges by rubbing us together. As tough as it is sometimes, we will overcome. Through this experience, I found out that I was my own worst enemy because the person is a wonderful Christian, loves Jesus, sings praises frequently, and serves God daily.

The principal of preparation is an on-going revelation that the Lord has been speaking to me at the conferences that I have been attending. The biggest portion of being ready involves obedience to the Heavenly Calling. Other than that, some everyday ways to preparing are to think upon God, specifically deliverance He has brought to your soul, the events of the Cross, the Blood, listen to Bible on CD, listen to meetings, or reading the Word. Ephesians 5:26, ***That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word.*** John 17:17, ***sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.*** Those two verses explain the internal process the Word does to our soul. This is why listening to the Bible or a meeting is so much more beneficial to the overcomer than TV or the radio. These godly habits allow Him to impart His virtue while removing our dross. John 3:30, ***God must increase, but I must decrease.*** Think of a time that this has happened in your own walk with Jesus. My greatest example of God increasing and me decreasing is during Jamaica. I attended the entire seminar (20 days). I didn't have full understanding of

what was spoken, but I had a desire for more of God. Before Jamaica, I was living my life for myself. There were very rough edges that needed to be smoothed out. During Jamaica, I didn't ask for personal prayer, but God moved marvelously to bring deliverance to my soul. From Jamaica until now, the Holy Ghost has been smoothing out my jaggedness and disciplining my thoughts, attitudes, actions, tongue, and conduct. Therefore, the assembling together is extremely important to me.

"The time is NOW," said a prophecy in Florida. This alarm resounds within my soul, giving me the awareness and the impetus to prepare myself; that my soul may be presented holy, blameless, and without spot unto Adoni. I believe that the time of the sealing of the servants of God is coming to a close. Revelation 7:3, ***Saying hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads.*** This tells me there is a specific time frame in God of the sealing. It has a beginning and an end. I want to be sealed! God has made a provision for everyone who desires to be one with God, to become one with Him. John 17:21, ***That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.*** I want to be one with Him; therefore I need sanctification, for I know I am not ready, but I desire to be; which is better than believing that I am, only to find out at the end of the day that I was not. My destiny in God is to be His son: part of the 100 fold! John 1:12, ***But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name.*** I have received Him; therefore being a son is available to me.

The call to prepare myself will not be sounded forever. Eventually, the door will be shut. Matthew 25:10, ***And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with Him to the marriage: and the door was shut.*** This is the story of the five wise and five foolish virgins. The five wise were allowed entrance to be wedded unto Jesus, while the five foolish were denied access even though they were virgins. The difference is based upon having oil in the vessel, meaning the Holy Spirit in our souls. This door of being Jesus' bride will be shut to everyone who is not prepared with oil. This is very serious. What can be done? According to John 7:17, if a person desires to do God's will, God is obligated to show His perfect will. Once shown, it's your choice to obey or rebel. Obedience is the key to deliverance. 1 John 1:7, ***But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.*** In order to walk in the light, we have to be obeying Jesus. Disobedience would be walking in darkness. While walking in obedience, God purifies and develops the character qualities in the soul, which will be required down the road, through circumstances of tribulation.

Does man have a responsibility in overcoming or is it all on God?

Yes, he does. Revelation 19:7, ***Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honor to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and His wife hath made herself ready.*** It is my job to prepare for the marriage. What do I do, because God is telling me that I am not ready? Get all frantic and run around like a chicken without a head-aimlessly? No! A fire is kindled in my soul to sanctify it. 1Thessalonians 5:21, ***Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.*** ²² ***Abstain from all appearance of evil.*** ²³ ***And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.*** The word “sanctify” means to purify, consecrate, hallow, and be holy. God is faithful to reveal my shortcomings, thus keeping me in a state of humility, repenting every single day, asking God to change my nature to be like His. I am getting serious with God about the condition of my soul and what I am doing with my time. I don’t want to do anything that will hinder God’s Kingdom from bursting through my flesh.

The scripture says in I Corinthians 11:28, ***But let every man examine himself.*** I find the need to examine my actions daily. Beyond my examination, the Holy Ghost searches deeper than I ever could. Proverbs 20:27, ***The spirit of man is the candle of the Lord, searching all the inward parts of the belly-soul.*** Whatever God reveals that is wrong, I take to Him immediately for deliverance. If words of death slip out of my mouth, wrong attitudes are expressed, or a corrupt thought flashes into my mind, I cry out to God asking Him to deliver my soul from this wretchedness. Deliver Me! Deliver Me! Deliver Me! I believe that God can transform my soul, because He has! The only way I can be like God is to repent of me and change my ways as He changes my soul. He will not change. I have to do all the changing. James 1:17, ***Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.***

In Nebraska, God admonished me to consider my ways. Haggai 1:2, ***Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, saying, This people say, The time is not come, the time that the LORD’S house should be built.*** ⁴ ***Is it time for you, O ye, to dwell in your cieled houses, and this house lie waste?*** ⁵ ***Now therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts; Consider your ways.*** ⁶ ***Ye have sown much, and bring in little; ye eat, but ye have not enough; ye drink, but ye are not filled with drink; ye clothe you, but there is none warm; and he that earneth wages earneth wages to put it into a bag with holes.*** In verse 5 the word “ways” is “derek,” #1870 in the Strongs, and it means “course of life, mode of action, conversation, or custom.” How much of my “way” has been considered?

To consider my ways, I need a standard to compare myself against, the standard being the nature of Christ. Being transformed into His likeness is my primary goal in life. Everything that my hands are put to has to line up with this goal. Throughout my life, opportunities have and will

arise and they have to be put to a test. God has not left us without a measure, without the means by which every effort can be judged. The test is how they compare to the stature of the fullness of Christ. Does the opportunity benefit or hinder the Kingdom in my life? Will participating bring forth His glory? Or will doing it leave me on the curb with my thumb sticking up trying to hitchhike into the Kingdom? Discerning which path, requires being led by the Spirit. The opportunities that are opened by God need to be walked out and those shut need to be left in the past, not thinking of them anymore. Luke 9:62, ***No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looketh back, is fit for the kingdom of God.*** I had this happen last fall in a life-changing situation. God brought me to Mahomet in the beginning of the summer. I went in faith, not knowing how long the stay was going to be. I didn't know anything other than I was working on the farm and living with Mr. Schneider. Ignorance is the greatest benefit sometimes. Well, June passed, and July was gone even faster. August was upon me and school starts, but what about the farm? I went to God and also sought council. The elders could not make the choice for me. They pointed me to God. I wanted them to tell me what to do. It is much easier to obey man's voice than to hear the voice of God for myself. I understand now that it is a scriptural position and that is very important to hear, for every man must work out his own salvation with fear and trembling. I have to say that I am finding the joy of the Lord in hearing for myself now directly from God or by an external witness. No external voice was provided because God wanted me to make the choice by faith. This eliminated the excuse of saying that man told me to do this, not God. I was extremely frantic. It is very scary and frustrating riding the fence. One day all your thoughts are toward moving this way and you are listening to anything that comes into the mind. Then on the next day, the exact opposite is running through the mind. Total confusion. A sound mind is not possible while you are riding a fence for the devil is bombarding your thought process to convince you to go in that direction, while God is opening a door to see if you will enter. To do or not to do was the question every day. I would wear myself out just thinking about it, stressed was minute to what I felt like. I had to choose between two options; one to go back to the University of Dubuque in my senior year, or to stay in Mahomet and work on the farm. But beyond that and overshadowing those options was my desire to serve God and fulfill my destiny in Christ, because He paid a debt on the cross that I freely received, He and He alone snatched my soul from the devourer. Thank you, Jesus. I had peace in my heart to stay in Mahomet, but I was not fully ready to make the decision because I knew it would cost me my right to my life. After weighing out what it would cost me, I decided to stay in Mahomet. God has removed the desire to go to school and planted me with deep roots in Mahomet. Since then (5 months) I know without a doubt I made the correct choice in God's eyes. The price, my right to myself, I paid for staying in Mahomet

was not in vain. God has changed the composition of my soul to the degree that I do not talk, act, or think like I did 5 months ago. I am convinced that God will not give a man more than he can handle and that the price needed to be paid to gain more of God is fully worth it. Crucify the flesh along with the cares of this world, pick up my cross and follow Him daily.

God is stretching out His hand for anyone to grab. Each and every person is responsible for hearing and obeying Yahweh's voice. You have to make the move. Choose life, not death. Go to God and ask Him what you must do to prepare yourself. You will not want to miss what God has in store for His people. Desire it! Live it!

Also, on a side note, during Florida I officially joined Mr. Herrig's filming team. My first opportunity for being involved in that ministry was offered to me in Nebraska because he was short-handed for the first meeting. My duty was to keep the camera focused where the action was: prophesy, preaching, or anyone who is opening up to God. When I finished the first meeting, the Herrigs told me that I was baptized with fire on the camera and congratulated me for keeping the camera stayed on Mr. Asbill. This encouraged me and opened up my desire to film again. Then in Florida I joined. This blesses my soul because it is another way of serving. The videos and tapes have a way of going beyond the realm of the meetings and touching people around the world. Thank you, Mr. Herrig, for the privilege.

Florida 2004

By Melissa Trotter

I went to the convention in Florida without any specific expectations, just a burning desire to hear the mind of the Lord and to experience the uplifting in the spirit from being with the extended Body of Christ. I also wanted to find out if the Lord would confirm what He had been saying to me individually and in our home fellowship. I must say that God fulfilled my prayer to the highest point of what I asked. Then, to top it off, He overflowed my cup many times over! In fact, words can hardly express the conviction and the filling in my soul. But, here is what has greatly impressed me about what I heard in Florida.

First of all, we are in the last days. Those who have heard this overcomer message, this end-time word, know that at some point, we must become sons of God and be like Jesus Christ. Well, the time is coming fast upon us and we are not ready. We are not ready to have Christ fully manifested in our bodies. We still have way too much flesh and world and devil inside of us. We have not submitted to and obeyed the Word of the Lord that has come to us in the past. We are way down low and we should be up high. God is calling a people together to be the Body of Christ and yet we have not dealt with our individual hearts. We still have resentment, bitterness, gossip, backbiting going on between brethren

ren and it may destroy us.

God is looking for a people who have laid down their own lives, who have fasted, not just the food of one meal or a few days, but have fasted, or given up their whole lives, who have fasted their own aspirations, who have drawn out their souls to the hungry. We have this individual responsibility but on the corporate level, it is even greater. God wants to express Himself through a body, and use a people to express Himself to the whole world. The people of God must come together and act like a Body, rather than being so concerned with each person's own family, own well-being, own house and piece of ground.

As I thought about this, I thought how much we, as Americans, really do operate on our "declaration of independence." It is a thought pattern that gets integrated in all realms of life. Me, myself, and I on my own island, not dependent on anyone else, free to do my own thing. We are NOT free to do our own thing. We are supposed to be slaves of Jesus Christ, attaining to the high calling of being His bride, a corporate bride, and yet, how much do I love, agape love, my fellow believer?

This verse is pertinent for our time. I John 3:2-3, ***Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.*** What sticks out is that phrase, "purifieth himself." If we have this hope in us, being *like him*, we must purify ourselves. I think that the word "purify" encompasses a very large arena of things in our souls and in our lives. Ephesians 4:31-32 was quoted at the convention, ***Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.***

In all of this, it must be understood that there is a very real devil who hates us. He wants to see the Body of Christ ruined. He is the king of diversion and subversion. The convention started out with a message concerning the spirit of division. This spirit is working overtime because a divided people cannot conquer anything. Even simple displeasure at the way someone is acting or irritation about the way something was done starts to grow in the heart, which soon comes out of the mouth as gossip in talking about it to another person. Then you have defiled that person and they must deal with the problem that you caused them. It was said that the devil loves to pick out faults and magnify them in our minds and then talk about them to somebody. This all destroys the body. It was said that maybe the most critical area is between husbands and wives. Because of the familiarity, we talk too much and bring many problems to our spouse.

A brother started a message reading from Micah 7:6, ***For the son dishonoureth the father, the daughter riseth up against her mother, the***

daughter in law against her mother in law; a man's enemies are the men of his own house. He said that this is an extreme scripture, but we live in an extreme time and we are an extreme people. We have a birth-right, something precious, yet we do not even know the fullness of it. We do have an earnest expectation. With that encouragement, the essence of the word that came forth is that the enemy is working very hard to separate and divide parents and children, people of our own house. The warfare against the devil is hard and will be hard, but God promises to deliver our children. Things are coming that are going to rock us. All hell is going to break loose, but our prayer can be that God would forewarn us. Prepare yourself to battle! Watch as a good watchman. Pray that God would help us to stand our watch because it is our fault if something happens during our watch. The devil is walking as a roaring lion, a lying lion. We resist him by staying steadfast and immovable. He likes to stir us up where we are weak so we need the Holy Ghost. Whenever you find a devil in you, cast him out. This is the season of casting out the devil. "I don't want you, devil. I have no part in you." **Never be tired of repenting and casting out the devil.**

Another part in all of the preaching that stuck out to me was the encouragement of how to overcome. One more thought I had was that all this chastening and reproof we have heard, besides the remedy, is very good because it means that God's mercy is still available, that we have the opportunity still to overcome. The thing you have to overcome is the you in you. I have great power in the Lord but it needs to be mixed with faith. I John 1:7, *But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.* Walk in the light. The light reveals the sin and if you are in fellowship, the Blood of Yeshua cleans you. The next point to follow this is Psalm 119:105, Thy *word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.* Our minds must be stayed upon God. Play the Bible in your home, in your car, in your walkman. A righteous song may be in your heart. Meditate upon it and sing it. The Word of God in your mind will lift you out of worries, concern and stress.

There is power in the spoken word. Speak positively. God has put in us the spirit of prophecy (Revelation 11:3). Be careful what we say. We can speak positive to our children. For example, "You shall be an overcomer." "You are a son of God." I could think up a lot more. Maybe we should make a list of choice phrases to speak over our children, our spouses, our fellowships!

We may say, "What can I pray? What can I do?" A good answer is, "Pray about your wretchedness. Fast and pray, fast and pray until you hear the voice of the Lord and meet with Him. Cry out to the Lord for the Holy Spirit to fill your vessel. Tell Him you want to know Him." God desires His sons to hear and obey His voice.

