

January 2007

Keeping

In

Touch

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

Philippians 1:27

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Info Center

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the first edition of the Keeping In Touch for 2007! We hope this issue finds you prospering both in body and soul.

We have worked hard once again to bring you the things that the Lord has been speaking, both personally and corporately. We have three words in this K.I.T. Brother Barak Asbill speaks on the logos and the rhema, Brother Burt Asbill speaks on the responsibility of the watchman, and Brother Tom Campbell speaks on the need for us to cleanse our temple. We also have a personal testimony by Melissa Trotter, and reports from the mission trip to Nigeria from Brother Jim Cassel and Brother George Herrig. There are many other encouraging things to read, so go ahead and get reading!

As always, we welcome any contributions you may want to send, whether it be an article you found pertinent to this time, a testimony of God's greatness in your life, or a word of encouragement to any and all! Please send any submissions to us at either of the following addresses:

News Bulletin, PO Box 409, Mahomet, IL 61853 or kitbulletin@truevine.net











Living Word Omega Message 2272 County Road 350 E

Directions: Take Hwy 47 North from Mahomet. We are the first right after Briar Cliff Subdivision.

Happy reading, and may God bless you this year!

Meeting
Schedule
Sundays 10:00am
Wednesdays 7:30pm

PRISON
Ministry
Sundays January 14th & 28th
& Every Monday Night

sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
		January 2007				
	 1	2	3	4	 5	6
7	8	 9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	 18	19	20
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THE WATCHMAN WATCHETH

BURT ASBILL

OCTOBER 15, 2006

MAHOMET, ILLINOIS



I've been accused of being something of a negative fellow, but there is a lot that I see, not necessarily from my perspective, but from God's perspective, that really isn't very positive. The prophet Jeremiah lived through the dispensation of King Nebuchadnezzar, and he didn't seem to be very popular with the folks back home in Israel. They liked him so much they made a special room for him and their hospitality almost overwhelmed him (Jeremiah 38). It took the divine intervention of God in order to save him. But be that as it may, he had a responsibility and a place before the Lord, and an accountability to deliver the Word that the Lord gave him.

The scripture says that if a watchman stands upon the wall, and he seeth destruction cometh and he alert not the city, then the blood of those slain because of the coming destruction will be required at the watchman's hands (Ezekiel 33:6). I believe that to some degree God has appointed me a position of watching. For one reason or another, He gives me certain dreams and visions, and not all of them are what I would call the very best things in the world that one would want to dream and see. I see a lot of destruction. I see a lot of death and desolation, but in the midst of a lot of that, there is always a word of hope that God speaks to me that is expressed very adequately in the scriptures where He says that if you will hear My voice, and you will heed and obey, it will be well with you (II Chronicles 7:14).

The Bible calls us to be single of eye. There's so much that the Bible says about what we are to be or how we are to be that we are so terribly and absolutely out of sync with, and it's creating a problem in the church, in that the church has not come into the place where it needs to be.

I had a vision. If you want the Spirit of God to move in visions, in dreams, in prophecies, and in exhortations in the church - if you want Him to move, you have to have

anointed praise. One of the prophets was asked to prophesy in the Old Testament, and the prophet told the king, "Bring the praisers." The praisers must praise so that the prophets might prophesy. You know, the situation with the old prophets is somewhat different in that the old prophets were more or less compelled to prophesy. They didn't seem to have much of a choice. They had to do what the Lord commanded them to do regardless of what the consequences were, whereas New Testament prophets seemed to have an ability to not prophesy, or to prophesy, sometimes to not prophesy at their own expense, and sometimes to prophesy at their own expense.

I'd rather err on the side of right than on the side of wrong.

We were in a meeting in Prague after the conference - I did not get into much of the conference, I only got in on the last two days - but I was told it was a very good conference. I know that the two days that I was there the praise was very good. I won't say it was exceptional because I have been in other meetings where the praise has been in a place where God came in like waves on a beach and it kind of left me hungering for that type of experience. I always think, "Well, maybe we're going to break through," but it always seems that we reach a certain point and that's as far as we go. I believe that it's because we lack the spiritual strength to persevere and to press through and to bring this flesh under subjection to the power of the Holy Ghost. Hallelujah. I know when I first came into this word we had exceptional praise. I don't know whether you would have called it the high praises of God - I don't know whether we could have tolerated the high praises of God - but we had exceptional praise and the Spirit of God would move in a mighty way in the midst of the congregation.

I've been in meetings in Africa in the beginning when they weren't so sophisticated. They were getting educated, please don't get offended at me, but they weren't as educated, and there was a hunger and a desire for the reality of God. They were in a place of difficulty so they wanted to touch God's garment. How many of you have found that when you're in the midst of tribulation and trouble and poverty and things are being pressed down on you, you're more apt to be looking to God for your position of deliverance? You're more apt to be looking to God for your health if there's not a doctor to run to, if there's not a finance company to go borrow money from to get you out of your momentary position of trouble. There's only God. How many of you find that the reality of God is so much greater than in prosperity? But I have found out something:

that you and I have to overcome prosperity as much as we have to overcome poverty. And quite frankly, I think prosperity is a whole lot more difficult to deal with than poverty, because when you have nothing, you've got nothing to lose. It is not that way if you have something. Hallelujah.

We have these young people that have come from Europe and are staying with us, and I think you know they had to come with a bare minimum of things. I've been telling those that are in my house, "Well, you have an excellent opportunity, you're in an excellent position, you're in an excellent place to allow God to meet your position of need." I said, "The Body will respond." Hallelujah. And the Body has responded. Now, some of the things that come, you may not like and they may not go with your color scheme or whatever, but the fact is that if God provides something there should be a sense of satisfaction and excitement that you should have in that God has seen your need and He has provided. Sometimes I think it's a test. You know, I think sometimes God will give us something that we really don't want but that we need. We think that we want something different because it will meet our need in a greater way or measure up, to some extent, to our expectations. But God, in His infinite mercy and His infinite wisdom, knows that it is not what you need that has to be changed. It's what is inside of you that has to learn to obey and to submit itself to God so that God might work something irrevocable within our being to make us compatible with Him.

The fact is that you and I are incompatible with God. In our present state, in our present form, we are incompatible with God. We're out of sync. I'm always trying to sync up my little PDA with my computer and if there's something wrong, my computer wants to reject my PDA. A lot of times that's what it is with you and me. We want to sync up with God, but there are certain files within us that are incompatible with God's database. I cannot get away from the scripture that is found in James 4:4 where it says that friendship with the world is enmity against God. Now, I'm only quoting the last little portion. It amazes me. I wonder what the church that James was writing to felt like when they got the letter. "Oh, it must be this guy over here," or, "It's that congregation over there," or, "It's this one over here." "But surely James isn't addressing me. James isn't talking about me! James isn't referring to me as an adulterer or an adulteress." Hallelujah. But he was talking to the church. James was not writing to a denomination or a non-denominational church. James was writing to the elect of God. Do you know that? These were the elect of God! The denominational system had not yet, to the degree that we know it, infiltrated and infected the Body. These were the elect of God. They had



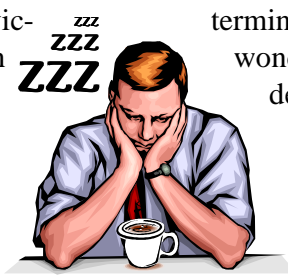
the end-time message. Now, we may not think of James writing to an end-time church because it was two thousand years ago, but the fact was, James was writing to the end-time church, the elect of God, those that are spoken of in Revelation! And the interesting part about Revelation is, it says, seven times, I believe, "To him that overcometh," will I what? Several things because there are seven positions. I think they're not only indicative of dispensations of what the church has gone through (which they are on one level), but on another level I believe they are points that you and I can attain to as believers in Christ that want to be sons of God.

Now, I don't know what you believe, I really don't, and I will not know what you believe, what you really believe, until Jesus comes and you appear as a son of God! When you are standing there with God as part of the first fruits company, there will be that demonstration: Yes! You're a son of God! You really believed the Word! But God is not like me. He sees the thing that is in my heart. He knows those things that are detrimental to that desire that He has for me. You know, it wasn't my desire for me to be a son. It was not my desire - it was His desire! I was a sinner; I was out there in the world. I was encapsulated in my humanity, destined for hell, and enjoying (I thought) every minute of it. But you were probably different. You probably came forth out of the womb desiring God. You probably made every effort through your childhood, growing into a young adult, and as a mature adult individual pursuing after those things that pertained to God. I was not in that condition. I was a sinner most wretched and miserable. I couldn't think right thoughts, I couldn't use my eyes in a proper manner, I couldn't use my ears in a proper manner, I could not use my body in a proper manner. Everything that I was was contrary to Who God is. Yet, in that position, in that place, there was a desire in God's heart to make me a son. Not just to save me! It's not a matter of just getting into Heaven. Many are going to just get into Heaven like the thief on the cross. But sometimes I think the thief on the cross might be in a better position than some of us that have had a word that has the ability to bring forth and work such a transformation, and we have not made ourselves available to it or allowed it to have the full scope of work done that needs to be done. To whom much is given, much is required (Luke 12:48).

Now, it's not even a matter of coming to a position or a place of saying, "I am victorious." I don't really believe that has a whole lot to do with it, although when we get to that place, I think many of us are going to shout, "I am victorious!" What I believe is the desire that we have and the intensity with which we apply that desire in our practical, everyday situations is going to bring us to the place

where we are going to be able to shout, “I am victorious!” It’s like a man that is walking down the road and he stumbles, stubs his toe and falls. Now, he can wallow in the dirt and lament the fact that his toe is stubbed and bleeding and he’s down there in the dirt, or he can look at the toe and say, “Well, in spite of the toe, in spite of the blood, I am going to press on. I’m going to press in.” He can get himself up and shake himself off, and begin to make his journey. He has just overcome. He has just made a mark. He has just had a victory. Now, he may not feel victorious. He may not necessarily even see the aspect of victory, but in God’s sight, in God’s mind, he is one step closer to being a son. Now, does that mean he’s not going to stumble again? Absolutely not, because he might take one step, half step, or no steps and fall down flat on his face and find himself in the same position, the same place, without any distance. Does that mean he has not overcome? Only if he does not get up again. Only if he does not look at his circumstances from God’s perspective. In myself I can do nothing, but in God’s grace, by His virtue, ***I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me*** (Philippians 4:13). So he gets up and shakes himself off. You know, how many times? Seventy times seven maybe, I don’t know, but it is until the time, until the place that he has broken through with regard to that arena of his life that is under the scrutiny of the Holy Ghost. You see, God looks on the inward side of all of us. He sees the character, He sees the nature, He sees the inabilities, the frustrations, the weaknesses and all of the different things that are in there. God looks upon those things and He knows they’re incompatible. What does He do? He puts us into those situations that are demanding something we cannot give. We cannot give it! And yet, He demands that we give, so He gives us the strength to give! My goodness. Hallelujah.

Well, anyway, I was in a meeting in Prague. You know, traveling isn’t fun anymore. I used to look up there and watch that jet go, and I’d say, “Boy, I wonder where it’s going.” I can remember the different places I’ve been and how I was excited about it, but the traveling doesn’t excite me any more. It’s a chore; it’s a job. I’m just afraid of being blown up. Hallelujah. It’s not fun anymore. You have to take your shoes off, take your coats off and walk through, and they wave wands over you. I think Brother duCille said he took his shoes off four times in one airport. And then, I don’t know what it is, I think it’s really a planned conspiracy, but your plane is always on the other side of the terminal and you only have so much time to get there. I wonder sometimes, “How do my bags keep up with me?” Sometimes they don’t. It was God’s mercy they came home with me this time, because I missed my plane in Detroit. But the connecting flight is always on the other side of the



terminal. You walk, walk, walk, walk, walk and you wonder, “Maybe it was an illusion, maybe it was a deception, maybe there’s no plane there at all!” I asked the lady, “Is there a concourse E?” She said, “Oh, yes. Down the road a ways.”

My goodness. I’m telling you, brethren, we need to wake up and smell the coffee, or smell the roses and understand the reality of the situations that we are living in as sons of God. No, let’s say as “wannabe sons.” Brother duCille is always correcting me. I’m saying, “Well, the Lord told me that it’s about the Body of Christ.” He says, “Uh-uh. Not the Body. Church.” He says the Body of Christ is not necessarily going to find themselves in that position. They’re not yet the Body, they’re still in church! Hallelujah. There’s a transition that has to be made from church to Body and a lot of us are in church but we’re not in the Body! I want to tell you, if we’re not in the Body, then we’re in a place of jeopardy, we’re in a place of not being covered in the way that we need to be covered for the time that is coming upon us! Hallelujah.

Now, you don’t have to believe what I say. You really don’t. Time is going to bear it out. If all of us live long enough and the Lord so wills that we tarry till He comes, time is going to bear out the reality of the word that we are ministering. But I’ve been there; I’ve seen a lot of what is going on. I’m telling you, if you don’t have the reality of Christ, there will be hopelessness. I don’t know what these people are trusting in that are getting on airplanes! I don’t know what they’re trusting in, but they must be trusting in something! The planes are packed. That was the most surprising thing that I found, that these airplanes are packed. People think all the additional security and all of the things that are being requiring of us are going to eliminate the threat! It’s an impossibility, do you hear me? Humanly, mechanically impossible to get through. There are things that go through that screening process all the time because the people that are working them are not infallible. Some of the people that are working with them are dishonest! Don’t put anything of value in your luggage. They made it easy. You can’t lock it so somebody can steal it. Well, praise the Lord. Hallelujah. I told one person in one place, “You know, you make me leave my bags unlocked and then you divorce yourself from the liability of it,” I said, “and then somebody steals it.” We live in the midst of a perverse and corrupt generation. They’re more interested in entertainment, more interested in having a good time. It says, as it was in the days of, who? Noah. So shall it also be in the days of the coming of the Son of man (Luke 17:26). Business as usual. Business as usual. Doing all the things as everybody else in the world has done them, when there’s a job that has been given to us as candidates for sonship. My goodness.

When I was a young man growing up, the service was mandatory. I think they called it selective service, didn't they? "I select you." That's why it was selective service, wasn't it? Well, I didn't like to be selected, and I really think it was the Lord. I wasn't living as a Christian at the time, but I really believe it was the Lord that motivated me to go and join the army. But when I joined the army, while I was in basic training, I was approached to be a candidate for another branch within the army. It wasn't like special forces. Special forces you had to volunteer for and we weren't quite that crazy, although I think that that type of craziness might have been good if it could have been applied to the position of being a son.

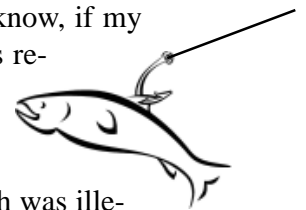
You see, there are different levels, I believe, in the realm of the heavenlies. Now, I believe the Bible teaches this. I don't have time to go through all the scriptures, you're just going to have to get into the scriptures and look at them - but the scriptures seem to indicate that there are levels that we can attain to in this realm that are not necessarily open to us in that realm. One of the things that gives me that impression is the fact that they without us cannot be made perfect (Hebrews 11:40). Okay, let's go to another little more abstract one, where it talks about Paul. He says, "I have" what? "Laid up for myself," how did he do that laying up? In the realm of the world in which he was living, he was in the world but he was not part of the world, and whatever he was doing in the world was, what? Laying up for himself treasures (II Timothy 4:8). In fact, he said a strange thing. He said, "I have a crown." Now, a crown is indicative of a position of authority. Are you given a crown for the sake of wearing one, or is there something very significant about the fact that Paul says, "I have laid up for me a crown"? I think that he had secured for him a place. Jesus said of the twelve apostles of the Lamb, "Ye shall sit on twelve thrones" (Matthew 19:28, Luke 22:30). Now, brethren, I don't believe they're actual thrones necessarily, I believe it's indicative of a position of authority, of something that God has ordained for you in that arena that is called Heaven. Maybe you're still thinking you're going to be sitting around strumming a harp and admiring the street of gold and the pearly mansions.