More than one person ministered concerning the fact that the sealing of the servants of God is just about over. We are coming to the end of this dispensation. In reading the word by Brother Kotrla in this bulletin, he makes it so clear that the sons of God will come forth at the beginning of the 3 ½ years, which we believe will soon be upon us! When the door is opened, those who are ready and waiting will go in with Him to the marriage and the door will be shut and that will be it.

As the days of the convention unfolded, there was much reminder to pray and prayer for President Bush. It was said that it is necessary that we continue to fast and pray for the President, for his life and for wisdom for him, that God, who is light, would overcome the forces of darkness.

For me personally, the most exciting word I heard at the convention was about love, because it was exactly what God had been talking to me about. It is so encouraging to know that you are really hearing the Holy Spirit talking to you. It was a big confirmation of the tremendous need for agape love in our lives. I believe this message is foundational for functioning as the Body of Christ and also expressing Christ to the people around us. God's love is so encompassing, it must permeate every area of our lives. I John 4:16, ***God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.*** Man is the only creature that God created to love, but our love is on such a low plane. Agape love is so much higher than what we have. When our bodies are sick, we should put the sickness before God and allow the life of God to flow so that we are healed. Life of God is love of God. When we move in love, it is the highest form of holiness that we have. Under the pressure of hate is when our love shows at its greatest. When we can impart love to someone who is cruel and hateful to us, we have attained a higher level. Love will cancel hate. Love thinketh no evil. Agape love is the kind spoken about in I Corinthians 13. The love of God in you will deliver you from every carnal thing. Hate must go! Trouble will always be around you but there are two ways to go – life, peace, joy, love, praise or distress, worry, sadness, pain. Of course, the first is the presence of love in your heart and the last is the lack of love. Jesus said, "If you love Me, keep My commandments. Pray for them that hate you and persecute you and despitefully use you." A question we may ask is, "How can I turn my phileo love into agape love?" Think of your own child or brother or sister and turn that compassion into love for the other human being who is hurting you. Love is not passive. It is a force, a power. If you say that you don't love your spouse, then you don't love God. Hate is anything that falls less than love. The key is love of God. IF we love God, we will keep His commandments.

My prayer as I publish this in the bulletin is that the words would go forth and produce life in the readers. This convention was truly a huge stepping stone in my life. It has greatly contributed to my zeal for the Lord's house. My whole time in Florida with my children and the breth-

ren there was a great experience and a learning one. It expanded the borders of my tent, so to speak. I thank God for the privilege of being there and His wonderful care of me.

About Our Father's Business

By Stacy Asbill

For me, personally, the December conference in Florida was one that I went to with the prevailing thought being that I desperately needed God to move on my behalf. I am not referring to the natural circumstances and things that surround me, but I am referring to the change needed in my own soul. I believe that God met and continues to meet this cry of my heart.

My Florida Report might be a little bit different in that it is more of a testimony than anything else. As I previously stated, I went to the convention with some definite desires on my heart, but as the meetings began and progressed, I found myself more out of the meetings than in them! Our youngest child spent a good portion of her time throwing fits and screaming and our second-to-youngest had recently been potty-trained, so we were frequently taking trips to the bathroom. It seemed like just when I would be able to sit back down with one, the other would have to be taken care of. Up and down, up and down, up and down... bits and pieces of the Word would reach my ears but it seemed like I wasn't able to get the continuity of what was fully being said. After about halfway through the convention, I was so discouraged and began to wonder why I was even there. It was during one of the many "up and down" times that I walked outside with my baby, totally convinced my kids were the worst behaved in the world and began to cry out to the Lord, "God, why am I here? I am only able to get bits and pieces here and there and with all that is going on with the children, I am more discouraged than anything else!" It was at that moment that God began to minister to me that the most important thing for me to do was to obey Him. If He desired me to be in this place (Florida) at this time (the December conference), then the most important thing for me to do was to be there... even if it meant "up and down" with children! At that point, the peace of the Lord came over me. The exciting thing was, I now understood that as I walked in obedience, it was working something of a faith within me. Now I would trust Him that no matter how big or small a portion I thought I was hearing, God knew my spiritual need, my desire for Him, and the circumstances of dealing with small children and He would be faithful to meet me.

Aside from what was going on in my own personal sphere of environment, there were so many excellent, timely words that were being delivered to those gathered at the convention. I would like to share a few of the impressions that came to me from the meetings in Florida. In one of the messages it was shared about our need for resurrection life to be

working in the midst of our circumstances. You know, I don't know if you are like me or not, but many times I just get so wrapped up in being tribulated that I can lose sight of why I am being tribulated. It is kind of like the "can't see the forest for the trees" syndrome! I am praying that God would grant me the vision in the midst of the fire to see that it is with the intent of crucifying my flesh that I might be raised up in the resurrection life of Jesus Christ! What a simple truth and yet so refreshing and needful to be reminded of it!

Something else that struck me was what was shared about the dispensations of time and how God has an allotment of time for His plan and purpose to be fulfilled. It is amazing to look at some of the words in Ephesians 1:10 (I have included their Strong's meaning with them), ***That in the dispensation*** [household, stewardship] ***of the fulness*** [copiousness, what is filled as a container, performance, period] ***of times*** [occasion, opportunity, season] ***he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him.*** Many times God uses natural illustrations that help me to understand His principles a little more clearly. As I was thinking about this verse, I thought about our bulletin. Each one of us on the bulletin staff has assignments that we agree to take responsibility for. It is our duty to fulfill these responsibilities to the best of our ability and to do it in the allotted time period. If I don't "feel" like doing my portion, it might hinder the work of the bulletin, but it doesn't keep the bulletin from going forth in a timely fashion. The bulletin goes on with or without you and I believe it is even more so with God. He has a set time-frame for His will to be done and He desires for us to move within the framework of that plan. If we choose not to, He will go on to someone who is ready and willing. I really like the visual picture Strong's gives about ***the fulness of times*** likened unto a full container, copious, about to overflow - nothing can hold it back!

Another thought that came in one of the messages shared was about the necessity to be about the Father's business. This point was so strongly relayed and tied into many of the other things that we were hearing. As I have been meditating on this particular point of being about our Father's business, I was reminded of the story of Jesus in the temple at twelve years of age. When his parents found Him in the temple, His response to them was, ***How is it that ye sought me? wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?*** (Luke 2:49). If we can recognize that God has a plan and purpose for each one of us individually that, as we fulfill that portion we have been called to, there is a coming together, as a puzzle would, to form the Body of Christ. We, with our finite minds, cannot comprehend the extent of how God desires to move His Body in the end-time but it all begins with each us walking in obedience to the situations that God has placed us in. Now, God was not only faithful to deliver that admonishment to us, but He also exposed some very real and

tangible situations that we have been lacking in, as a body, and one of them being the building here in Mahomet. This word, along with the others, has caused me to reflect upon my own self, to reassess and to make adjustments, as necessary. It is so easy to get caught up in the normal, daily living that we can lose focus of the perspective of God.

If I could sum up my thoughts on this convention and what it seems like the Lord is really stressing in this hour is the absolute need for the people of God to be in the right place, doing the right thing, at the right time. How do we get into that place? By simply obeying the Lord when He speaks. If we really believe we are in the end-time, knowing the time will determine where we are to be, and being in the right place will determine what we should be doing. May we all have the utmost desire to be about our Father's business

Bread of Heaven **By Kate Trotter**

December is a wonderful time of year for our family, not because of the holidays, but because of the Florida conference that we are privileged to attend. God has blessed us with the opportunity to gather and each time, I appreciate the meetings and the brethren more.

It is interesting how situations and God's provisions can be very much the same from year to year. Last year I wrote about God's goodness in providing for us to get to Florida and as I reflected on His provision again this year, I realized that God is just as good and faithful as ever. Again, I found myself in front of my computer, pondering over the numbers on the screen before me. You know, the typical financial scene, with me rubbing my forehead, wondering how I would make it work, but knowing that I was going no matter what and that it was an issue that would have to be resolved. As I asked God what to do, I decided it wouldn't help to keep stewing over it and that I would just begin to do the other work that laid waiting for attention. I picked up an envelope and found in it a check with my name on it and a note explaining that it was for our traveling expenses! God is just so perfect and timely! As it turned out, God met all our needs for traveling to the conference, staying down there, eating there, everything! God is a detailed God, He did not forget one thing! As I have experienced before, one can always count on Jesus.

In the planning of our trip, the traveling arrangements began to change shortly before we were to leave. We took on a second vehicle, which I was to help drive with my sister-in-law and her four children. My parents would drive their vehicle and my two children would ride with them. I must say that I was uneasy about handling the difficulty level that this trip may have presented, but I knew that God was saying I would just have to buckle down and get myself in order so that I could do what He was requiring of me. After much overcoming, the day of the trip arrived

and I awoke with the determination that I would do a good job, have a good attitude, and be “buckled down” and ready to handle anything that God put before me.

The first shift of driving fell to me, and we drove off, bathing ourselves in a time of prayer over the two-way radio between the two vehicles. After a couple hours of driving, we found ourselves entering the snow blown territory of the south. I was put back in the driver’s seat and thus began an all-day adventure! The states of Kentucky and Tennessee had been hit with a snow and ice storm, and they were unequipped to clear their roads in an expedient manner. The conditions of the roads were terrible! Mile after mile, it was my job to stay behind my dad’s truck and keep our van on the road. I must say, I was very nervous at times, yet with a calm sense of fulfilling my duty as the driver. That old devil was busy reminding me of horror stories of accidents on snowy roads, but when I told my sister-in-law that I was struggling with scary “thoughts,” she squelched them immediately by opening her mouth and pronouncing the devil a liar. Hallelujah! That really ministered to my soul and lifted me out of the place of believing and being frightened by his lies.

I began to pray about the roads and the situation in which we were driving. Our van didn’t handle the road nearly as well as the truck I was following, but I needed to follow just the same. As I prayed and asked Jesus to cover our vehicle, I had the thought, the visual picture, that Jesus had put His hand down on the top of our vehicle. The hand was the size of the top of the van and it was holding the vehicle onto the road. I rejoiced in the comforting thought that He had everything in control and that His hand would keep our vehicle on the surface of that snowy, icy road. For over seven hours of driving on rough wintry roads, I believe God kept us. (My hands were quite sore from gripping the wheel, but God certainly did keep us!) We came through that weather unscathed by any plan that the devil had for us and we had not turned back. Interestingly enough, turning back was never an option in my mind, nor was it discussed or mentioned by any of our group of travelers. Going to Florida for the convention was uppermost in all of our minds, and though it would take much longer to get there, through much more difficult conditions, our desire was to join the brethren and to hear the words that God was going to deliver to us. I believe that God blessed our desires and granted our petitions!

Upon arriving at our hotel in Florida, my parents and I came upon an unusual problem. We were grumpy with each other! For your better understanding, we have traveled together many times and have not experienced this issue with each other before. A night of sleep did not seem to help our attitudes, and we found ourselves arriving at the parking lot of the first meeting with the situation unresolved. We have always gotten along with each other on our trips! What was the matter now? It did not

take long to find out. The meeting started and there was a terrible feeling of heaviness and oppression. Even in my condition, I could feel it. After a short time, someone got up in front and began to minister during the singing. They described their personal circumstance before coming to the meeting and explained that it was a spirit of divorce moving in the Body to separate the Body of Christ. I was amazed to hear the speaker describing a situation that was much like our situation! I was convicted that I, too, had been moving in the spirit of divorce and needed to repent. In a moment, we were encouraged to go to those with whom we had issues and to repent to them. We all repented to each other and a great weight was lifted off of my shoulders. I marveled at the wisdom of my God in coming directly to the crux of the matter and dealing so specifically with us! How perfect is His knowledge and timing!

Another revelation came during this first meeting of the conference. As the brother spoke about the spirit of divorce, he mentioned that his complaints about the accommodations at the hotel were a participation in that spirit against the brethren that had worked to provide them. I was quickly cut to the heart upon hearing that, because I had made an issue of my sleeping arrangements and my lack of comfort in my bed. I had not slept well and when I was casually asked about my rest, I made sure that the asker knew of my displeasure. However, upon listening to the explanation of the spiritual implications of the situation, I began to repent. There was a realization that I had also placed my burden upon and spread my bad attitude to those with whom I had vented my grievances. I was very sorry indeed! It has been a lesson well learned and I hope not to repeat the same mistake twice!

Reviewing my notes for the conference always brings the word back to my mind with such freshness. I found that God spoke many things to us during the meetings and would like to share with you some of the things that were highlights for me. Near the beginning of the conference, Brother Peter Schneider was sharing and he began to go through the illustration of Luke 14, the invitation to the feast and the excuses that the men gave for their lack of attendance. He pointed out that the distraction of careers, our domicile and our family are often the very thing that comes between us and God. We allow those things to divert us and use them as excuses to not serve God in the way that He desires for us. Brother Schneider encouraged us to study the lives of men throughout history who had laid down their lives to give everything to God. Those testimonies ought to encourage us and spur us on to follow Jesus Christ. I was encouraged to begin spending much more time reading that type of book to my children in our daily time of family reading. I realized that whenever we have read books of that type together, my children are greatly inspired and encouraged in their faith in God and in their desire to do more for Him. This exhortation that was given was repeated more than

once during the conference by a few different brothers. I believe that the Lord was saying that we need to know our heritage and history as Christians. There have been many men that have gone on before us and paid a tremendous price for the work and the continuation of the Gospel of Christ. We, as those who desire to be the sons of God, should not be doing less with our own lives.

Another brother, Mr. David Walter, ministered on another topic that has been at the forefront in my life for some time now. He spoke about the respect and honor that is missing in this society. I have two young boys and a somewhat unique situation that they are being raised in. One of our continual battles has to do with respect and honor for parents. In light of our struggle to create honor and respect in our home, I have found myself very sensitive to the dishonor and disrespect I see when I leave my home and move about in the public. It seems as though the tables have been turned in this society, in that, respect and honor is given to children and not given to adults. I was delighted to hear the topic addressed in the midst of the Body's gathering and I hope that we all begin to see with clear sight the negative influence of our society upon our children and the spiritual pressure that is on them causing them to struggle greatly as we attempt to create in them the character quality of respect and honor.