Don't get angry with me. I like to think that my interest level is a little higher than that. You know, you can take a child and you can entertain him very well with a little toy that does nothing. They chew on it, slobber all over it, run it all over your back and your clothes, drop it, pick it up, drop it, pick it up, drop it, pick it up, and they can be completely content, they can be completely happy. But you give me one of those little cars and what value is that in the expectation or the thought of interest that I have? Absolutely none, unless I'm



mentally deficient in some manner. How is it any different in the realm of the Spirit? "Oh, walking down that street of gold. Beautiful gold, oh yes, oh a pearly house made of pearls, woowow!" Heaven and pearls? Give me a break! There's no monetary value in Heaven. Gold is indicative of a nature. Pearls are indicative of a quality, a thing of value - I love pearls, by the way. I like pearls. I don't know a whole lot about them, but I think they're just so beautiful when you look at them. I am told there are perfect pearls. The perfect pearls always have some little flaw in them or something, but because it reaches some standard, level or point value, it becomes categorized as a perfect pearl. Hallelujah. Well, the Bible says that when a person finds the location of such an item, he does what? Sells ALL that he has (Matthew 13:46) - oh, he just sells some of it. Oh yes. We think intellectually, "sells all," but in actuality, "Weeeeeell, it doesn't really mean all. It really didn't mean everything. He can't expect me to do this or to do that." Well, I don't know. You have to ascertain what He expects of you. What I do know is that for some of us He has an expectation of everything.

It's not that I want to push anybody into my theology of sonship, I really don't. You cannot be pushed into being made a son. You can be pushed into Heaven. You can be dragged into Heaven. There was once a dream or a vision that came forth about somebody that had gotten saved, and the dream was that somebody was angling (fishing) and he hooked the fish in the back along the dorsal fin. He hooked it, and he began to pull it in, and that fish was fighting. You know, a fish that's hooked in the mouth is sometimes a whole lot easier to pull in than one that's hooked in the dorsal fin. I don't know, if my son was here I'd ask him if that's really true. But the fact is, he was hooked in the dorsal fin. I asked somebody, "What does that mean?" They told me that the fish was illegally captured, but captured none the less. It means that God circumvented the circumstance and the position of their bondage and their place of hell. God circumvented it, divine intervention - He orchestrated it, He just said, "New rule." So there are some people that God can save, but you know something? That individual really never progressed. He is saved, he has the ticket to the Kingdom. What do they say in church? His ticket to ride that glory train? He has his ticket to ride, but he never progressed beyond that position, that place of salvation, the initialization of life. He has it. Individually speaking, he's better off, but how is it that he is blessing God? How is it that he is perpetuating the Kingdom? What is he doing with the desire that God has for him? He is still rebellious, still hardheaded, still resisting the move of the Holy Ghost. And yet God, in His mercy, redeemed him! Hallelujah. Well, I



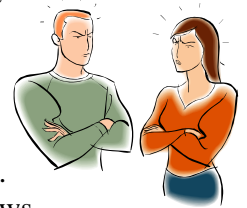
can say, "Hello! Thank You, Jesus for that redemption, one more soul out of hell!" But God, I don't want to be found in that position of resistance with regard to the calling and election that is upon my life. You're not a candidate for sonship if you want to resist sonship. You're not a candidate. A son can only be a son because he wants to be a son. The only thing that makes him a son is the desire to be a son! And as long as I desire to be me, I am the son of Asbill, not the son of God - I am the son of humanity, I am the son of Adam, I am not the son of God. That would be my position, but I don't want to stand before God in the last day at that time and say, "Well, I could have, I should have, I would have, but I didn't." Hallelujah.

It says that in Him is no shadow of turning (James 1:17). There is a lesson on light and darkness. Oftentimes our ascent into God is illustrated as one that is climbing a high mountain. As long as he's on the side of the mountain, the mountain itself is overshadowing him. But the moment that he gets up on top of the mountain that is higher than any other mountain, there is nothing in that arena that has the ability to overshadow him. He is bathed with light all around and in himself. And it is not so much the light or the darkness that is around you as much as it is the darkness that is within you. God has devised a plan by which you might eliminate that darkness. This therefore is the light that cometh into the world that, what? Lighteth every man! (John 1:9). Every man! It doesn't make any difference if you are born in the darkness of India or in the most modern of countries.



You know, when I went to India, I got a revelation: God is in the bush as well as in the city. God is in the bush. We had a seminar and we brought all these ministers together to began to try to teach them the Word of sonship, the Word of the gospel of the Kingdom, and we asked them to all begin by standing up and giving their testimonies. If you think Brother duCille's testimony is strange and wonderful, you should have heard some of these testimonies! A man that was a drunkard, a man that was a Hindu and a wife-beater, God appeared to him out in the bush! No church, no missionary, nothing, and yet a man approached him and told him about the plan of salvation. He accepted the Lord on the basis of that invitation, and he told him, "There's coming a man that's going to teach you out of what is called the Bible." He testified to the fact that this was the Word that was being referred to when that man met him! Now, I didn't hear just one. There were probably fifteen ministers there and I heard word after word of testimony about how God met these men - in the bush! - and revealed Himself to them. But in every instance He would say, "There is a man that is going to come and is going to teach you." My goodness.

You would think, with a situation like that, that these men would be on fire for God and they would embrace the Word of God that came. But I want to tell you, even with those types of experiences, you still have to deal with this old fellow and all of his perverted ways, because there's something about this old fellow - he always wants to be preeminent. You don't have that trouble, right? He always wants to be first. That's why you get in arguments, you know. That's why you have disagreements that turn into arguments. Of course, you don't have disagreements. You don't have arguments and you're all very happy with one another, all the time. I'm preaching to the wrong crowd. But nevertheless, I'm going to finish. This old fellow, he always wants to be preeminent. Oh my. This preeminence is sometimes manifested in an attitude of, "Oh, poor me. Oh, poor me. Everybody's picking on me. Nobody understands me. Nobody loves me. Nobody considers me. Nobody knows my difficulties. Nobody knows how terrible it is, or how rough I've got it. Nobody knows how sick I am. Nobody knows what I'm feeling in my body. Nobody knows!" Of course, you don't have to deal with that, do you? Well, Somebody knows.



Somebody knows. The One that knows is omnipresent, omniscient. He knows. He knew you before He called you. He knew you when you are at the place that you're at. He knows what you must be, and what you will become if you resist the devil. My goodness. Sometimes the devil that we have to resist is not the entity out there or your husband or wife. Sometimes the devil that we have to reject and resist is this old fellow. Right here. You know, I can get up in the morning and look in the mirror sometimes and see with whom it is I have to contend. Oh, yes. I can get up in the morning and look in the mirror and see old Dad looking right back at me. Now, don't get me wrong, I love my dad, but Dad was Dad, and he had certain attributes that were not Christian. He had certain familiar spirits that were not producing Christ. Do you hear me? You think they just took a vacation when Dad went on? I can tell you right where they came. They came to my house, knocked on my door, and if I didn't answer my door, they went to my children's house and began to knock on their door. Anybody who wanted to open their door, that's where that spirit came and that's where that spirit took up his abiding. My goodness. Hallelujah. It has been given to me to overcome. He that overcometh will I, what? Grant to sit with me in my Father's throne (Revelation 3:21). Can you imagine what it must be to sit in the Father's throne? Oh yes, in the sweet by and by - no, no, no. No, no, no. The commandment to Adam was, "Go and take dominion." He was in an earthly place, in an earthly surrounding. He was in an

environment that was human and God said, "Have dominion. Subdue it and bring it into a place of subjection" (Genesis 1:28). Oh, hallelujah.

We are living in perilous times. I don't know how long ago it was, but I was in a meeting in a place in Germany, a little place, a little town outside of the mainstream of everything. God sent me, you understand. I didn't go because I wanted to go. I didn't rehearse a word. Do you understand what I'm saying? I didn't make my notes and put them all down on a piece of paper, not that that's bad, some people have to do that. I don't have to do that. When God sends me, He says, "Open your mouth, I will fill it." So He sent me. He sent me there and there was a total nonchalant-ness about the Word. They were eating dinner, drinking their sodas and conversing and fellowshiping, no really serious discussion and maybe I had about fifteen minutes to bring the Word of God that God had sent me over five thousand miles to deliver. Hallelujah. I have no animosity; I just have sorrow. I'm telling you, I wasn't angry, I wasn't mad, I didn't feel rejected. Hallelujah. Yet there was a total inability to discern the visitation of God. Some of us are more fortunate because we kind of live in a repetitive environment. What I mean by that is that we have more than one opportunity to hear the Word. Now, I don't know if God's sending anybody there again. I don't know. I don't know. I really don't know. But what I do know is that when I came out of that meeting, God spoke to me. As I walked out the door, He said, "You are at the drinking of the water." You know what He was referring to? He was referring to Gideon's three hundred. Now, I believe that it was not only for them but it was for me also. There was something of an admonition that God was saying, "I have set in order, I have initiated the process of drinking water, the process of determining the election of God." That means everything since that time, as far as my life is concerned, is being orchestrated and looked at and examined by the Holy Ghost of God as to whether it is qualifying me or disqualifying me individually for that position, that place of selection. Now, do I measure up? I don't know. I don't know. But I want to tell you, the fear of missing the mark makes me have second thoughts. The fear of missing the mark lets me examine myself a little more closely. "Well, should I do this? Or maybe I should do that. Or maybe I should do nothing. Maybe I should just wait upon the Lord. What is it that I'm going to do?" Because there's a fear in me that perchance some aspect of my humanity will rise up and usurp my inheritance in God.

I want to tell you something. I am in careful consideration when a man like Moses can make a mistake, a man who was very much in tune with God, walking with God, talking with God, where God said, "I see Moses face to face." He said, "I speak to Moses, I speak to him face to

face. I don't speak to him in similitudes" (Exodus 33:11). Yet the man made a mistake. Some people think I'm hard-nosed. Really! They think I'm just too rigid, too much in line with something. They can think all sorts of things, but look at this man Moses! Can you imagine? He was dealing with this hard-hearted, rebellious people. Can you imagine? Forty years of hearing the voice of God and leading these people through all sorts of things, not to mention the forty years before that when he was on the back side of the desert and the giving up of the position of preeminence and power. Somebody told me once that they thought that they were training him to be Pharaoh. I don't know, could have been. Yet, this man who walked and talked with God disobeyed the Word of God one little time! And God said, "Because you did not sanctify Me before the people..." (Numbers 20:12, 27:14). Now, we could say, "That was before grace," but he had the rock, and it says that the rock was Christ. What do you think you would have thought if you saw this big rock following you everywhere you went? He smote the rock when he should have spoken to it. He did it because of some aspect of his humanity. Now, if a man like that can make a mistake, my goodness. My goodness. Where does that leave me, without the grace and the power of God to redeem me to the uttermost? Hallelujah. Hallelujah.

John 3:19 says that this is the condemnation. What is the condemnation? *...that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. ²⁰For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved* (John 3:19-20). Do you know you have to come to the light? Draw nigh unto the Father, that what? The Father might draw nigh unto you (James 4:8). What's that say? If you don't draw, He isn't drawing. You have to draw nigh. It takes time and energy. One of the reasons that we have the problems that we're having in this time and this age is because of lack of spiritual strength, our spiritual understanding, our spiritual integrity before the Lord! Hallelujah.

I'm going to tell you about the vision I had. Hallelujah. It is only one of many visions that I have had. As we were in Prague and the praise was rising up before the Lord, the Spirit of God began to move and I was praying about a particular situation with regard to a particular individual. I was praying about it and looking to the Lord for comfort and advice because I was grieved in my heart about the situation. I saw nothing but destruction before this particular individual, and destruction to many that were round about them because of the places that they are in and the effect that they would have on others' lives. There was such a spirit of grief upon me and as I began to intercede and pray for God's divine intervention, I went into a vision. I was in a room much like the place we were in but

it wasn't necessarily that place. We were in a meeting and all of a sudden a man had a heart attack. He cried out and slumped down spread-eagle on the floor. Hallelujah. As I was watching, I became aware of the spirit of intercession that was over the circumstances and in the world round about this little fellowship. Not only that, there were men and women that were on their faces before God, interceding and crying out for the grace and the mercy of God and for divine intervention into the life and the sealing of the life of this one. Hallelujah.

The paramedics were summoned and there were four or five of them. Oh, Jesus. They began to work to try to revive this person. From my perspective, my viewpoint, because I was down here on the earth, in amongst the earth and amongst the earthly, I said, "He ain't gonna make it. Not gonna make it." To me he seemed like he was already dead, but they began to work on him and they were doing all of the things that they do. They were on their radios and they were conversing with the hospital. They had their IVs and they were setting him up. One guy was pumping on the man's chest, and another guy was giving him mouth to mouth resuscitation, working, trying to revive him. Finally they decided that they needed to get the electrodes, the paddles out and zap him. They would zap him, then they would look to that little monitor to see if there were any signs of life and all you could see was a flat line. You could feel the oppression, you could feel the thought of defeat. In my soul, in my body, I could feel the thought, "We've lost." One by one, the paramedics began to give up. As they began to give up, they began to encourage the others to give up. One by one, they began to murmur, "He's gone, he's dead. There's nothing we can do. This man is DOA, let's wrap him up, send him off." All this time I'm aware of a spirit of intercession, not only in the midst of the Body, one or two or three, but as it is in the scriptures that we have one that stands before the Father, interceding day and night! (Romans 8). I was so much aware of that position of intercession, you cannot believe the relief that I was feeling in my soul, no matter what my eyes were telling me, no matter what my ears were hearing. No matter what the facts were saying, no matter what it was that was going on, there was ONE who had a desire to see life and living come forth out of that dead thing! Hallelujah. And there was one man that kept going and kept going. The others were saying, "Come on, give up. Give up," but he wouldn't give up, and he was just working away at it and all the time he was saying, "You've got to live. You've got to live. You've got to live. You've got to live. You've got to LIVE!" Finally, he came to the point of desperation, I guess, I don't know. He said, "I'm going to try one more time." He grabbed the paddles and he turned the machine up. They say if it doesn't kill you, it will cure you. He turned the machine all the way up! It

was an act of desperation in the desire to see something happen, to see life come forth! He yelled, "Clear!" But when he yelled, "Clear," I heard, "Live!" and he slapped those paddles down upon that body.

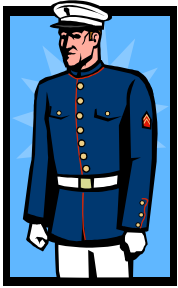
I want to tell you, the moment that he slapped those paddles down on the body I was taken back to your [Bette Mullikin] hospital room. My God, am I glad for that experience. I mean, I was in the hospital room again. I saw Peter standing on one side of you, Bette, and I was on the other side. He had one hand, and I had one hand. They had given you up for dead. Hallelujah. But the Spirit of God said, "Live!" Hallelujah. As we began to pray, the Spirit of God came down like electricity. Hallelujah. Hit me in the top of the head, hit him in the top of the head, went down through our bodies and out our hands. Hallelujah. When it met in the middle, Bette came off the bed. She went rigid and came up off the bed about two inches. And here she is.

That man, he came up off the floor. My God, I came back out of that vision into this vision. The man came up off the floor and there was such a shout that was raising up out of the depths of my being, I felt like it was coming up out of my toenails. Hallelujah. He came up off the floor, and when he slumped back down to the floor he was breathing. Whoow! As I came out of the vision, the Lord spoke to me, "This kind cometh not out but by much prayer and fasting" (Matthew 17:21, Mark 9:29). He's talking about living now. He's talking about overcoming now. He's talking about walking righteously now. He's talking about being a son of God now. If you want to be a son, it is not going to be like it was before, a few five minute prayers and God moves in His divine grace and mercy because we spent a little bit of time with Him. It is requiring something to be demonstrated within our realm. It is going to take a pressing through! It is like the front-line troops, it is like the shock troops that they send out to penetrate the enemy lines. It took training, it took dedication, it took perseverance! You have to endure hardships like a good soldier. My God! Hallelujah. We think we can say a little prayer here, a little prayer there, and get all tied up in the mechanics of living and the things that are going on around us, and expect God to do what He did before, when you want to be the first of the first, the best of the best!

You know, I spent almost eight weeks in basic training. Well, they called it basic training, and then advanced training. But if I wanted to be special forces, if I wanted to volunteer for special forces, it was a whole different ball game. Hello! Are you still there? It was a whole different ball game. It wasn't six weeks, it wasn't eight weeks, it was months! They put you in all kinds of extreme situations, and you had to



volunteer! Well, I don't know what that training could have been or would have been, but I know it must have been very hard, pretty tough. I tell you what, I met some of the first ones. The first generation was a whole lot different than the second and third generation. I met some of them, they were tough. There was no foolishness in them. They were serious. They were dedicated. They were consecrated. They were good soldiers. They'd been trained to do a job, and the only thing they had in their mind was the doing of the job. I tell you what, they didn't volunteer to sit down on the back side of the lines to be the support to the troops. They wanted to go beyond the front lines! They wanted to get in where the action was, where there was no help. They had to rely upon their training and they had to rely upon each other! Can you imagine that? Relying upon each other. Can you imagine that? Relying upon each other. What one man did could affect the whole squad,



and the fact that they could all be killed because someone had to take a moment to do something that he wanted to do and not what needed to be done.