Many words that were brought during the conference ministered strongly to me. Brother duCille spoke several times, but at the final meeting, he brought a word on agape love that really convicted many of us. He began by explaining that anything outside of love is hate, including indifference. If he had stopped preaching right there, I am sure that we would have had our plates full of conviction already. However, that was not the end and the continuation further drove the point home that the key to everything is: LOVE OF GOD. We are to impart the love of God to everyone, but we will have risen above the human realm if we are able to impart the love of God to someone who is not lovely, to someone who is cruel and hateful to you. He explained that the love of God flowing out of us is supposed to cancel out the hate, but what is happening is that the hate is canceling out our love! We simply must repent and rise up in love, that we can fulfill all that God has called us to do and be. There was also a correction given to us during this word. Brother duCille explained that love is not passive; it is not love to have the attitude, "You can do anything you want because I love you." This gave me a better view on love, simply because I've found that attitude really does exist. Upon leaving this meeting, I was so full of thoughts on this subject. There was so much for which to repent! There still is so much that I must repent for on this matter of my lack of love. I desire to love. I desire that my motives for everything I do are not based on anything other than love for God. I believe that God will bring me to that place and that condition of heart and

I believe that He will do it for all of us. I strongly encourage you to listen to this meeting when the recordings are available. It will truly give you a new perspective on love.

As always, the meetings were food for my hungry soul. My hope and prayer is that the seeds that have been planted in my heart would bring forth fruit. However, I am finding that I don't want to be a 30-fold fruit producer or a 60-fold fruit producer. I long to be a 100-fold producer! As we come closer to the day of the Lord, the messages in the conferences are getting more direct in dealing with our hearts and our positions. I pray that the Body of Christ, including me, can take hold of the words that were ministered and let them become a part of our very beings. God bless you!

Reflections on the Florida Conference of 2004

By Paul Davis

While at the recent conference in Florida I was very directly confronted with issues that are quite dear to my heart and especially effect my daily living. During this conference we were once again challenged to enter into a higher place in Christ. This has been a consistent theme over the past two years or more in each conference and yet there came some very practical aspects that I would like to share with all of you. A word came regarding the use of our money which triggered in me both a need for repentance regarding personal spending habits and some thoughts about how the spending of money affects our daily life in a very real way.

Let me say that I was challenged in the arena of how casually I have used money in the past to live my life in a certain comfortable style. Because God has been very gracious to me in the arena of finances I have seldom lacked for creature comforts and have had fairly ready access to "disposable income." This has allowed me to purchase non-essentials with relative ease and without much, if any, questioning of God as to how should I spend my money. Really what the Holy Spirit convicted me of was that it is His money and I am a steward thereof and thereby responsible/answerable for how it is dispersed. During the meetings, I was directly confronted/challenged about my lack of sensitivity to the Spirit of God when it comes to the spending of money. The message that brought this to the fore was one dealing with the languishing of the building project in Mahomet. This was the second time in as many conferences that this topic was brought to our attention by the Holy Spirit and so I recognized it as a truth that God is speaking to us about very clearly. (II Corinthians 13:1 In the mouth of two or more witnesses let every truth be established.) I therefore found it necessary to allow the Holy Ghost to examine my heart in this matter and do some repenting for how I have been walking out this gospel of the Kingdom. While the Spirit was in the process of speaking to me regarding this matter of the spending of money, He pulled

together some seemingly diverse thoughts. I would like to take a few moments to share these with you in the hopes that they will be an encouragement to you.

First, I want to preface this with the understanding that we have regarding the wrestling in the spirit that we do on a daily basis. This, we know from scripture, is not a wrestling with flesh and blood but with powers and principalities and so all the practical aspects of our life are governed by this spiritual fact.

We have learned in the past the principles of covenants/agreements and how they are made by the shedding of blood. We also understand that money is a substitute for the shedding of blood when making a covenant agreement. Under the Levitical law, if a man could not make a sacrifice with an animal, he could redeem/sacrifice with money. Hence we understand the spiritual application of the spending of money is making agreements (covenants) with spirits.

I found this to be a very real truth when recently a family member asked me if they could borrow some money from me. I did not think much about the implications at the time and agreed to loan this individual some money. Almost immediately upon doing so I began to have to wrestle with temptations, thoughts and spirits that I had thought I had dealt with a long time prior to this event. As this wrestling went on for several days I began questioning God in earnest about what was going on. After the third day He spoke to me very clearly upon my first waking up. He just said, "The passage of money." Immediately I knew He was speaking about the money I had loaned. I realized that the individual I had given the money to was not living a clean lifestyle and that the spirits that were ruling in their life were coming to attach themselves to me. When I spoke to my wife about this she confirmed that she too was fighting some of the very same things for the past three days. I quickly repented of my presumptuous sin and broke the agreements that I had made with these spirits and we were both freed from the temptations and wrestling. This was a very direct and clear lesson to me about the use of our money and the affects that it can have upon our lives.

Thus I have had some direct confrontation by the Spirit of the Lord regarding my spending habits. This has led me to think/meditate upon things regarding spending and so it has been somewhat in the forefront of my thought prior to going to the recent conference. So when the Holy Spirit began to speak about our money habits it brought to the fore some scriptures and thoughts that I've been contemplating for a while. The first one was the passage from Revelation. ***"¹⁶And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: ¹⁷And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number***

of his name.” (Revelation 13:16-17 KJV)

I have been meditating on this verse considering how this might come to pass. The understanding that the “mark” is not a tattoo or some kind of chip, but a lifestyle/mindset leads me to believe that there is going to come a time when due to our sensitivity to the Holy Ghost we will not for conscience sake be able to buy or sell in the marketplace. If we can open the eyes of our understanding we will recognize that “the mark of the beast” is man’s thought processes. It is a lifestyle that is conformable to devilish thinking.

Let me explain a bit more. Because we know that goods are often made in conditions that exploit others both physically and mentally, our conscience should not allow us to purchase such goods. Explicitly I am referring to goods made in China. We know that there are slave internment camps in China where brothers and sisters in Christ are among the 5 to 6 million who are being forced upon the threat of life to manufacture every type of dry goods being exported to the United States. (Go to www.laogai.org for confirmation.) We also ought to be aware that these spirits that compel the Chinese to move in the manner and fashion they do are encouraging them to follow an eventual path of world domination. They are the same spirits which drove Hitler to place people in concentration camps. They move in fear, cruelty, domination, starvation, deprivation, and ultimately murder for the accomplishment of their goal. In order to remain in positions of dominion they must squash any resistance to their position of power.

Secondly, the word came during the meetings from Malachi. “*And he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the LORD an offering in righteousness.*” (Malachi 3:3 KJV)

Hearing this particular scripture caused me to understand a directive from the Lord earlier in the day when He had spoken to me to look at the passage detailing Jacob’s prophesy over his son Levi. “Simeon and Levi are brethren; instruments of **cruelty** are in their habitations. O my soul, come not thou into their secret; unto their assembly, mine honour, be not thou united: for in their **anger they slew a man**, and in their **selfwill** they **digged down a wall**. Cursed be their anger, for it was fierce; and their wrath, for it was cruel: I will divide them in Jacob, and scatter them in Israel.” (Genesis 49:5-7 KJV)

The story behind this “blessing”/prophesy can be found in Genesis 34: 1-29 regarding the vengeance that Levi and Simeon took for the rape of their sister Dinah. What we see in these passages is the action of covenants being made with spirits of anger, deceitfulness (lying), cruelty, murder, theft, and self-will (pride), because of the murderous rampage of

these brothers and the shedding of blood. The prophet Malachi declared that these covenants must be purified (purged) from the sons of Levi.

These were the same spirits that Christ encountered when the high priest and the Sanhedrin accused Him and brought Him to be crucified. The Sanhedrin moved with cruel ruthlessness to protect their position. In doing so they moved in deceit when bringing Yeshua to Pilate and saying that He ought to be crucified because He was anti Caesar. They stole life from Christ by advocating His crucifixion. They also did this with much anger and malice. These are spirits that many of us in the church still need to overcome.


Now you may be asking yourself, “what does this have to do with the spending of money?” When we spend money we are entering into agreement/contract with another. By the spending of money we give tacit approval of those things that others are involved in. As the Holy Spirit was speaking to me about the cleansing of the sons of Levi, I could see that these specific spirits of cruelty, deceit, murder, anger, selfwill, are all common to the systematic use of slave labor found in China. The system of much of the manufacturing that goes on in this country is based upon the use of men and women in “re-education centers” (laogai). They are producing everything from toothpicks to television sets, all under the use of intimidation, beatings, threats and murders. The world as a whole is not allowed to see the conditions of this manufacturing. This is deceitfulness at its highest degree. It is also cruel, murderous, full of anger and certainly exercising of self-will, as they do not recognize any other way but their own.


As the sons of God, we are to overcome these spirits. We need to recognize that when we spend money, buying goods made under the unction of these spirits of darkness that we are allowing a back door to our souls to remain open. When I loaned money (passage of money/blood), I was saying to spirits, “You can have access to my soul. My blood is in agreement with your activities.” When we purchase goods made in slave labor camps we are saying, “I am in agreement with how you work, I don’t mind if you find comfort in my soul, also.”

Brethren, this is serious business and we must begin to recognize how these devils function and what allows them to continue to work in our lives. It is not just about human rights or national preservation. It is about the setting free of the sons of God for the saving of our souls. The love of money is the root of all evil. Do we love our money so much that we are willing to tolerate evil? Are we willing to gain the world to the losing of our souls? Or do we truly want to be set free from spirits of darkness? Let us examine every way we can to shut the back doors of our souls. May God richly bless you.


The Psalm

The TV is my Shepherd,  I shall turn it on.

It makes me lie down on the sofa .


It leads me away from the  Scriptures.

It ravishes my soul.

It leads me in the paths of ignorance  and violence,
for the sponsor's sake.

Yea, though I walk in the shadow 

of my responsibilities to  my family and my Creator,
there will be no interruptions, for the TV is with me.

 Its cable and its remote control, they comfort me.

It prepares a commercial  before me.

It plants  lies within my mind.

It anoints my head with materialism.

My coveting runs over.

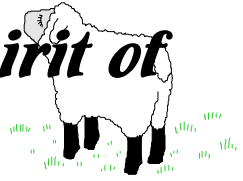
Surely laziness and  ignorance shall follow me

all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the  house

watching TV  and its propaganda forever.



Being Led by the Spirit of God



I was in a meeting recently, and some of the verses that were given prompted me to think about what it means to be led by the Spirit of God. The scripture says, ***He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches*** (Revelation 3:6, 13, 22). There is a Word that is being given unto us at this time, and it is important for us to not only listen, but understand who is speaking the Word to us—God! It is highly critical that we are able to hear God’s voice when He is speaking to us, to recognize that it is God, and after hearing His Word, to be obedient and respond accordingly to what He is saying to each one of us. Simple enough in theory, right? However, it is one of the most evident problems that we as a Body face in this timeframe. The enemy is pulling out all the stops in order to keep our attention from God in order to distract us, deter us, keep us occupied in a natural arena with natural circumstances in order to steal away any time, resource(s), or energy that we could be giving to God. And it is not going to become any easier for us as the time for the coming of Christ draws nearer and nearer. We have heard the Word. We are not ready. We are not in the place where we ought to be in God. But our situation is not without hope. We have the capability to overcome, and God can bring us up into a higher place in Him. Recognizing our sin and repenting to God is only the beginning. It is a decision that we make to turn away from sin and follow after the will of God, and when we make the decision to follow after God, and do His will, we must be sensitive to His voice.

God desires sons, and we have choices to make every day regarding whether or not we will follow the leading of the Holy Spirit. To hear His voice is one thing; following it does not come automatically. The scripture says that we are to try the spirits to see whether or not they are of God (I John 4:1). And in order to try these spirits, we have to be in a place where we can rightly divide the Word of truth, a place where we can correctly discern what is and is not God. That is the problem many of us have to deal with. “Is this of God? Is that of God? I feel that this is God, so I am going to move in this direction, or be involved in doing this or that,” and so forth. Many people run into this problem of “feeling” that they are doing the will of God without being sure that it IS the will of God.

Honestly, I believe this happens often because what we “feel” is more in line with what we would prefer to be doing, or what seems easier for us to do. God does not operate on emotions. Now, we know that He is not unfeeling. We know the scripture, ***For God so loved the world*** (John 3:16). He loves us more than we could ever comprehend. But He does not operate on emotions. We, however, are susceptible to them, and when we are not yielding to the Spirit of God, our emotions can, and often do, creep in. When we allow our emotions to override the leading of God, when our soulish nature is not under control, our humanity is allowed to cloud the divinity God desires to bring forth out of us. It is something that we struggle with frequently. Warring in the mind. Our will coming against the will of God. What I desire becoming more important than what God desires for my life.

God has provided us with so many remedies in His Word for each circumstance and situation that we encounter. So we cannot say that God left us “out to dry.” Left to our own devices, we will find ourselves in a place totally opposite from where God desired us to be. We have to be sure that we are hearing correctly, that we are being led by the right Spirit. If we are not being led by the Spirit of God, we need to be in prayer and ask God to help us recognize and submit to His leading. Something may be wrong with our hearing. Or worse, we hear crystal clear, but will not do what God is telling us to do, for whatever reason. It is a serious matter in the timeframe we are in.

Jesus is the prime example of what it means to live a life totally subject to the will of God. I was in a meeting recently, and praise be to God, we were looking at a few verses in the book of John, and it was in line with what the Lord was speaking to me regarding being led by the Spirit. I truly believe that one of the scriptures (II Chronicles 7:14) given for the Jamaica conference is very appropriate for us. ***If my people, which are called by name, shall HUMBLE themselves...*** Jesus, in spite of everything that He ever said and did, humbled Himself, and did not forget to acknowledge the One who made all that He could do possible. ***Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing OF HIMSELF, but what he seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise*** (John 5:19). Jesus was sure to show and remind the people that He was not taking all the glory upon Himself; He was giving that glory to His Father.

This is something that we need to remember. Sometimes we think God operates on our time, or that we only really need Him in a time of extreme crisis when we, of our own strength, cannot solve the problem. If we are not careful, we can carry a lifestyle where our will

comes first, then God's will, when it is most convenient for us. Humility is necessary in order to see that when we are in charge, and are unwilling to submit to the Spirit of God, we are in trouble. The Holy Spirit is intended to direct us. We must be willing to be led. It goes against everything that we consider to be "American," what we feel our rights and liberties are, etc. But look in the scripture. Jesus said, ***He that sent me is WITH me: the Father hath not left me alone; for I do ALWAYS those things that please him*** (John 8:29).

It takes recognition of, "I cannot live a true Christian life by myself." God anoints, God appoints, God gives the increase, not the other way around. It takes submission. "Not my will, but thine be done, that the fullness of the Son may dwell within this life that I have OFFERED thee." That's what it is going to take, an offering up of our life unto God, in order that His purpose for us would be fulfilled. Not once did Jesus move of His own accord. I cannot begin to imagine the fight He had with His humanity and doing the work of His Father. I am sure that it was a constant warring within Him, as it is with us today. Nevertheless, He was obedient. He did not esteem Himself higher than anyone else because of His personal relationship with God, and He continually did the work and will of His Father.

The life of Jesus is a testimony of what it means to be led by the Spirit of God. He did those things that pleased the Father. That is what Christ was all about, pleasing His Father. How much more should we be sensitive to what God is saying to us about the way we live, what we do with our time, how we spend our money, what are we doing with the word that He has given us? Everything that Jesus did, what He said, how He acted, was influenced by the Spirit of God. **EVERYTHING. My Father worketh hitherto, and I work** (John 5:17). 24 hours a day, every day. Jesus had to have an awareness, a sensitivity to the Spirit of God, in order to exercise this principle. It is a disciplined walk. ***He that believeth on me, believeth not on me, but on HIM that sent me. And he that seeth me seeth him that sent me*** (John 12:44-45). This is what our life should be about, pleasing God, showing forth that nature that is not us, but Christ. When we come into that place of "it's not about me, but all about Him," that is when we will know that we truly are living a lifestyle that is wholly subject to the will of God. There will be change, so much so that people will see it. Of course, we will receive all sort of responses and opinions, but that should not matter, not when our life is not our own, but His. Let us continue to be led by the Spirit of the Lord. Amen.

Say Not Unto Me Sleep On



Brother Burt Asbill

Jamaica 2004

Praise the Lord! I was asked if I could bring the Word that the Lord was quickening to me, and I was told I would have an hour-and-a-half. Then they cut me down to forty-five minutes. It's not so much that I'm afraid that I can't bring the Word that I have been given in forty-five minutes, but what I am concerned about is your spiritual stamina to be able to tolerate the strength and the vitality of the Word. For the reality of the situation is that your soul has to be in a certain condition, your soul requires a certain spiritual strength in order to receive the seed. So, I don't know if I am really going to be getting into what God has been speaking to me about early this morning when I was in the Word. What I really want to speak to you about is the importance of being prepared to receive the Word of God. We have all come here from various sets of circumstances. We have all come out of individual homes. We have all come from individual cultures. On top of all that, each and every one of us has our own particular environment, an environment in which the devil has been working on us personally; working to isolate you, working to separate you, working to get you all tied up within the realm of your humanity. Hallelujah! If that were not enough, you have your own personal nature, your own soul nature. You have to deal with your own personal inheritance.

You and I have been bequeathed an inheritance, and that inheritance has had the overshadowing of thousands of years of demonic control. For anyone to think that they are an entity that is separated or isolated from the effect of their spiritual environment they do not understand the reality of the spiritual realm. I believe that the world that we are in has been divided up into at least twelve principalities. In Babylon, many years ago when they were building the tower of Babel, God came down and said, "Let us divide their language," (Genesis 11:7) and it wasn't so much that God was giving them a different form of speech. Because even at that time the world had ethnic grouping, but the grouping was not as evident at that time because they all spoke with one voice, and that voice expressed the mind that was under the authority of the prince of darkness (Genesis 11:1). Satan was in a

position, a place of control. He was overshadowing all of humanity. It was because of the one voice of humanity that they could all be in one mind, and because that mind was under the control of Satan, they were able to do what they were doing and it was something that Yahweh considered a threat to His plan and His purposes (Genesis 11:6-7). I personally do not believe that what they were doing was done entirely by natural, physical strength. Oh, yes, we can imagine this brick tower going up with these bricks being put up layer upon layer, but what kind of engineering would that require, what are the dynamics with regard to the architectural understanding of the environment in which they lived? I don't care how high you build a physical structure, I don't care what you build it out of, there are laws that work against that structure. There are laws, principles and a knowledge that is required of those dynamics and of how they work, in the natural realm, against any thought of elevating a structure to a place that it has the preeminence they desired over their environment, especially if its design is to have something of an everlasting quality. **And they said, Go to, let us build us a city and a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven; and let us make us a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth** (Genesis 11:4).

What we are talking about is the understanding of the spiritual principles. We are talking about having a working knowledge of spiritual environments. **For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse** (Romans 1:20). What we are talking about is a people who had not been under the dominion of the natural/spiritual shadow of sin for the length of time which we have been under it. We are talking about a people that had a cognitive reality of how the spiritual principles that govern the world worked.

Now, I am getting all of this information from the Spirit, because God is speaking to me out of the eleventh chapter of Genesis. He said, **Let us go down**, least they do what? **Let us go down and confound their language**, least they do what? Accomplish! Are we talking about the spiritual God, concerned for a natural being that lives in a natural set of circumstances acquiring something in a natural set of circumstances? I do not think so. What we are talking about is an opening and an awareness of the operation of spiritual principles on the basis of spiritual knowledge that is being motivated by a spiritual realm. **And the LORD said, Behold, the people is one, and they**

have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do (Genesis 11:6). Hallelujah! God had to go down and confound their language. When He confounded the language, the people began to segregate themselves with other people that they could relate to; that they could communicate with on the basis of their ability in communicating thought transference, ideas, and perceptions. There were spirits, there were principalities, there were powers that were there in the midst of that heavenly realm and those principalities were assigned.

You know, when the devil took over the world, he took it over not just in the aspect of himself alone - but he made promises. He made promises to those angels that capitulated from the presence of God. They moved from their position of righteousness into their position of darkness on the premise that something would be given to them, that these people that were in the earth would be their inheritance. So, God moved in the midst of humanity, but in the moving, God brought forth confusion and disunity! It isn't that God wasn't aware of what was going on. God was very much aware of what was going on. God wasn't looking at what was happening at that very moment. God was looking down through the corridors of time. It says of the saints of the Old Testament that they saw... What did they see? John says that Abraham saw the day of Christ (John 8:56). Hallelujah! Isn't that what the scripture says? My Bible must be different than yours. What was he seeing? He was seeing the spiritual reality of the HOPE and the DESIRE that was in God. Hallelujah!

God called Abraham, not for the purpose of blessing one man, or for raising up one nation, but God called Abraham for the purpose of bringing forth a man of integrity and righteousness. His purpose was to demonstrate the reality of a spiritual realm in the midst of a devilish generation, in the midst of a hellish environment. God called a man that was born under sin, born under the bondage of death and desolation under the authority of the spirit of the Prince of Chaldea, and in that environment, without the Holy Ghost, Yahweh spoke to a man and that man responded. Hallelujah!

We are going to stand next to men like that. On the day of judgement and accountability we are going to stand before God in the midst of this company of like kind. Hallelujah! What is our testimony going to be? They did not have the Blood. They only had a reality of a word that was spoken to them of an experience, an event that was going to happen in the Blood. The Bible says that the Lamb was slain

from the foundations of the earth. **And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world** (Revelation 13:8).

That means that in His omnipotence, God knew that man was going to fall into sin, and He knew that sin was going to be ruling and reigning for some six thousand years over humanity. And He made provisions all down the line, all through the generations of men and women and children that were coming forth and being birthed under this domination of degradation and darkness. God was speaking to men about His provision for deliverance. Loose! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

We have been called here to Jamaica for a purpose, and it is not to get a tan, by the way. We have been called for a purpose. It is not for you to build your own church on your pet doctrine or for you to get your own perception or understanding of the things that God is doing. It has nothing to do with it. There is a place of exaltation; there is a place of lifting up that God is desirous to be in absolutely, solely, totally, and entirely. Hallelujah! That is what the Word says in John, in the first chapter. It says that God was in the world, and the world was made by Him, and nothing that was made, was made without Him (John 1:1-3). We need to wake up to reality. We need to wake up to the reality of the spiritual realm that is around us and the things that are going on in that environment and what effect it has upon us. We are but dust! It says that man's soul is as grass and yet we think that we are eternal (Psalms 103:15, I Peter 1:24). Do you know that we are only eternal on the basis of the Word that we have heard and the Word that we cleave to? Hallelujah! There are some things coming forth in this generation of technology, you are hearing some of it. If you are like me, you have to struggle with some of it, because I'm not a man of high intellect. Hallelujah! But I understand, I understand, I understand that it is imperative for me to be able to grasp hold of this reality, that we are living in the last days, and that God wants a spiritual people to come forth out of the midst of the muck and the mire of sin and death to overcome the spirit of perdition. God wants a spiritual people to rise up in the strength and vitality of the spiritual man (Christ) that has to be birthed within their soul. My God! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Paul said, "I am always bringing my body under subjection" (I Corinthians 9:27). He is not talking about a rigorous course of exercise and doing the things that he needed to do to keep himself in shape.

He is talking about the wretchedness and the darkness that is in his soul and that is the nature of sin. He says, "Therefore, it is no longer I that do it, but the nature of sin in me that does it" (Romans 7:20-23). He is talking about overcoming that spirit that the Bible calls the spirit of the son of perdition. **Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition,** Thessalonians 2:3. Hallelujah!

God has called us forth as warriors. God has called us forth to give our lives in the fight against that nature, to rise up in the strength of the Spirit, the vitality of the anointing of God, by the Word of God. Hallelujah! Thank God for the end-time Word that speaks to us about those things that pertain to Sonship! Thank God for the reality of Heaven!

We seem to think that, by some philosophical, physiological, or intellectual way, that we can come into a place of vitality and strength. Man has tried to do it generation after generation. There has been one denomination after the other that has come forth on the basis of man's thought and what he perceived to be God, and it was not God. (It did not hold man's sin from manifesting in every situation that man called God. Sin. Sin. Sin. Sin. Sin. Sin of lust, sin of greed, sin of division, sin of separation. My God! My God! We contend for health. We contend for wealth and we do not achieve. Where is? Where is? Where is? Where is the desire for God? Where is the burden in the Body to lay one's life down for another? **Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace** (Ephesians 4:3). Where is that desire for Him? Where is the desire for the nature of Christ?

We want to be vindicated, Brother Russ! Somebody stepped on our toes. Somebody moved contrary to the way that we like. Somebody moves in a manner that offends us. And we want to be vindicated, we want to be exalted as being right. I was talking to a person here; I don't remember who I was talking to, so don't get mad at me. But it illustrated a point to me. They were telling me something of the situation that they were in and they were saying that they were going to do such and such and they were going to the court for an appeal. And I said to them, "How much appeal did Jesus have? How much did He suffer on the basis of false accusation, and what did He do, from the cross?" From the moment of death, after they had scourged and beat Him, spit upon Him, and He had been marched through the city as a mockery? Loose them! You ought to get some books out and you ought to read about crucifixion and the populous view of it. You were

considered less than dirt and the people could do anything that they wanted to you. As they moved through the city, the people had the opportunity to do whatever they wanted that was despicable and shameful. We don't know the half of it! We weren't there! Do you think that the movie "The Passion of the Christ" was X-rated? What about the actuality of what really went on - and the Man was innocent! He was innocent! He was innocent, and yet from that place, after all had been said and done, Hallelujah, hallelujah, He didn't get down and say, "Well, these people aren't worth it. These people aren't fit. These people aren't quality material." Do you know what? He knew that some of them were not going to make it. We are talking about a man that had the omniscience of Elohim imparted to Him. He knew that some of them were not going to make it. Hanging up there on the cross, looking upon the faces of those men, He had an intuitive, God-given knowledge that some of them were not going to make it! And yet He said, "Father, forgive them" (Luke 23:34). Right up to the end. Right up to the finish. No whimpering, no quivering, no misery, no wallowing, no self-pity, no, "My God, they are not even going to accept what I am doing." He said, "Father, forgive that one and that one and, by all means, even the high priest. Father, forgive them."

My God! Where, where, where in the midst of our humanity is that nature? Where is that nature that reaches out, reaches out, reaches out, reaches out for redemption? It reaches and reaches and reaches and reaches out again and again, always offering redemption and reconciliation.

You know, there is only one person who can tell you that enough is enough and it is on the basis of what He has done. I don't think He is going to say, "Enough is enough," because I don't think we have given what He has given; we have not yet resisted as unto blood. We have not yet arrived at that place that we might have that privilege. We have not yet earned that right and we have not yet arrived at the place where we can be called sons. The world is always out there trying to suck us in, to rob from us the vitality and the strength of the Word. We think it is our intellectual perception of the Word that gives us our spiritual vitality. It is not the Word that makes you an end-timer! It is the reality of the Word working in you! **Who now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh for his body's sake, which is the church: Whereof I am made a minister, according to the dispensation of God which is given to me for you, to fulfil the word of God; Even the**

mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints: To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory: Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus: Whereunto I also labour, striving according to his working, which worketh in me mightily (Colossians 1:24-29).

When you begin to deny the very basis of that Word, by your actions of unbelief, you begin to erode the foundation of your salvation; you begin to erode the very basis on which you have built; the thing upon which you stand.