Do you think it's any different with regard to the elite, the called out, the first-fruits company of God? Do you think it is any different? Do you want to be first fruits? Do you want to be a son? He was on the front line, you know. He accosted the church in its position of hypocrisy and its religious order. What did they do for it? How did they respond? They killed Him! Or at least they thought they did. He said, "No man takes My life from Me" (John 10:17-18). Then He ordained the twelve, front lines, shock troops, special forces! Of course, everybody received them, didn't they? All of them died! Sometimes I think John would have wished he was dead. Maybe, until he got the revelation. In this world ye shall have, what? Tribulation. But be of good cheer for I have overcome the world (John 16:33). Friendship of the world is in enmity against God (James 4:4), it is counterproductive. Look it up. Romans says that the carnal mind is in enmity against God, cannot harmonize, cannot come into a place of agreement with the mind of Christ; they cannot walk together at all! Yet we've got world here and God there, and we think this shoe walks with this shoe, and all the time this shoe is in conflict with this shoe. How far are you going to walk if your feet are fighting one another? It's all on the basis of whether or not you want to be a son. You cannot be coerced into being a son.

Let me read to you here out of Matthew and then I'm going to close, I think. Matthew 13. It's the parable of the sower, and I want to go down to verse 10. ***And the disciples came, and said unto him, Why speakest thou unto them in parables? ¹¹He answered and said unto them, Because it is given unto you to know the mysteries...*** That

word can also be interpreted *secrets*. It was once spoken to me that God has no secrets, but God has a lot of secrets. ***Because it is given unto you to know the mysteries, or the secrets, of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given.*** Why was it not given to them, and yet it was given to the others to know? Because there was something in God that wanted them to know. It is not me that determines who is or who is not a son. God gives each and every one the opportunity, but it is the individual that determines the outcome. The fact that I want to know makes me something of a candidate! If I'm completely happy with not knowing, then don't tell me! But if I want to know, then it is a different situation. How much do you want it? "To know Him, to know Him is the cry of my heart, Spirit reveal Him to me." How many of you have sung that, and sung it as a prayer, a position, a place of dedication and consecration? Do you think they were idle words? Do you think that there wasn't something in your being that was reaching out unto God? Do you not think that there was something in God that was also reaching out unto you? Don't you think that in the midst of all that was going on and reaching forth, there wasn't some sort of connection, some sort of impartation, some aspect of His desire that was being transferred? Don't you think there was some sort of transference of the fact that He desired you to desire, and then He gave you something in the midst of that desiring to make it a reality? My God.



But it's not a magic wand, brethren. He says, Unto you it is given, but to them it is not. ***¹²For whosoever hath, to him shall be given, and he shall have more abundance: but whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken away even that he hath.*** My goodness, I don't know that we really comprehend the totality of the position, the place, the calling, or the election. He's talking about the calling, the election, the position of excellence, to sit with Him in His Father's throne. To be made, as it were, a pillar in His house, not being moved. Is money going to move me? Friends going to move me? Family going to move me? Criticism going to move me? Prosperity going to move me? What's going to move me if I'm made a pillar? All of these things are things... By the way, I have to overcome every one of them in order to be a pillar that's not going to be moved. Is life or death going to separate me from the love of God? Not if I'm determined! Paul reached that place of excellence. I don't believe they were idle words. He went through a whole list of things that wasn't going to move him. Is my physical condition going to move me? The fact that my feet hurt, my legs hurt, my back hurts, my head hurts? The fact that I have limited mobility, the fact that I'm poor in health or whatever may go wrong, maybe I'm sick in my mind

somehow! Well, it is probably so in some people's minds. They always put us in insane asylums. That's where the Christians usually wind up, you know, under psychiatric care. I knew a man that got put under psychiatric care, and he began to examine the doctor! He did. He told the doctor he was being unfaithful. He told the doctor with whom he was being unfaithful. He told him what was going on within the realm of his home and his business associates. How long do you think the doctor held on to him? My God. No, they got him out of there. "This man is sane." Insane, but sane. He's not of this world.

¹³**Therefore speak I to them in parables: because they seeing see not; and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand.** Now listen to this. ¹⁴**And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Esaias, which saith, By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive:** Now listen, it wasn't because God chose for them not to hear, it wasn't because God chose for them not to receive, it was because their heart had waxed gross. They were in a condition of cardiac arrest. Hardness of heart. Full with the abundance of the things of this world, full of lust and flesh, full of everything that was pertaining to life. Preeminence and position, religious excellence. And yet, they could not hear the still small voice, and they crucified the Son. ¹⁵**For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.**

Revelation 3:14, **And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God;** That's lovely, isn't it? Right at the end, he takes it right back to the beginning, because the intent at the end is still the same as at the beginning. What was His intent? I want to make man in My image and My likeness. I want them to be like Me. I want them to be like sons. Hallelujah. ¹⁵**I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot.** ¹⁶**So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.** ¹⁷**Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:** ¹⁸**I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.** ¹⁹**As many as I love, I rebuke...**

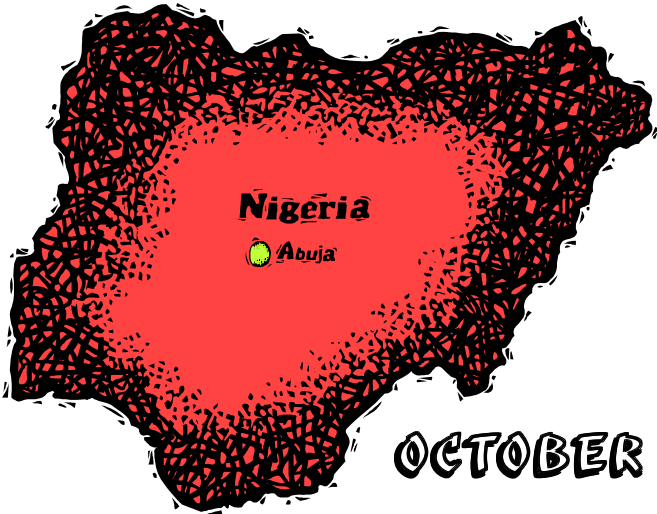
I am so glad that God loves me. I can rejoice in the chastening of the Lord and to feel the strap upon my backside. You know, I had a great deal of respect for my mother,

and she was a disciplinarian. She did not take any guff, she didn't take back talk, she didn't take sass. She made us three boys toe the mark. She had what we called an old razor strap, I don't know if they have them any more, but it used to belong to my grandfather. He had a straight razor, and that's what he would sharpen his razor on. She had that old razor strap, and when you saw her go into the closet, you knew that your time had come. If that did not break you, she said, "I am telling your dad when he comes home." Boy, my dad only disciplined me three times that I can remember, but I remember every one of them. I want to tell you something, though. It brought a deep, profound respect for my mother and for my dad. Hallelujah. It says, **I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.** ¹⁹**As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.**

Finally, over in II Corinthians 5:1, **For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.** ²**For in this we groan, earnestly...** For in this we groan. Do you groan in that position, that place of that earthly external house? **For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed upon with our house which is from heaven:** ³**If so be that being clothed we shall not be found naked.** ⁴**For we that are in this tabernacle do groan...** Are you groaning? ...**being burdened...** Are you burdened? Hallelujah. ...**not for that we would be unclothed, but clothed upon, that mortality might be swallowed up of life.** It says in John that this is the light that comes into the world that lighteth every man. If you take it in context with the first chapter and the subject matter, it is talking about sons and it says that He has given us, or every one that believeth in Him the power, what? To become sons (John 1:12).

Finally, brethren, let's read the verse that we have reiterated and reiterated so many times. I John 3:1, **Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.** ²**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...** what? **Appear.** Where is He appearing? He can only appear if you are willing to trade that which is poor, wretched, miserable and blind, for that which is far more glorious and much more excellent than we could ever possibly comprehend. It has not entered into the mind of man that which God has prepared for him (I Corinthians 2:9). From what? The foundation! Let us press in, let us press on, let us become sons of God, in Jesus' name. God bless you. God bless you. **God bless you. □**

EYE-WITNESS REPORT



OF GOD'S WORK IN

NIGERIA

OCTOBER 20TH - NOVEMBER 7TH, 2006

BY BROTHERS JIM CASSELL AND GEORGE HERRIG

Jim Cassell

Greetings Brethren,

I have been asked to share a few things concerning our trip to Nigeria.

First, let me say I had a real satisfaction in my spirit that this trip was a great success. I feel extremely blessed to have had a small part in the ministry that took place.

The reception of the Word was tremendous. There was such an eager acceptance, and a diligence in application to this message. The response when a Word was given was very encouraging. Many came up for prayer and deliverance. The intensity level in regard to the receiving of the Word seemed to be at a high level.

Everyone there treated you as if they had known you a long time. The personal fellowship was great and we were treated exceptionally well in regard to our accommodations.

Each place we visited seemed to have different strengths, but there was a maturity exhibited wherever we went. There was much interaction between the fellowships, and a good cooperation with coordination of the venues.

The central crux of the Word delivered was "Higher Ground." In order to rise to the next dimension in the Spirit, it is absolutely imperative that we overcome the carnal attachments to family, national and individual ties. The rulers, principalities and powers over the land were addressed, and a challenge was given to rise up now and take Africa for God and the Kingdom of His Christ. May we, as the Body of Christ universal, stand with them in this great endeavor, as well as the conquering of our lands. May God richly bless this ministry to His people.

George Herrig

Just recently, a team of three brethren, Brother Jim Cassell, Brother Cecil duCille and I, returned from a trip to Nigeria. The mission was three fold. 1. A series of meetings in Lagos, Port Harcourt and Owerri. 2. The wedding of Hubert Manilla and Domotimi Otobo. 3. An elders' meeting in Enugu to reconcile divisions within the church in Nigeria.

Each of these three purposes for the journey was met with much rejoicing and victory and I would like to give a report on each one. First of all, I would like to thank each and every one of you for your diligence and sacrifice in prayers and fastings for our journey to Nigeria in this past month. Brother Cecil duCille, Brother Jim Cassell and I knew without a doubt that we were being kept by the power of God throughout the journey through the prayers of the saints. We encountered much interference by the enemy in even our preparations and travel for this trip. Sister Mavis duCille was attacked physically, thus Brother Cecil's trip was delayed by a number of days until she was better. There were several other hindrances that tried to prevent our going but, praise be to God, we received the breakthrough. Though Brother Cecil could not make the weekend conference in London, Brother Jim went ahead as scheduled and was able to attend and delivered a Word on the Blood of Jesus at one of those meetings. I met Jim at the airport in London several days later and together we traveled to Lagos, arriving on Tuesday, the 24th of October. We had a meeting with the brethren in Lagos on Wednesday evening, which was a blessing to the brethren there. The next day, Brother Jim and I traveled by plane to Port Harcourt. Once we were there, we received word

that Brother Cecil would be joining us the next day in Port Harcourt. The wedding of Brother Hubert and Sister Domo was set for Saturday. Meetings were scheduled for Friday and Saturday evening, two on Sunday and one on Monday evening.

It was a real privilege to be, not only a guest, but a witness to this wonderful wedding of our precious brethren. Brother Hubert and Sister Domo made a decision to make this a Christian wedding according to the Word of God. They did not want to follow the traditional African ceremonies and practices. The rest of the elders in Port Harcourt agreed and stood with them in their decision. It was a real blessing to partake in this precious anointed wedding that God's stamp of approval was on. The Body of Christ from many parts in Nigeria came together to witness and rejoice in their union as one. We believe they will be an excellent example of God's love to the church.

Our meetings in Port Harcourt were very special. The foundation was laid in Revelation 14 on the Lamb that stood on Mount Zion and being a part of the 144,000. The messages in these five meetings were very strong. The scripture out of Ephesians 1:10, *That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him*, was the thread throughout all of the messages. In order to be part of this overcomer company we must overcome all things. We must follow the Lamb whithersoever He goeth. This means even unto death. Exhortation was given in the areas of overcoming family and national spirits and bringing the soul under subjection to the Holy Ghost. Also, what was emphasized was overcoming spirits of anger and sexuality.

It was a blessing to see the response of the brethren to the messages. In each of the meetings, many came forward for repentance and prayer. There was much deliverance in these meetings.

On Tuesday, we traveled to Owerri where meetings were held on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday night. In the first meeting, God set the standard that we must go to higher ground. The Word then centered on the soul of man and how to overcome the natural realm we live in. In particular, the one message centered that those in the church will never rise until they overcome the spirit of sexuality. This also is the prevailing Mammy-Water spirit that rules over Nigeria. A part of the congregation left that night because they could not bear this Word but you could see that those who stayed understood the gravity and need of this Word. The last meeting in Owerri centered on our fight with principalities and powers from Ephesians 6.

We then left for Enugu the next day. We were scheduled to have an elders' meeting on Friday evening and possibly Saturday morning if needed. God had other plans. Everyone's schedule was changed and we went to having

meetings on Friday evening, Saturday morning, afternoon and evening and ending with a Sunday morning meeting. These elders' meetings were critical to the work of God in Nigeria. For many years, there had been divisions and differences that had separated the brethren and work there. Much prayer among the leadership and with some of the elders helped bring about these particular meetings in Enugu. The expectation among many was not as great as the plans and purposes of God. The Holy Spirit took charge in the midst of these meetings. We were reminded that God has only one church, not two. Through maturity among those present, the meetings were handled in a reverent and orderly fashion. A number of issues were discussed and digested but most importantly there was a recognition that the spirit of reconciliation was in our midst. This was recognized as from God and the submitting to it brought a unity amongst us. This enabled us to hear and receive the Word of God together and God's direction for His church in this hour. We were able to hear and discuss the visions on the atomic war in 2008. It was very good to hear that the brethren who had never heard of these visions yet could easily understand the hour of destruction that is at the door. The need was for the people of God to seek Him more as to the responsibility that lies before us to be prepared. The Lord was also speaking to us in visions and dreams concerning the work, not only in Nigeria but in all of Africa. The outcome of these meetings was met with much rejoicing over what had happened. Many of the elders acknowledged that these meetings went far above any of their expectations. It was recognized that we all need to come up higher together if we are to accomplish the work that God has ordained in Nigeria and the sending forth to the other nations in Africa.

After our weekend in Enugu, we left Sunday evening for Lagos. Brother Cecil flew back to Jamaica that same evening from Lagos and Brother Jim and myself stayed in Lagos for two more days. We had a house meeting in Lagos on Monday evening and on Tuesday, both Brother Jim and I flew back to the United States.

I would like to say, on behalf of Brother Cecil, Brother Jim and myself, our extreme gratitude and thankfulness for the hospitality and kindness showed toward us by our brethren in Nigeria. We were treated with extreme care and love in every way and in every need. The Lord bless you, our dear brethren in Nigeria, for all that you have done and pray that God richly reward you for your sacrifices and diligence in the care of us, your brethren. We thank also our brethren here in the States whom we represented as we went forth. Without the Body of Christ, this trip and its outcome would not have been possible. Thank you from the depths of our hearts and **God bless you.** □