I was involved with a fellowship, my God, and a lot of the young people rose up in the fellowship and said that we are too hard, too severe, too strict, too this, and too that. We were line-Word-orientated people. The thing that was spoken was, "You haven't taught us. You haven't shown us." I want to share something with you. It is not that they weren't shown; it was that they knew too much Bible. They had too much Word, and that Word was in their soul convicting them of their wrong thoughts and attitudes. They could not discredit the Word but what they could do is to discredit the messengers. If you can discredit the one who brings the message, and then somehow you do not have to accept or believe the message. Their battle cry was, "Well, we want to go to other churches." Praise the Lord! I said, "Go to other churches, but let me tell you what is going to happen! Let me tell you what is going to happen with your experience of going to other churches. You are going to participate for a while, and then, because of the watered down gospel of righteousness that is ministered, and the worldliness that is ingrained within their programs, it will anesthetize your conscience to a point that your heart becomes hard of hearing THE WORD of Yahweh and you will end up in sin." How could I predict it so accurately? Because their intent was not to hear the Word of God. I said to them, "Your goal is not to hear the Word of God, your goal is to participate in sin, you will end up in sin." Every one of those young people are in rebellion and in sin. Every one of them is in sin. Sin. Sin. I must bring my body under subjection! You know, there are a lot of things that I like to do. You know, as a human being I have certain things that I like. There are a lot of clean activities out there that I would like to participate in, but there are some things that I can't do because they are not expedient or necessary for the sake of obtaining

the Gospel of the Kingdom of God. Now, I'm not talking about the Gospel that I used to minister, of "get saved and get into heaven." I'm talking about the Gospel that walks and talks within the realm of my soul. I'm talking about the message of God's Word. It is a Gospel that has a personality, it is an entity, a life, it has a personality. I am talking about THE Gospel of Sonship. That is why denominations go astray, because they don't have the fullness being preached and manifested in the midst of their congregations. They don't have the actuality of the Word that will produce the end-product (in God's mind), working in their soul. You know, we are not living in a time of part-time Gospel. We are not living there anymore. The time and the season does not afford us the part-time privilege.

Martin Luther thought that he had the entirety of Jehovah when he received his revelation of salvation. He only had a piece, he had but a part. Let him that hath an ear hear what the Spirit says to the church. He had only a fraction, a drop in the bucket, a taste of what was to come. But do you know what his revelation did for him? In his dispensation, it gave him the strength to resist the Catholic Church. And he resisted the Catholic Church. He still thought that The Church was the Catholic Church. He just thought that their doctrine of salvation was wrong. And though the man died Lutheran and in priests' garments, he was awarded a heavenly entrance because he walked the measure with the understanding of the revelation that Yahweh spoke to him. He resisted the Catholic Church on their doctrine of salvation. There could not be any mediator between God and man except Christ Jesus. He resisted. He resisted. He was in prison. He was beaten. He was threatened by all manner of things to change his doctrine. But the strength of justification by faith carried him from one year, to the next year, to the next year, until finally, hallelujah, my God, he was delivered from that oppression. It was the strength of that Word on salvation that carried him through those times of persecution. We, as a people, do not only have the Word of the strength and the vitality of the Word of salvation. We have got the Word of Salvation, we have got the Word of Baptism, we have got the Word of the Holy of Holies. Do you know that for some of us, at the end of the day, it would be much better for us if we had never heard, never heard, never heard the Word of the Kingdom. It makes no difference how you perceive it, do you understand? It makes no difference how you understand it, because there is an understanding that comes via the Holy Ghost that gives you an access to the TRUTH. **And ye shall know the truth, and**

the truth shall make you free (John 8:32). **But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you** (John 14:26).

You know, Brother Alade, as a solicitor and as a barrister, you have to go in and investigate things, isn't that right? Correct me if I am wrong, but isn't there a realm of knowledge that is opened to you, as far as public records and those things are concerned, that is put at your disposal so that, in your investigation, you can come to a position of ascertaining what the truth of the matter really is? It functions in the same manner with the things of God. It is on the basis of the knowledge that you receive, and the understanding that you have in the Spirit of God that is in you, that you know this is truth. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

You know, I wouldn't be a lawyer for nothing. Nope. Nothing against your profession, but the line would be double hard for me. I would not only have to ascertain my position of righteousness, but I could be held accountable for someone else's unrighteousness, if I began to move in an unrighteous manner, or in a righteous manner to defend unrighteousness. Just taking care of me alone is enough. Isn't that right, Nancy? Hallelujah! She has labored to keep me right. It is not an easy path for a wife to walk whose husband is in the ministry. Women with godly husbands, let me tell you something. They are not godly because they are men. They are not righteous because they have some supernatural gift. There is something that a woman has, in that place of intercession, that she has before the Lord, and an ability to perceive the thoughts that are working to bring forth something that is contrary to the Will of God. It is not getting up in your man's face and telling him that, "You need to do this and you need to do that." It is getting down on your face before God. The worst thing that could happen is when the wife enters into a place of transgression with her husband because she agrees with some offense that has worked against the Lord in his soul. No amen's. I'm telling you what I'm telling you now, today, is the Word of God. I didn't stay in my room and write down notes as to what I was going to preach to you about, and I'm not even preaching to you about what I was going to preach to you about. I'm preaching to you what the Holy Ghost is dropping in my ear.

As a rule, we men are so proud. I'm a man! Proud! "Well, okay, I made a mistake, well, I'm only human." But I'm still a man. I don't want to apologize; I don't want to humble myself. That is not manly

behavior, nor is it acceptable to man's ego. The Bible says that if we don't humble ourselves, we will have no access into the Kingdom of God, we will have no place in the audience of Heaven before the throne of God. My God. Hallelujah! Women need to wake up to the reality of the spiritual warfare that they have been called to. God-fearing wives need to be aware of the weaknesses of their husbands, not for the sake of exposing them or for the sake of manipulating or brow-beating them into place, so that they can go before God. Utilizing the jurisdiction of the Holy Ghost that goes down and searches the inward most parts of your being, and knowing what your infirmity is, He makes intercession for you before God. What better place or position does a wife have, as well as a husband? This is not a one-sided affair, but this is what God is giving me to talk about. Your home is not broken up on the basis of contrariness. Your home is broken up on the basis of no intercession; no position of relationship with God!

How many of you believe that Judas was a scoundrel? Not one of you would disagree that He was a rascal. He was a traitor. Judas was a villain, and yet, having a relationship with Jesus, do you think He, Yeshua, knew that he was a thief? Do you think He knew it when He chose him? Why did He choose him? Do you think it was only so that the scriptures might be fulfilled, and one could be given over to the spirit of licentiousness and thievery? So a man could go out and commit suicide? Why did He choose to give him the bag as well as the calling? Why? Why? WHY? He wanted to redeem him, so he would not go beyond the line of demarcation. Right up until the time of the dipping of the sop. How is it that we think that we are in a different place? How is it that we think that we do not have the same propensity to do the same thing? Yeshua said in Matthew 25:40, **Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.**

My God, can you imagine sitting around a table, with Christ, taking and partaking of the divine fellowship of Heaven, and Yeshua is saying to you that, "the man whose hand is in the dish with Me, it is he that is going to betray Me." I would hope that if that would have been my hand anywhere near that dish, I would have jerked it back like it was a live-wire. As it was with them, so it is with us. Paul writes in I Corinthians 11:28, **But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup.** ²⁹ **For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body.** And we will be as that man in his hard-

heartedness, if we persist in the state of transgression against the Lord's Body. We will take as he took of the sop and will have the same experience that he had at the time that he took of it, for it says that Satan entered into him (John 13:27). Do you think that is a one-time occurrence? We haven't seen anything of the spirit of Judas as we are going to see in the end-time Body of Christ, because the spirit of anti-Christ is the spirit that was motivating Judas the whole time he was in and with the Living Word. John said, "We have touched Him, we have handled Him, and we have tasted Him" (I John 11:1). The Bible says, "Oh, taste and see that God is good" (Psalm 34:8). Like honey in the rock, and yet, all of the partaking, and all of the tasting, and all of the things, and the experience - my God! My God! My God! Can you imagine the people that rose from the dead? Lepers healed, arms extended, eyes seeing, people talking that could not talk, leprosy and all manner of disease healed, and yet, the man's heart was not changed. His destiny was not hell; his destiny was Heaven by virtue of the calling God called him with. God does not call one to perdition. Hello? God did not call him to perdition. Reconciliationists will say, "Well, he was created and destined for it." He was not destined for hell. God called him to be a disciple. God called him to be a part of that first fruits company of believers. God called him apart; they were going to sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel (Matthew 19:28). It was that the man refused, refused, refused, REFUSED, every time God moved. Every healing, every teaching, with every move of God there was within the heart of the man a moving away from the destiny that had been prepared for him and a creation of the entity of the heart that the Bible calls "the son of perdition" (John 17:12).

We say, "Boy, if I could sit under Jesus' teaching! I would not have done that! I would not have been that way!" We would have been just the same way, done the same things, just the way that they did. How do I know? Because I see it day in and day out! Over and over and over again! As the Word of God comes forth, there is a WORD! You know, I've been in this message maybe, 35 years. I think I've heard just about everything that can be talked about in 35 years. I have sat under ministries and their sermons. I have spent most of my life in church. I have heard the teachings of the Tabernacle from top to bottom, from left to right, all around, in and out, and I have never heard one Word, one Word that was the same as the last Word that I heard. There is always something new, always something to glean, always some strength, revelation, some understanding, something that God gives

me as strength and vitality that I can add to my building!

Why do you think the devil wants to separate you from the brethren? It is because of the Word. Paul says there is only one Word, one doctrine, one baptism (Ephesians 4:5), and it is God's responsibility to eliminate, to take out, and to sift. We take the sifting on ourselves sometimes. (And we think that that which is sifted, because we have extracted ourselves from that set of circumstances or from that relationship, that we are right!) I want to tell you something! God doesn't take sides! God doesn't take sides!

There is a scripture found in the story of Joshua, about when they were going up against the heathen of the land. **And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted up his eyes and looked, and, behold, there stood a man over against him with his sword drawn in his hand: and Joshua went unto him, and said unto him, Art thou for us, or for our adversaries? ¹⁴And he said, Nay; but as captain of the host of the LORD am I now come. And Joshua fell on his face to the earth, and did worship, and said unto him, What saith my lord unto his servant? ¹⁵And the captain of the LORD'S host said unto Joshua, Loose thy shoe from off thy foot; for the place whereon thou standest is holy. And Joshua did so** (Joshua 5:13-15). So there was a man standing by the gate with His sword drawn in His hand. He was there in the camp of Israel, and yet he had His sword drawn. He was in the midst of the chosen of God, and yet He had His sword drawn. And Joshua, presumptuous Joshua, because of his position, because of his knowledge, because of the fact that he was the Lord's anointed, because he was the leader of Israel by the anointing and laying on of hands by Moses. Hallelujah! Can you imagine what it must have been to have the hands of Moses laid on you and have the charge and the electrical energy that was God in Moses begin to move through Moses into you? I don't think it was a peaceful event. I think it would probably be like when you go under those paddles to resuscitate your heart; your body goes rigid. Hallelujah! Your hair stands up on end as God rushes into your soul. Now if anybody was right, he had to be right! Joshua, in his position of presumption, because of his place of understanding, because of his leadership, because of his experience with God, he goes boldly up to Him. I almost think he might have had his hand on his sword. Boy, that would be ironic wouldn't it? That is something I might ask him when I see him, Brother duCille. Hallelujah! He might have even had his hand on his sword. He was a warrior. He didn't know who this man was, and he asked Him

the question, “Whose side are you on?” And the Captain of the Lord’s host put him in his place! And Joshua humbled himself! He humbled himself!

We think leadership is standing up for our rights. We think leadership is taking the position of responsibility. That has nothing to do with it. It says that Moses was the meekest man in all the earth (Numbers 12:3), and there must have been some of that meekness that was in Moses, that must have been imparted to Joshua. The man said, “I am Captain of the Lord’s Host.” We think we can withstand man. We think we can stand up in the midst of our authority and shake our finger and make our case, but that isn’t the case at all. Hallelujah! He said, “I am the captain of the Lord’s Host.” The scripture says that Joshua fell on his knees and worshiped. Didn’t it say that? It says that Joshua fell down on his face and worshiped (Joshua 5:14), so we know that it wasn’t an angel.

Brethren, let me tell you something. You’ve come here for whatever reason you’ve come. God has an entirely different intention. God has a different intention. Some of us have been here for a while and have not allowed the Spirit of God to do what the Spirit of God wants to do. Some of you are coming in fresh with all kinds of perceptions. All the perceptions that you have or all the desire that you need is that you want to meet with Jesus and it is on the basis of that meeting that you and I are going to be changed. If we sit here and resist Him because we don’t like the personalities involved, or we don’t think that we are getting the recognition or the credit that we need, or we are not given the time that we need to enjoy the terrain in which we are planted, **WE ARE NOT GOING TO SEE JESUS!**

I was walking down the road here a couple of days ago with a friend of mine who went home after the last session. I was walking down the road and we were talking about the things of God and all of a sudden I went into a vision. I saw this beautiful lush pond and it had all of these trees all around it and there was a waterfall flowing into it, falling into it. There was a bunch of little children in the pond and they were just splashing and having fun, screaming and yelling. You know how kids are, just having the best time of their life. And all the time, all the time, all the time that I was looking, it was a pond that was infested with crocodiles. It was a pond infested with crocodiles. Do you know something? Crocodiles aren’t docile animals. Crocodiles are an animal that will take advantage of something when a situation of food is presented to them. We have stories about crocodiles, or alligators,

jumping up on the wharf and pulling people into the water or pulling people out of boats. And these children were down there having the greatest time of their life and all the time death was stalking them. Death was stalking them.

Let me say that the Church had better wake up! The Church had better wake up to the position, the reality, the authority, and the need for them to be under that authority. I'm not talking about man. God has designated certain things in the Body. I don't argue with the calling and election of God. There are certain ministries in the Body in which I recognize the authority of God and I find myself submitting to the authority. Sometimes God reveals to me their weaknesses. But that doesn't eliminate, annihilate, or wipe out my position of responsibility or submission. Hallelujah! If I have the right attitude, if I am in the right way and I move in the right manner in my submission to that authority, then God has a responsibility to keep me in the path of righteousness for His Name's sake. We are not men that have unrighteous intentions. We are not talking about that! The Bible says that we are to know them that labour among us (I Thessalonians 5:12). What I'm talking about is the unction, the anointing, the Spirit of God in me that witnesses to the Spirit of God in the ministry. I am talking about the Word of God that is coming forth and the nature of that Word that is being demonstrated within the realm of humanity in that particular vessel. Paul said, "Follow me, as I follow Christ." (I Corinthians 11:1). Paul wanted to bring up other people, and he said to Timothy, "Select out men among you; men that have integrity and righteousness; men that have a love for God and teach them." Timothy was evidently something of a young man. At least he was a whole lot younger than some of them in his congregation, yet there was a delegation of authority that was put upon him that was not self-appointed.

We have spiritual diseases and one of them is what I call Apostletitis. It is a disease that is self-designated, self-orientated and self-exalting and self-terminating. Hallelujah! There is a need for us to understand why we are called. Brother Kinnogah, you want somebody that would work with you in Kenya to be a person that is dedicated, right? You want somebody that is tried and proven. You know what the conditions are if we were to send someone over to Kenya to work with you, isn't that right? You know the spirits they will have to contend with. You don't want somebody that is wishy-washy. You don't want someone who is self-orientated, self-exalted or that has a high opinion of their own ministry. You want somebody that has been tried, that has

worked in the church under authority, and has been able to grow and has learned the mechanics of what it means to submit. We want women to submit. Husbands will say with great authority, "You are a rebellious woman." I'll tell you what, nine times out of ten, if you've got a rebellious wife, it is because she has got a rebellious husband. Submission is not something that you orchestrate, administrate, manipulate or get by a spirit of control! There was someone in the Body awhile back that was promoting tapes on the subject of submission by a man whose name I believe is Pearl. I personally think he has done more damage than good in how we look at and how we teach submission, and yet, I've heard the quotations that he quotes, infiltrated in and amongst the Body of Christ. Bossy, controlling women. Well, how about the bossy, controlling man that is using the term as well as the attitude of "bossy, controlling woman" to restrain his wife and bring her into a place of subjection? What ever happened to prayer and fasting? Or of humbling yourselves before the Lord? **Do ye think that the scripture saith in vain, The spirit that dwelleth in us lusteth to envy? But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded. Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to heaviness. Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up** (James 4:5-10). Submission is something that a woman learns by reason of the fact or virtue of the man submitting himself to the authority that God has placed him under, to the authority of Christ, that is supposed to be his covering. We have seen a great deal of that in this conference. I'm not talking about husbands and wives; I'm talking about authority and the Body. What I am speaking about is people coming up with their own ideas, with their own agendas, without any awareness, without any concept, without any thought as to the mind of God or what intentions God may have. Do you know some of you are alive because of prayer and intercession in spite of what you have done, because God does not want reproach to come upon His Word! Not by virtue of your discernment, or by virtue of your perceived ministry, but by virtue of the fact that Elohim desires to see you delivered.

I can remember the first time I went to Africa. I was scared spit-less. It wasn't like it is now. Now it is nice compared to the first time I was there. When I first went there, the first thing that hit me

when I got off the plane was the humidity. There was no air-conditioning. They only had one light bulb down at the end of the hall. It was pitch dark. "Oh my, what am I doing here?" And the jet -way was not steady or stable. It was kind of wiggling around. I haven't been there for a while, but things have changed. I know the last time I went there they had lighted corridors. They had air-conditioning. They didn't have it turned on, but they did have it. It was dark, and all I could see was the whites of the guard's eyes and the gleam of the one light off the barrel of his gun. I don't know what it was about that that was so intimidating, but this was my experience that I am telling you about. I don't know what it is about me, but they always seem to single me out for harassment. They always pick on me. The guard said, "What are you doing here? Let me see your passport!" Now, I've been told not to give my passport to anybody. The guard said, "Let me see your passport!" "You can't have my passport." The guard said, "Let me see your passport!" I said, "You can't have my passport." The guard said, "I want to see your passport!" I said, "Well, who are you?" You know, they don't have uniforms. "What is your authority?" This woman comes up to me and she is dressed just like any other lady, but she is bullying me with this authoritative, totalitarian, Jezebel spirit and is wanting my passport. So she brings out a bunch of guards with guns and says, "Is this enough authority?" I said, "Yes, it is." And I gave her my passport.

I want to tell you, I stayed close to my authority. I stayed close. You talk about shadow! I became the epitome of the servant's servant. "I'll carry your bag. I'll carry your briefcase. I'll carry your Bible." There is something about learning the place of submission, being in subjection. You're not going to learn it out there on your own. You are not the one that determines when you are ready. It is the set of circumstances that God puts you in that says that you're ready! And you know something? You are really not ready, but it is by the grace of God and that God knows you have built up a position, a relationship with Him that you will listen to Him. Do you know what a "loose cannon" is? In the old days when they had the big ships with big cannons on them, they always tied them down because they knew that if they got into a storm and the seas began to roll, there was nothing that was more devastating than a cannon that was loose. It would wreck havoc on the deck, banging into people, killing people, maiming people, breaking holes, knocking down other armaments. It could do and would do devastating damages. Some of us are like loose cannons on the boat of God because we refuse to submit ourselves to the author-

ity that is in the Body! If you reject the authority (in the Body of Christ) you reject the Word. God has put five-fold ministry in the Body. The whole structure of the Tabernacle is surrounded by and leads up to that which pertains to the five-fold ministry. It becomes, as it were, the epitome of what is inside, and if you reject the minister, you reject the Word. What you will end up with is trying to fashion and form and breathe into your own image an image that is and will be in opposition to the will of God. Let me tell you, brethren, it is not going to have the strength or the ability to stand in the day of testing. I just ran out of time.

This conference is a conference of rededication, recommitment, and reaffirmation. It is a conference of repentance. If you leave here without repenting for your rebellion and sedition against the Lord and His Body, then you will have missed God. God bless you!



Thank You From Jamaica!



Testimonies and reports from the September 2005 Mission Trip

Our Jamaican Expedition
by Russell and Susan Blom

First, let me express how blessed my wife and I are to have been chosen by the Lord to be a part of the team that represented Him and you, our brethren, in the work in Jamaica. It was such a privilege to work with brothers Wade Lux, Craig Burton, and Craig Chatic in the distribution of relief supplies while sharing the Gospel of the Kingdom to the hungry souls in Jamaica. This is not intended to diminish the enormous amount of support we received from our Jamaican brethren. Brother Carl duCille was especially helpful with setting up the schedules and planning the road trips. His understanding of the local culture and customs saved us from situations which otherwise could have turned out very ugly. Unfortunately, his unexpected excessive work load prohibited him from being with us much of the time.

It is not an easy task to labor in a foreign land. Without the provision from every joint, the task would have been overwhelming, but because of the combined work of many, the mission was accomplished to the glory of God the Father! The evidence of your love was demonstrated in the meticulously detailed gathering, packaging, and delivering of the supplies for this storm ravaged land. As we began to unload the trailer, the enormity of this project became more and more evident. When we saw all the sorted and labeled boxes, the sacrificial hours of labor became overwhelmingly obvious. Both Susan and myself were moved emotionally, and we were tremendously blessed to know we were part of a people whose faith was not just something spoken, but as it is written in James 2:18, ***Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: show me thy faith without thy works, and I will show thee my faith by my works.*** Your faith was evident for all to see. It was wonderful to tell these afflicted souls that this was made possible because of the obedience of a people who love the Lord with more than mere words.

There are so many miraculous testimonies to share, but I would first like to explain how we even got there the first time, which is a miracle in itself.

The time for the Jamaica conference was quickly approaching and we had not yet made plans to go. As we were praying for an

answer, Brother duCille shared with our fellowship about how important it was for everyone that could possibly go to attend the Jamaica conference. We later spoke with him and explained that we were considering going, but we were short on finances. His reply to us was to go on faith. My first thought was that he was telling me to believe God for the finances, for this is a measure of faith. The real faith however, was dealing with that little phrase “considering going”. Would I be willing to go based on the word he spoke in our meeting, ‘that it was important for everyone who could possibly go to attend, that this would be a life changing event’? I was really faced with a dilemma; I didn’t have a word for myself, so shouldn’t I wait for God to speak to me directly? Was I just supposed to follow a man? As I meditated on these questions, the words from 2 Peter 1:19 kept ringing in my head. ***We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day stars arise in your hearts.*** There was a decision I had to make - was Brother duCille merely making a suggestion as he stood at the podium and addressed our fellowship, or was he speaking the Word of the Lord to us? I believe there are times we are guilty of accepting the word as being ‘anointed’ when it lines up with what we want to do, and if it is contrary to our will we discount the word as a suggestion or an opinion. The question that really needs to be asked is, “Do we recognize the anointing of God in one another and are we ready to submit to that anointing even when we don’t have a word of our own?” My first step of faith was actually an act of submission together with obedience. It was this first step, as Susan and I said, “Yes, we will go,” that the Jordan began to part, and the miracles began. (If anyone is thinking that I am a little out of line here, I would like you to consider Joshua chapter three. Ask yourself, was it Joshua or the priests who had the Word to stand in the river?) As we began to put substance to our faith, God began to provide all that was necessary that His will would be accomplished. Provision was made for our tickets, accommodations, and food. When we arrived in Jamaica, it had been prearranged by some friends of ours that we would stay at Chattam Cottages for a few days. (This location turned out to be very beneficial due to its close proximity to the airport. We were later able to meet different ones as they arrived for the conference.) After settling in at Chattam, we decided to go for a walk. We met several interesting people, all of whom seemed very willing to listen as we shared the Gospel of the Kingdom with them. Susan had felt to bring her accordion with her to Jamaica; this was well used as we ministered several times to some older people that live at Chattam Cottages. It was at one of these times of praise that we prayed for a woman with severely swollen and infected legs and the power of God touched her and she let out a holler as ‘electricity’ was running down her legs and bringing her much needed relief. It became obvious very quickly that God was doing something here which wasn’t based on our ability, but rather, on our willingness to be available. This was something I had shared many times, but now God was giving me first hand experience. It was during these very first days in Jamaica, even before the confer-

ence started, that God spoke to me about coming to this land to declare His Kingdom.

As the conference began, there were many things to do. Susan and I made ourselves available to do whatever we could. One time, while transporting brethren from the airport to the conference site, we were asked where our mission in Jamaica was located. When we replied that we didn't have a mission in Jamaica, they were surprised and said we fit in as though we lived there. It seemed that the more we made ourselves available, the more doors God opened and gave favor with those we interacted with.

In my heart was a desire to do street ministry, but I wasn't sure if it had ever been done at a conference before. While talking to Brother duCille one day, he asked me if I would be taking some of the young people down to Sam Sharp Square, a central location in downtown Montego Bay. We made the necessary arrangements and the following Sunday morning we loaded a bus with about twenty-five, both young and old alike, and headed downtown with instruments in tow. Everyone was full of anticipation as to what God was going to do. It was at this meeting that we met Lloyd Brooks. He was in Montego Bay that week working, and decided to take a walk when he heard the singing. As different ones began to minister the love of God to him, his heart was pricked and he wanted to go back to the conference with us. During the next couple of days, Brother Lloyd was saved, and later baptized for the remission of sins. Every Sunday we went down town to minister on the street, and every Sunday, somebody was touched by the Lord. This wasn't because of who we are, but rather because of who He is, and His love for His people.

As the conference continued, it became more and more clear to me that God was going to send us back to Jamaica. It was just over half-way through the conference that Brother Burt Asbill had a vision. He saw a Banyan tree planted in the middle of the island (a tree he had only previously seen in the southern United States) with its branches reaching out over the whole island, providing shelter. The tree had many support roots dropping down from the branches to help with stability. Brother Burt said that this tree represented Susan and myself.

The confirmation that I was looking for regarding going to Jamaica wasn't received until way after I "stepped in the river". I believe that I am very much like many who read this bulletin in that it is my sincere desire to do the whole will of God for my life. Sometimes we ask questions like: What is the will of God? How do I know God's plan for my life? The scripture is clear, Matthew 7:7, ***Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.*** So the real question should be, "Lord, what is it I intend to do with the portion You have already given me?"

As many are aware, Susan and I returned to Jamaica in September with Brothers Craig Burton, Wade Lux and Craig Chatic. We spent

six weeks distributing relief supplies while sharing the Gospel of the Kingdom. Susan and I plan to return to Jamaica as soon as we finalize some things here in West Palm Beach and sell our home. Please continue to pray for us that we will be willing to do the Lord's will. ...to be continued.

Thank you From Jamaica!!
Brother Wade Lux

My trip to Jamaica in September really had its beginning at the Thanksgiving conference of 2003 in Schuyler. Brother duCille shared a word concerning moonlighting and the fact that the evangelist, shepherd, and teacher were not in their proper order. He mentioned that there might be some meetings in Jamaica concerning these matters. As the word came forth something was quickened to me: I should attend these meetings.

Let's jump ahead to June 2004 and the conference in Jamaica. Much tribulation came to our household preceding my final decision to go to Jamaica. I had almost ruled against going, even though God had spoken to my heart. I wanted God's perfect will in going, but it seemed as if the doors were closing. One Sunday in June I called my sister Mary and told her I was not going to go, but I would give her money to purchase my daughters' tickets. The next morning I woke up about 4:00 a.m. A distinct feeling came to me that if I did not go to this conference I would miss God's will for my life. It is hard to explain what I felt that morning, but I felt I did not have a choice. God was saying to go. I called Mary the next day and asked her to get me a ticket. She could not get through until Tuesday, but that very day the price of the tickets was cut in half.

Our time in Jamaica was wonderful. The conference strengthened and encouraged us greatly. God moved in a mighty way and we were all greatly blessed. God brought many together from all over the world. One afternoon during the conference Brother Russ Blom asked me if I would ever consider coming back; I thought to myself as he asked the question, "Yeah, right," but I said, "Possibly." That night I believe God came to me and asked why I couldn't go. I started to make excuses - work, finances, family - but after a while they all seemed inadequate. I finally decided that if God could use me, I would surely let Him. I told Russ about my experience the previous night. We made plans to return to Jamaica in the fall. We kept in touch during the summer and decided to meet in Jamaica on September 28th, 2004.

September 28th found me in a Chicago at a small hotel awaiting my flight. I woke up at 2:30 a.m. and for some reason decided to check my passport. For some reason as I looked at the passport picture, I could not remember my hair being that long. Panic started to set in. Somehow my expired passport from years past had been packed instead of my current one.

I prayed fervently that God would intervene. God gave us favor with Air Jamaica and I was able to change my ticket to the following day. Sherry and Melissa brought my current passport to Chicago, and then I was on my way to meet Russ, Susan, and Craig in Jamaica on September 29th.

As I was in flight, I thought to myself, "How could my time in Jamaica possibly top the June convention?" I was very much mistaken. My second trip to Jamaica was very different, but it was a greater blessing than my first trip. From the time I stepped off the plane until the time I left, God put us to work to carry out His will and purpose.