There is a particular word that the Lord keeps bringing to my attention. It is the question, "Have you made up your mind to go on?" The question is referring to the song from the story of Esther that says, "I've made up my mind to go on, I've made up my mind to surrender my all, I've made up my mind to pay the price." And then it says, "If I perish, I perish, for I am going to see the king." It seems that the Lord confronts me in the midst of certain circumstances - things that are going on in my life or things going on in my soul and He says, "Have you made up your mind to go on?" And I have to consciously war with my flesh and surrender. I have to lay down particular things that I cannot take with if I am going to go on with Him. Then I get to the point where I can truly, honestly say, "Yes, Lord." Then a certain amount of time goes on and I get confronted with the question again. This has happened a number of times in my walk with the Lord. Then there came this year where it has come up more and more often. I began to get distressed because I thought I had answered that question a long time ago, when I was in my early teens and really decided that I would follow the Lord with my whole heart. But each time the Lord has brought the question to me, it has been obvious that a struggle within took place before I could honestly say, "Yes, Lord, I have made up my whole mind to follow You." When I got distressed, I prayed and asked Him why it was that I made the commitment to Him and then things would come up in my life and I would have to make the commitment again. The answer that He brought to me was not that I was breaking my promise, which I was worried about, but that He was raising the bar a little higher, He was raising the standard. He was asking me, "Will you go farther with Me? I know you have committed to go this far with Me, and you are doing well, but will you keep on going? Will you climb one rung higher on the ladder?" I think of Brother Campbell's vision he had of the man with many coats who could not

climb up the ladder from the dark sewer into the light because he was too weighted down. You see, to climb up higher, more flesh must go, more self must fall to the wayside or it is impossible to get up higher. Every time the Lord has brought this question before me, there was another requirement He was asking of me. I was so joyful to find this explanation from Him because life has gotten harder and harder. There are certain areas that the devil is bombarding worse than ever - and he is hitting all areas, it seems like. Not only physically, with the main points of my life, such as dealing with children, loving my husband, working on bulletin (yes, that, too ☹) but all areas of my soul - mind, emotions, will and desires. Most of the time I think that the war in my soul is much worse than the outward things I have to deal with just to live my life. But I believe that the Lord, in His magnificent graciousness and mercy, is telling me that He is in control, that the only way to overcome the devil is for God to let him be there and attack me! And when I feel that I am falling apart, that I have fallen down and cannot go on, He comes and says, "Have you made up your mind to go on?" Then, as I allow His searchlight to shine deep in my soul, He shows what needs to be surrendered in order to get over the next hurdle.

When I think of the explanation that God is raising the bar a little higher, I think of a man doing the pole vault, where there is such a high bar and he jams that pole into the ground and twists his body up and over that bar without touching it. I see this long, long field and many, many bars and as I look down this field, the bars get higher and higher and higher. If you look at the end one, it is impossible, very impossible BUT by the time the Lord brings him through all the other bars, that will just be the next step. If you look back towards the beginning, you see very short ones. Those are his testimonies. Looking back to what the Lord has done for you is a good thing. It is partly

by the word of our testimony that we overcome the enemy. Sometimes I see him having used so much energy, so much strength just to get over the hurdle that he falls down in the dirt. God comes to him then and says, "Will you go on with Me?" And the man must make the decision to stay fallen down, go to sleep and become one with the dirt or get up and begin to run, getting faster and faster, holding the Word (the pole) in his hand by which he will be able to overcome the next obstacle. You can also look to the side and see wonderful, beautiful paths that lead to things that would be fun and easy for him because he wouldn't have to be jumping hurdles. Of course, those are things of the world and if you look real close, they go down and down and down and never come up again. If you look ahead, you can see that many of the hurdles are directly over one of these attractive paths, meaning that the man will need to overcome them. Then again, you can look to the side and see other hurdles set up parallel to the man, who, of course, is me going on with Him. The other hurdles are for people who are part of the Body of Christ who are also going on. They may have different heights to jump but they are all exactly on the course Jesus has prepared for them. Also, you can look ahead and see those who have gone on before and prepared the way. We can look at them and see that God helped them and God says to us, "They have overcome. They have set a standard that you can attain to. Do you want the very best? I have it available to whoever wants it." Last of all, I can look far ahead and see the end. I don't know very many details about what it will really be like, but I can see that it is glorious, more glorious and magnificent than anything I can imagine here on earth. My dictionary says that the word magnificent means "having impressive beauty." I don't want to go into much detail about the end except that our goal is to become one with Jesus Christ and for Heaven to come down and be manifested in us.

If I look to the end and what God desires me to be, it looks impossible to my mind. I think about the fact that God wants me to be this and be this, to be a prayer warrior, to move by His Spirit all the time, maybe to be sharing the gospel with people in the grocery store check-out lane or whatever I know God wants in His people. This looks impossible to me because I see my failures in a big way. They stare me in the face every day. They mock me - which is really the devil's lies - saying, "Who do you think you are? You are just a carnal, fleshly, emotional thing. You'll never be a son of God." Much of the time, it seems I am satisfied with what I can't do, if that makes any sense. In other words, I focus on what I can't do because that is



what is most predominant in this earthly realm. But what the Lord has been ministering to me is that I must believe Him. I must believe that He is, just the plain fact that He exists and is real. I must believe that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him. I must believe that He shall make me what He wants me to be as I decide to surrender and go on with Him. In reading Hebrews 4 it seems to me that the reason the children of Israel did not enter the promised land was because of their unbelief. It wasn't because they sinned too much or were too carnal or made a lot of mistakes with their children or there was too much strife between them; it was because they did not believe. It says to me that I must believe. When God said he has given me power to become a son, I must believe it, and continually hearken to Him. And wherever I do not feel I measure up, submit it unto Him and see what He will do.

The other important thing about the picture of the man jumping over the hurdles is that he must keep his eyes fixed on the end. Out there on the horizon he can see the glory, he can almost smell the sweetness of the air and see God in all creation. I have been thinking recently about some of these stories of people who have died and experienced a little bit of Heaven before

they had to go back to earth and live in their bodies again. Two people wrote about the flowers and plants, that they were so vibrant, so alive, so perfect that words cannot describe them. When they went back to earth, the flowers and plants looked so dull, so fake. I think that if such a small part of Heaven has such a glorious difference to the things of earth, then what a vision I should have of God wanting to come down and manifest in His people. I have to maintain my vision of the promises the Lord has for me or else the devil will have his way. I find the devil having his way often in my life and it is always when I am looking down. If the man doing the pole vault is looking down when he is ready to leap, I don't think he will make it over the top. He will have to try again and maybe try again and maybe try again until he can get his perspective right. I woke up one morning and the song came into my heart that is found in Psalm 40:16 and 70:4. It says, "Let God be magnified." I began to think about a magnifying glass and how what you look at through it is bigger. My prayer as I sang the song was that God would become bigger and bigger in front of my eyes. I want Him to be ever before my eyes, that the things of earth would grow strangely dim in the light of His glory and grace.

My desire as I share this small portion of the Lord's dealing with me is that you, too would be encouraged to make up your mind to go on, because it is well worth it. □



Cleansing The Temple

Brother Tom Campbell

Schuyler, Nebraska

Saturday evening November 26th, 2005

I am going to read from the King James translation and then from the Amplified. I Corinthians 13:1, *Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity (or love), I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. ²And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing. ³And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.* Now in the Amplified I am going to read the second verse. “And if I have prophetic powers (the gift of interpreting the divine will and purpose), and understand all the secret truths and mysteries and possess all knowledge, and if I have [sufficient] faith so that I can remove mountains, but have not love (God’s love in me) I am nothing (a useless nobody).”

The Corinthian church or Corinthian fellowship, whichever you choose to call it, was a very gifted group of people. In fact, Paul says that they came behind in no gift (I Corinthians 1:7). So, from that we have to understand that the gifts of the Spirit, not only prophecy, not only interpretation of tongues, but also the word of knowledge and the word of wisdom were working in these folks. They were a very gifted fellowship and they had revelation, they had knowledge, they understood mysteries. Paul commends them even in the fact that they came behind in none of these gifts, yet there was something missing in their fellowship. There was something missing in their lives, something that was very, very important, for as we read from the very first chapter, the very first verse, Paul begins

to describe some of the things that weren’t working right in their fellowship.

One of them was, of course, the party spirit. They had taken on their little heroes, the ones that they liked the best and the ones that they would mainly go out to hear. I don’t know about here in the fellowship if that is true. I hope I don’t have any Campbell-ites. We have enough problems just trying to overcome without having that problem. But they were very carnal. Paul made it very clear to them. He said, “Ye are carnal. Ye are babes. For when I would try to feed you as men, I had to feed you milk instead of meat and therefore

it was limited what I could say to you” (I Corinthians 3:2). They had a knowledge, a revelation of God and of the Kingdom of God and yet they had so many things that were wrong in the fellowship, so many things that were hindering their growth and development.

Not only was it true that they had the party spirit, but they also had contention over food, what they would eat, especially meat that was offered to idols. Paul made it so clear, I don’t think really without offense, that the eating of meat offered to idols is not a sin, but, he said, if it offends your brother, then, of course, don’t eat it (I Corinthians 8:7-13). They were very careful then.