Russ and I had talked about what God was speaking to us concerning the work. I shared my concerns about the group and my burden to encourage the local work. Russ told me about a dream where God had spoken to him about three different areas, one of these being in the rural area away from the city. We immediately started to gather the local brethren together and began to establish times for meetings and for prayer. The brethren had not been meeting regularly and some had become very discouraged. Brother Lloyd had lost his wife and son in a car accident. The devil had brought much trouble in his life and was trying to destroy him. In the time I was there, I saw God strengthen him greatly. Let me tell you, brethren, I have never seen God move so mightily as He did in Jamaica. Let me give you a couple of instances where God moved almost immediately upon prayers which we set before Him.

One of our primary needs as we started to gather was for a place to meet. Even in Dubuque we have seen where this could be a situation to challenge us. In Jamaica, a building which would meet the needs would not come cheaply. The first morning we met for prayer, the need for a building was first on our list. We decided that we would not limit God on that which He would provide for us. The next afternoon we decided to look at the building which Sonlight Gospel was looking to purchase. We walked in and Russ began a conversation with a man named Sal. Sal, as we were to find out, had purchased the very building that Sonlight Gospel wanted to buy. Sal immediately took a liking to Russ, and he decided that he would give Russ a room to use for one month. This room was about 1500 square feet and normal rent for this room was \$1500 a month.

The next morning we went to the beach. Brother Russ met up with someone whom he had become friends with in June. His name was Lester Thompson. Lester invited us to a Gideon's prayer breakfast on Saturday. We decided to go, but more about that later. I suggested to Russ that maybe we should try to get the keys to the building, thinking that it was not really ours until we had the keys. We drove to the place where Sal was. Sal's wife Barbara and a friend of hers, Elizabeth, along with Sal, decided to go with Russ and myself to look at the room we were given. While Sal was looking around inside, Barbara and Elizabeth spoke to Russ and myself concerning what had just transpired. We told them how great a blessing it was to get the use of the building. We then found out that both of these

ladies were Christians. We also found out that Sal really did not like Christians, but it seems that he really liked Russ. (While in Jamaica, God used Brother Russ to open many doors and gave him favor with many people.) We felt that Sal had been put in our path as a blessing from God and that we were put in his path as a blessing to his wife Barbara who seemed to be a very committed Christian.

Before we had come to Jamaica in September, there were many storms and hurricanes that hit this part of the world. There was much destruction and devastation in many parts of Jamaica. Many brethren in the States from different fellowships had worked together to collect food and clothing and to transport the collection of food and clothes to Florida—where it was loaded on a cargo ship—and then sent to Jamaica. In addition to strengthening the local work, it seems God wanted to use the local church to bless and strengthen others in Jamaica. That morning we shared with the brethren that God was going to use them to bless others. We shared with them about Brother Burt's prophetic word which came to Brother Russ and Sister Susan. At this time the relief supplies from the states had not yet reached us, but we felt God could already use us to begin to take goods to the country area in Jamaica. Brother Russ felt that God was speaking to us to take an offering. God richly blessed the offering that morning!

We then decided to buy some of the most necessary items and take some to the rural areas. We purchased about 500 pounds of bulk food. We took the bulk sacks of food and made smaller packages of food. We assembled about forty to fifty care packages that day. Each package contained brown sugar, rice, beans, flour, and corn-meal; items which would give them the nutrition they needed. God really blessed us as we worked together. There was a strong spirit of unity among us.

After this we decided to take our packages to where they were needed the most. We asked God to multiply that which we had, as He had multiplied the loaves and the fishes. We went to an area in Jamaica called Point. The hurricane had destroyed part of the road there. The first house we stopped at was Medrana's grandmother. She told us that we were an answer to the prayer she had made that very morning. The only food she had left was a couple of small pieces of chicken. We gave her some of the packages we had made and we prayed with her. She was greatly blessed! That afternoon we spent maybe three to four hours giving out food and sharing the love of God with many people. It seemed that day that God was with us in all we did. As we would give the natural portion we had, God would use us to pour out a much greater spiritual blessing to the people.

God moved marvelously in prayer that day. As we would pray with people you could sense God's anointing upon us. Some received Christ as Savior that day; others heard the Word of the King-

dom. All were blessed by what God was doing! We were very thankful for the open hearts He had given us. There are numerous things that I could tell you about my time in Jamaica, but I will limit it to just two more highlights.

The first one occurred in Devon, a village about 3 ½ hours from Montego Bay. We set out for Devon with many of the brethren and the supplies we needed to give out. We were going to see Sister Mavis' cousin. We came to the village and it was very obvious that the hurricanes had hit this area very hard. We introduced ourselves to Sister Mavis' cousin and started to share all the good things God was doing for us. We gave her some of the supplies we had. We also prayed with her, asking God to strengthen and encourage her. We also prayed that God would heal her leg which she had just injured. We felt the love that God had for this people. As we went into Devon many were ministered to, and many felt the loving touch of God. When we first entered Devon that day, we could see the discouragement and the hopelessness on everyone's face. As we left Devon at the end of the day, it was almost as if hope had been restored to this village. You could see by their countenances that God had used us to bring a message of hope unto them.

I want to share a particular experience in Devon that was a special blessing to me. Medrana and I were sharing the Gospel with a young lady named Vinette. As we shared with Vinette, I could see the devil bringing thoughts to her against the word. She seemed embarrassed that we were sharing so openly with her. God seemed to direct our steps with her. He was challenging us be persistent with her. "Will you press through with her?" He gave us wisdom with all the devil's attempts to stop us. Finally the victory was ours! She prayed with us sincerely asking Christ to come to her. We asked her if we could pray with her and she accepted. She was several months pregnant and recently her doctor had told her that one of her kidneys had almost shut down, and she was now experiencing much pain. We asked God to touch her physical body and also the circumstances of her life. I did not see Vinette again, but I knew God had touched her. When I was at the Florida convention, Brother Russ told me that Vinette had gone to the doctor and was told her kidney was completely normal. Praise God! God had touched her.

The last experience I want to share with you is about our time at the Gideon's breakfast. The first breakfast we went to was at a nice restaurant. We enjoyed the fellowship and the food very much that morning. They treated us like royalty! Their hospitality left a lasting impression on me. Most of the members were older people, maybe in their 60's or 70's. You could tell that there was a love of God in their midst. I was very respectful of them. The second breakfast was also this way. We were invited to the home of a Mr. Gordon. Again, the hospitality we received was wonderful. Usually at these breakfasts, one person shares a word or some thoughts from scriptures. Brother Russ was told about five minutes before the breakfast that he was the guest speaker. Brother Russ shared a word about coming out of denominations in order to come into God. The brethren

ren present were all blessed by what Brother Russ shared. As I was sitting at a table, a man came over to take the chair next to me. The man's name was Leo Scott. As he was coming to sit down I heard him say the words Cecil duCille. I told him that I knew a Cecil duCille. He went on to say that he worked with a man named Cecil duCille in 1949. As I talked with him I found out that he worked for the Agriculture Department with. Leo took care of animals, while Brother Cecil worked as an accountant. Leo shared with me about a time when a man over him wanted to cheat him. Leo brought the situation to Brother duCille. Brother duCille told him to register his deposits every month—this proved to be the undoing of the other man. He also shared with me about a meeting he was in where Brother duCille was preaching. A woman at this meeting—whose last name was Berry—was there with her son. Now, her son was deaf and dumb. The next day she was going to institutionalize her son, because she could not care for him. Brother duCille called her forward and told her if she did that, his future would be in the institution, so he said he would pray with her son. Brother duCille laid hands on him and prayed for him and told him to say, "My name is Cecil duCille." Now this boy had never spoken before. He got up and started running around and yelling, "My name is Cecil duCille." His hearing and tongue were now perfectly whole. Brother Leo told me that right after this, great fear fell on all the people because of the power of God. I had never met Brother Leo before, but I knew this was the very meeting Brother duCille had told us about all these years. Brother Leo has told me that he has prayed for Brother duCille morning and evening for many years.

I believe that while we were in Jamaica we saw God move very powerfully. I also believe that we had no special talents or abilities other than that we were where God wanted us to be. We found God was able to provide for our every need in Jamaica. The fields in Jamaica are now ripe for the Word of the Kingdom. I believe there is a great harvest ahead. We should pray that the Lord of the harvest would send laborers.

Please pray for Brother Russ and Sister Susan as they make preparation for God to use them in Jamaica. Also pray for Brother Carl duCille who seems to be a cornerstone in this work.

We in the different fellowships should prayerfully seek God about what help we can be in Jamaica financially. If each of us would take a part of the load the burden would be light for all.

Brother Craig Chatic

When God opens a door what must we do? Brethren, God has provided an open door to Jamaica for us as a Body. I was there in June with many of you for the International Seminar and we heard that God wanted to heal that land and that we should pray to that

end.

I was there again for a week in November with Russ and Susan Blom and was able to help with the missionary outreach to the island. We found much openness and gratitude among the people for the word of God and for the natural provisions. The people were amazed that someone was mindful of them and wanted to help them.

Brethren, Jehovah-Jireh is indeed a provider. He provided the opportunity for us to go in June. God also provided an opportunity for us to send relief to those hit by the hurricane. And God has provided brethren (Russ and Susan Blom) as laborers in the field. These brethren and the brethren there have demonstrated faithfulness, diligence, and obedience to this provision of God. I am not sure of the date that Russ and Susan are going back, but I am sure that this is the work of the Lord in Jamaica. We need to get behind this work with our support, both natural and spiritual. We need to pray with them and for this work. Brethren, let us not wait for the door to close, but let us make provisions with that which the Lord has provided to us.

Remember.... those who go forth into the battle and those who stay behind in support of the battle shall both share in the victory and blessings that Jehovah-Jireh provides. Thank you and God bless you.

THE DESIRES

BY KATE TROTTER

In the course of hearing the Word of God preached, I often find that God picks out certain thoughts that prick my heart and start me thinking. Over the past month, there has been a lingering idea that I have been mulling over. The idea came from the Tuesday, December 28th meeting in Florida during which Brother duCille ministered. He expressed that if we wanted victory, all we had to do was get rid of all our desires. Desire nothing and you will win. Only desire Christ.

At first, I found myself wondering at that declaration. I could hear, “But, but, but...” in my mind. “What about this? What about that?” As I began to weigh it, to meditate on it, to compare it to the Word, I found it to be a true statement! If all I desire is God, the devil will find nothing in me. I like that idea!

Just studying the list of verses for all the variations of the word “desire” is an abundance of food for thought. I found the Strong’s Concordance definitions to provide a greater word picture as well. Thank the Lord for computerized Bible studying in this extremely busy world I live in. My hope is that you will be as blessed as I am by what the scriptures say about our desires.

Ephesians 2:1

And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins; ²Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: ³Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the DESIRES of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

2307. thelema - from the prolonged form of 2309; a determination (properly, the thing), i.e. (actively) choice (specially, purpose, decree; abstractly, volition) or (passively) inclination

I believe it is important to note who we were and what our desires were previously. We should be changing and leaving this old nature behind. After we are born again our natural desires are in conflict with the spiritual desire God has birthed in us. Continually fulfilling those carnal appetites will prevent us from having victory in Christ. If we are to behave like kings and priests, we must not make our decisions based on our own desires. There must be an awareness of the rest of the kingdoms that we live in, our earthly home as well as the spiritual Kingdom of God, that our decisions will affect. As the

definition (2307. thelema) says, we must point our determination, our choices, our purpose into the Kingdom of Heaven and leave in the past the desires of our flesh and mind. God's intention for us is to see us come up into a higher spiritual place than where we began. He does not want to have "baby" Christians for His sons, so we must work at our spiritual mountain climbing, and climb up and away from our sinful carnality.

We must know what our desires were before our encounter with the Blood of Jesus Christ in order to not continue in that vein any longer. It is also necessary to know what the Bible says we should NOT desire. I find that the scripture references deal heavily with our human nature as God addresses what we should not be desiring.

Deuteronomy 7:25

The graven images of their gods shall ye burn with fire: thou shalt not DESIRE the silver or gold that is on them, nor take it unto thee, lest thou be snared therein: for it is an abomination to the LORD thy God.

2530. chamad - a primitive root; to delight in

God was specific in telling us that we should not desire the world, for it is a snare to us. Remember, desire only Christ and we will have victory. The silver and gold of this world will only snare us, not empower us as many would like to think. As the Word says, the love of money is the root of all evil.

Deuteronomy 5:21

Neither shalt thou DESIRE thy neighbour's wife, neither shalt thou covet thy neighbour's house, his field, or his manservant, or his maidservant, his ox, or his ass, or any thing that is thy neighbour's.

2530. chamad - a primitive root; to delight in

This sounds so very simple, doesn't it? However, when I become unthankful for the situation of my own house, I find myself desiring what my neighbor has. I "delight in" their circumstance and think that, if I only had that, I would be much happier. Yet, I should know that this is only a seed of covetousness growing in my desires and if I continue in them, I will be led into sin, and when it is finished, all I will have is death (James 1:15). God gave us simple instructions against the strength of our desires. Desire only Christ and we will find victory!

Proverbs 23:6

Eat thou not the bread of him that hath an evil eye, neither DESIRE thou his dainty meats:

183. 'avah - a primitive root; to wish for:

Proverbs 24:1

Be not thou envious against evil men, neither DESIRE to be

with them.

183. *'avah - a primitive root; to wish for:*

The Bible says much about the wicked man and what shall become of him. Fret not thyself because of evildoers, for they shall be cut down like grass, etc (Psalm 37). God knows that we will look upon the evil man and see all the “blessings” that he seems to have and we will begin to be envious that the rain is falling upon the just and the unjust together. God also sees that the envy will lead into moving our desires, our wishes, into being with them, which will lead us away from the paths of righteousness that He wants to keep us on. We must put our desires totally into the Kingdom of God and only then, we will not be moved.

Ecclesiastes 6:9

Better is the sight of the eyes than the wandering of the

DESIRE: this is also vanity and vexation of spirit.

5315. *nephesh - from 5314; properly, a breathing creature, i.e. animal of (abstractly) vitality; used very widely in a literal, accommodated or figurative sense (bodily or mental):*

This verse is very interesting to me. Have you ever heard the saying that you need to bloom where you are planted? It is better to take care of what God has given you to do than to allow your desires to be taken up with something of a fantasy. It is obviously a warning that allowing our desire to wander in earthly things is dangerous. God is putting up a road sign that says, “There is a cliff ahead, do not allow yourself to have wandering desires!” It is also interesting to note the Strong’s definition here. The part of our soul called the desires is a breathing creature, very much an active, living part of our being.

Luke 20:46

Beware of the scribes, which DESIRE to walk in long robes, and love greetings in the markets, and the highest seats in the synagogues, and the chief rooms at feasts; ⁴⁷Which devour widows’ houses, and for a shew make long prayers: the same shall receive greater damnation.

2309. *thelo - apparently strengthened from the alternate form of 138; to determine (as an active option from subjective impulse; whereas 1014 properly denotes rather a passive acquiescence in objective considerations), i.e. choose or prefer (literally or figuratively); by implication, to wish, i.e. be inclined to (sometimes adverbially, gladly); impersonally for the future tense, to be about to; by Hebraism, to delight in:*

There is another study one could stop and do right here. The scribes and Pharisees are examples of what we should not become. It is shown here that there is a desire we must push away from ourselves, we must not determine, choose or prefer, wish, be inclined to, or de-

light in the esteem of others, or be religious. If we would desire only Christ, nothing of this sort would matter anymore. Our only concern would be obedience to Christ.

What exactly are God's desires? A few verses use this specific word, though I do know that there are many more expressing God's desires toward us. It is exciting to note how much He loves us and yearns for us.

Song of Solomon 7:10

I am my beloved's, and his DESIRE is toward me.

8669. t@shuwqah - from 7783 in the original sense of stretching out after; a longing:

I can see God just reaching His hand out to me, longing for me to truly be His beloved. To say that you belong to someone and that you are beloved to them makes a person feel very special. We, the Body of Christ, are God's beloved, if only we understood how much that really means!

Psalm 45:11

So shall the king greatly DESIRE thy beauty: for he is thy Lord; and worship thou him.

183. 'avah - a primitive root; to wish for:

Our King sees beauty in us! So many times at the end of the day, I do not think there is anything beautiful in me, but God says He makes all things beautiful in His time. As we submit, he will remove the ugliness from within our hearts and beauty will be planted and begin to spring forth. I desire to see that day. There is also a response in this verse. God is desiring us and we, in turn, are to recognize Him as Lord and worship Him. We must be willing and we must exalt our King and fulfill His desire for us.

Psalm 68:16

Why leap ye, ye high hills? this is the hill which God DESIRETH to dwell in; yea, the LORD will dwell in it for ever.

2530. chamad - a primitive root; to delight in:

As I read this, I begin to imagine Mt. Zion. God says that He dwells in Mt. Zion and that it is a wonderful place. We are Mt. Zion and the hill which God delights to dwell in!

Job 23:13

But he is in one mind, and who can turn him? and what his soul DESIRETH, even that he doeth.

183. 'avah - a primitive root; to wish for:

Here I see the power and strength of our Yahweh as Job speaks of Him. He is in one mind, He is not double-minded as we so often are. His desires do not run to and fro from this trivial matter to that silly object. As we desire only Christ, our desires will become His de-

sires and then He will be able to use us to bring for His plan in the earth. There is nothing that could be better!

Psalm 40:6

Sacrifice and offering thou didst not DESIRE; mine ears hast thou opened: burnt offering and sin offering hast thou not required.

2654. chaphets - a primitive root; properly, to incline to; by implication (literally but rarely) to bend; figuratively, to be pleased with, desire:

So often I speak to my children of this principle. I find that our natural tendency is to give God something of a gift or a small sacrifice, when what He really wants is US! We hold ourselves back, keeping “the best” and giving a token, hoping that will suffice. He desires our very hearts. When we give our desires to Him and begin to desire only Him, I believe He will get our whole heart.

When I began to think of desiring nothing, I wondered what exactly that meant. It seemed as if everything would be pretty boring. Yet, when I began to study the Word, the realization came that I was quite incorrect. God has height and width and breadth and depth; there is nothing boring about Him! There are so many avenues of proper desire in Christ in the Bible and I was quite encouraged by them!

I Peter 2:2

As newborn babes, DESIRE the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:

1971. epipothéo - from 1909 and pothéo (to yearn); to dote upon, i.e. intensely crave possession (lawfully or wrongfully):

Do we still desire the sincere milk of the Word? Do we wake up in the morning, wanting to hear more from God? Am I still in that place in which I am excited to listen to the Word of God, to read it and feel as though I am being washed in a waterfall with the washing of the water of the Word? Look at the defining words for desire in this verse, this is not a typical passing whim that he is referring to. This desire is one that we feel intensely; a yearning for the truth of God to be planted inside of us as we partake of the Word of God. Isn't that exciting? Do you desire only Christ?

Psalm 73:25

Whom have I in heaven but thee? and there is none upon earth that I DESIRE beside thee.

2654. chaphets - a primitive root; properly, to incline to; by implication (literally but rarely) to bend; figuratively, to be pleased with, desire:

This is another verse that begs a question. Whom do you have

in heaven and earth but Him? Is there someone or something that fulfills your desires other than Yahweh? For myself, I hope not! Yet I understand the need that we have to search our hearts and see. Look upon the throne in your heart, who is there? I experienced a time in my life when someone else was on the throne in my heart and it was causing me much spiritual damage. When I finally asked God to remove it and take His rightful place, there was great joy that came into my soul and I became relieved of a great burden! I believe that our heart's cry should be that we have none other that we desire besides Christ in us, the hope of glory.

Job 13:3

Surely I would speak to the Almighty, and I DESIRE to reason with God.

2654. chaphets - a primitive root; properly, to incline to; by implication (literally but rarely) to bend; figuratively, to be pleased with, desire:

God wants us to desire to speak with Him. This verse is spoken by Job. He is correcting others for speaking for God and expressing His desire to speak directly to God without their wicked interpretation of God. I was speaking to the children the other day about this desire to constantly converse with God. There are moments when I feel that God just wants us to talk to Him about everything. I feel that He wants us to explore Him in our conversation with Him. We should desire to ask Him questions about everything, not, "Why are You doing this to me?" but questions that we face in our natural circumstances. We should be inclined to ask Him how we should handle each situation in our life. Talk to Him about everything that pleases or even displeases us! Ask Him why things work the way that they do and what spiritual implication it holds. A simple experience that I have had is one that deals with work that I was doing. I did not know how to do something and God woke me up in the middle of the night with the solution to the problem! As time has gone by, God has been proved right, imagine that! God should seem close to us, closer than anyone else. He should be the one to whom we desire to talk. Desire only Christ!

II Chronicles 15:15

And all Judah rejoiced at the oath: for they had sworn with all their heart, and sought him with their whole DESIRE; and he was found of them: and the LORD gave them rest round about.

7522. ratsown - from 7521; delight (especially as shown):

Praise the Lord! I desire to experience rest in my soul as these received rest round about them. The children of Israel were sent to

possess their land and to dispossess the inhabitants of that land that would cause them to sin and turn away from God. We are to possess our souls and dispossess those familiar spirits that plague us with besetting sin. As I read this verse, I rejoiced that when I seek Him with my whole desire, I will find the Lord and He will give me rest from those familiar spirits that vex my soul! What a wonderful aspect of placing our desire upon Christ and reaping the benefits!

Proverbs 10:24

The fear of the wicked, it shall come upon him: but the DESIRE of the righteous shall be granted.

Proverbs 11:23

The DESIRE of the righteous is only good: but the expectation of the wicked is wrath.

8378. ta'avah - from 183 (abbreviated); a longing; by implication, a delight (subjectively, satisfaction, objectively, a charm):

Psalm 145:19

He will fulfil the DESIRE of them that fear him: he also will hear their cry, and will save them.

7522. ratsown - from 7521; delight (especially as shown):

Psalm 37:4

Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the DESIRES of thine heart.

6026. 'anag - a primitive root; to be soft or pliable, i.e. (figuratively) effeminate or luxurious:

In these four verses, I see the same line of thought expressed for those who have placed their desires in the Lord. We have often talked about our necessity to have the Holy Ghost move into our soul and for us to mortify the deeds of the flesh, to become the sons of God that no longer sin but are complete in Christ. When this happens, we will not have our own petty desires any longer. We will have the mind of Christ and His desires will be our desires which is so much better than anything we can imagine. As we press into God and allow His desires to become our desires, He will be able to grant them!

Proverbs 13:12

Hope deferred maketh the heart sick: but when the DESIRE cometh, it is a tree of life.

Proverbs 13:19

The DESIRE accomplished is sweet to the soul: but it is abomination to fools to depart from evil.

8378. ta'avah - from 183 (abbreviated); a longing; by implication, a delight (subjectively, satisfaction, objectively, a charm):

Fulfillment comes from God alone. Nothing can take His place. Our longing and our delight should be placed in Christ, that we may

find that sweetness in our own souls. Psalms 42 and 43 exhort us to hope in God. When our soul is disquieted or cast down, our hope should be in the Lord. As we put our hope completely in the Lord, He is able to bring the accomplishment of our desires for Him.

Mark 11:24

Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye DESIRE, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.

154. aiteo - of uncertain derivation; to ask (in genitive case):

Is God's desire our own desire? We look for answers to our prayers and God says that we should receive them. He says that if we knock, it shall be opened, if we seek, we will find, if we ask, we shall receive. Yet, if our desires do not match God's will for our lives, do we really want to receive the answer to the prayer we have prayed? As our desire is only for Christ, we will know that we are not asking amiss. James 4:3 says, ***Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts.*** I do not want to continue to ask amiss because my desire is not God's desire. Imagine the things that could be accomplished when we place our desires only in Christ and God is able to use us as a channel for Him to do all that He desires to do!

Matthew 20:20

Then came to him the mother of Zebedee's children with her sons, worshipping him, and DESIRING a certain thing of him.

Mark 10:35

And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, come unto him, saying, Master, we would that thou shouldest do for us whatsoever we shall DESIRE.

154. aiteo - of uncertain derivation; to ask (in genitive case):

Mark 9:35

And he sat down, and called the twelve, and saith unto them, If any man DESIRE to be first, the same shall be last of all, and servant of all.

2309. thelo - apparently strengthened from the alternate form of 138; to determine (as an active option from subjective impulse; whereas 1014 properly denotes rather a passive acquiescence in objective considerations), i.e. choose or prefer (literally or figuratively); by implication, to wish, i.e. be inclined to (sometimes adverbially, gladly); impersonally for the future tense, to be about to; by Hebraism, to delight in:

Jesus did not rebuke anyone for having a desire for the Kingdom of God. He simply told them that there would be a price to pay in

order to attain what they desired in God. If we desire a place in the Kingdom of God, it is unlike the kingdoms of men. We do not scratch and fight our way to the “top.” We are instructed that we must be servants, slaves. There is just no other way to go about it, God does not want another group of Pharisees proclaiming their eminence. Desire only Christ, not the preeminence over your brethren.

Proverbs 3:15

She is more precious than rubies: and all the things thou canst DESIRE are not to be compared unto her.

2656. chephets - from 2654; pleasure; hence (abstractly) desire; concretely, a valuable thing; hence (by extension) a matter (as something in mind):

God is the giver of wisdom. He says in James 1:5, ***If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.*** There is no real wisdom unless it comes from Him. This is a proper avenue for our desires. As we place our desire only in Christ, we will be able to properly desire God’s wisdom, which He will grant to us. We will also be able to lay our own thoughts and perceived “wisdom” aside.

Romans 10:1

Brethren, my heart’s DESIRE and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved.

2107. eudokia - from a presumed compound of 2095 and the base of 1380; satisfaction, i.e. (subjectively) delight, or (objectively) kindness, wish, purpose:

I Corinthians 14:1

Follow after charity, and DESIRE spiritual gifts, but rather that ye may prophesy.

2206. zeloo - from 2205; to have warmth of feeling for or against:

I Timothy 3:1

This is a true saying, If a man DESIRE the office of a bishop, he DESIRETH a good work.

3713. oregomai - middle voice of apparently a prolonged form of an obsolete primary (compare 3735); to stretch oneself, i.e. reach out after (long for):

1937. epithumeo - from 1909 and 2372; to set the heart upon, i.e. long for (rightfully or otherwise):

These are absolutely proper channels for our desire of Christ. As we desire only Christ, I am sure that we will begin to have more desire for men’s souls, spiritual gifts, and places of responsibility in the Body of Christ.

And finally, our desire for the incorruptible and eternal will

overcome our human desire for the earthly and the corruptible life.

II Corinthians 5:2

For in this we groan, earnestly DESIRING to be clothed upon with our house which is from heaven:

1971. epipotheo - from 1909 and potheo (to yearn); to dote upon, i.e. intensely crave possession (lawfully or wrongfully):

Philippians 1:23

For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a DESIRE to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better:

1939. epithumia - from 1937; a longing (especially for what is forbidden):

One other avenue for our desires is apparent to me. This is the desires we have for our brethren, whom we have been exhorted to love with agape love and to have bowels of compassion for them.

II Corinthians 7:7

And not by his coming only, but by the consolation where-with he was comforted in you, when he told us your earnest DESIRE, your mourning, your fervent mind toward me; so that I rejoiced the more.

1972. epipothesis - from 1971; a longing for:

Philippians 4:17

Not because I desire a gift: but I DESIRE fruit that may abound to your account.

1934. epizeteo - from 1909 and 2212; to search (inquire) for; intensively, to demand, to crave:

Colossians 1:9

For this cause we also, since the day we heard [it], do not cease to pray for you, and to DESIRE that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;

154. aiteo - of uncertain derivation; to ask (in genitive case):

Hebrews 6:11

And we DESIRE that every one of you do shew the same diligence to the full assurance of hope unto the end:

1937. epithumeo - from 1909 and 2372; to set the heart upon, i.e. long for (rightfully or otherwise):

May God give us a heart for our brethren full of godly desires. Pursue after Christ with all of your desire and pray that your brethren in Christ will do the same.

Desire is one of the four compartments in the soul of man. The soul is the place that God desires to fill and complete. As we commit our every desire unto Him, let us also give Him our mind, our will and our emotions. For when He shall appear, then we shall truly be like Him and we will finally see Him as He is. God bless you.