The next thing that Paul dealt with was the fact that there was immorality in their fellowship. Not only was there immorality, but they never dealt with it. They allowed it. They permitted it. Paul told them that he didn’t commend them in this matter. He wasn’t happy with how they handled it. He says in I Corinthians 5:1, *It is reported commonly that there is fornication among you, and such fornication as is not so much as named among the Gentiles, that one should have his father’s wife. ²And ye are puffed up, and have not rather mourned, that he that hath done this deed might be taken away from among you.* Separated from you. “But you have not dealt with this problem. You have allowed it to go on and to succeed.” Paul did not commend them. In fact, he used the words, “You are puffed up.” He used that again. I Corinthians 8:1, *Now as touching things offered unto idols, we know that we all have knowledge. Knowledge puffeth up, but charity edifieth.*

You know that it is so very easy to get into a place of

receiving truth and life and revelation and then to become exalted in it and when that happens, you don't really grow in God and you don't go on in God. You stand still. This is what was happening in the church of Corinth. They got to a place where they had the word of knowledge, they had great revelation coming to them, they had truth coming to them. They had all nine gifts of the Spirit operating in their midst and yet they were carnal. They were babes. There was no real growth in their life and no growth in the spiritual life. They were limited in their growth and their development because they allowed knowledge to rule in their hearts.

You know, when you read this, what I just read, I Corinthians 13:3, "If I have all knowledge, all knowledge, and I have all understanding and I have all of this working in me and I have truth that is flowing in my life," he says, "and I don't have love..." It is not talking about the doctrine of love. It is not talking about a theory of love, it is talking about a person. I think it was mentioned this morning by Brother duCille, when he was talking about love. I John 4:7, ***Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. ⁸He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is***

love. The divine nature of God is love. Sometimes we that are pressing on to the mark of the high calling and the prize of the high calling in Christ have obstacles in our lives and hindrances and we don't enter into that place. We enter the place of knowledge, but the practical experience of it is another thing. Paul never said, "That I might have a knowledge of Christ," but, "That I might know Him" (Philippians 3:10). There is a difference between knowing Him and having knowledge of Him. Hallelujah. We are all different characters, aren't we? I know we all have the Adamic nature but we are all different. Some of us have analytical minds that we have to overcome. Knowledge appeals to the natural man.

Did you ever wonder why God put the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the garden anyway? What a paradox. Good and evil coming out of the same tree. It is just like sweet water and bitter waters coming out of the same fountain. I think that is a type of us. I think that good and evil are present. I think sweet waters, life and death, also, come out of the same fountain if we are not careful.

I think that Paul is admonishing them, the whole Corinthian fellowship. He said, "You don't come behind as far as all knowledge and all gifts. You have all of these

things, but there is one thing lacking in your life and that is your own personal relationship with Christ, the intimate relationship with Christ, of knowing Him." Paul says, "That I might know Him." Let me read that in Philippians. "That I might know Him and that I might also come into a relationship with Him." Philippians 3:10, in the Amplified, "[For my determined purpose is] that I may know Him [that I may progressively become more deeply and intimately acquainted with Him, perceiving and recognizing and understanding the wonders of His Person more strongly and more clearly], and that I may in that same way come to know the power outflowing from His resurrection..." So Paul's desire was to know Him, not know *about* Him. There is a difference between having knowledge of God and knowing Him. The people that know their God shall be strong, and shall do exploits (Daniel 11:32). It is not those that have a knowledge of Him. Knowledge will pass away (I Corinthians 13:8).

Let me read Ephesians 3:19, "[That you may really come] to know [practically, through experience for yourselves] the love of Christ, which far surpasses mere knowledge [without experience]; that you may be filled [through all your being] unto all the fullness of God [may have the richest measure of the divine Presence, and become a body wholly filled and flooded with God Himself!]"

So it is knowing Him. Knowing Him in the good times, the bad times, the sad times, when everything is going right, when everything is going wrong. I know in whom I have believed and I know He is going to keep everything I have committed unto Him against that day (II Timothy 1:12). There is no staggering. There is no up and down. There is no seesaw in knowing God. You are not up one day and down in the mully-grubs

the next day, but you are walking in light and walking in life and overcoming daily. Hallelujah! You are not in and out and up and down. Friends, that is knowing Him. I know Him. I know in Whom I have believed. So, Paul's declaration was the fact that, "I am living in that secret place. I am dwelling under the shadow of the Almighty. I am living in that realm or dimension where God abides, therefore I am not going around trying to find out what the will of God is for my life."

If there is one thing I disagree with, and you might just as well know it now. I disagree with this idea that says, "Well, I am going to prove God. I am going to go do something and if He doesn't want me to do it, He will stop me." I don't believe in that. Now, you all might believe in

THERE IS NO SEESAW IN KNOWING GOD. YOU ARE NOT UP ONE DAY AND DOWN IN THE MULLY-GRUBS THE NEXT DAY, BUT YOU ARE WALKING IN LIGHT AND WALKING IN LIFE AND OVERCOMING DAILY.

that and think that is God, but it is not God. It is a lack of faith, it is a lack of knowing Him. I believe that God can speak very distinctly and very clearly to us and let us know what He wants us to do and what He doesn't want us to do, who we are and where we are and where we shouldn't be and where we should be. I don't think He is trying to play some game with us, like hide and seek. "Well, guess who I am. Guess where I am. Guess where I want you to be." No, I don't believe that. I believe that God lets us know very distinctly and very clearly who we are, what we are and what He wants us to do. If you are practicing that, quit it. Stop it. Now. Tonight. Amen. Are you still there? Stop it, because that is not faith. What you are saying is, "I am going to go ahead and do something and if God doesn't want me to do it, He will stop me." What would happen if you got on the Titanic? Or one of the larger boats that was doomed to sink? You say, "Well, I am just trying God out. If He doesn't want me to do this..." What are you going to do when the boat starts going down? You shouldn't have been on that boat. There are certain places that you and I shouldn't be. Then there are certain places where we should be. Amen. I think a lot of times we convince ourselves, "This is God's will," but it really isn't. Can you say, "Amen"?

Therefore, it is knowing God. That is what Paul is trying to get across to the saints at Corinth. They were puffed up. Knowledge will do that. Knowledge alone will puff up. Oh, yes it will. That is why we have so many universities and schools of learning. It is because there is a thirst for knowledge. I don't have a thirst for knowledge, but I have a thirst for Him. I am hungering and thirsting for righteousness, not a doctrine of righteousness, not a theory of righteousness. But I am seeking after He who is righteous. Therefore, I believe we find Him when we search after Him with all of our hearts (Deuteronomy 4:29; Jeremiah 29:13).

Nevertheless, Paul is dealing with this Corinthian church. They are people that God has called. They are people that Paul spent time with, teaching them and tutoring them and they were growing, but the problem was that they had so many carnal things. There were so many carnal things. They allowed their reasoning to get in the way. In fact, they actually made a real fiasco out of the Lord's supper. They came together and they ate their meals there. It wasn't anything sacred. It wasn't anything holy. It wasn't anything righteous anymore. It was like coming together and having a smorgasbord. They took the things of God very lightly.

I don't know about you, but I take seriously all the things of God and the things that God has spoken to us as a people and as individuals. God has told us many things. God has put a time limit even on our activities. I told Brother duCille over the phone, "I believe in what you are

teaching on 2008." He said, "Why? Why do you believe that?" I said that I believe that because God came to me one day as I was talking to Him and asking Him about many things about the future, about my life personally. I think it is good to ask the Lord about ourselves, don't you? To find out whether or not we are in the faith and if we are going the right way. Nevertheless, I asked Him, "Lord, how long will it be?" He said, "Four years." He told me that. I said, "Is that all I have?" He said, "That's right. You have four years." He said, "You had better make the best of it." The problem is, when we hear the Word, we don't always believe it. We hear it but we don't act upon it. We are like the foolish man who builds his house upon the sand (Matthew 7:24-27). Instead of believing God and building our house upon the rock, we allow ourselves to build upon carnal things, carnal reasoning and we reason what God is saying. You know, if the Word of God comes to us, anointed by the Holy Spirit, that is God speaking to us. God is saying something very directly and pointed to us in this hour and in this day. I am convinced that we have a very short time left. A lot shorter than what you think.

I am just going to share a few things with you as we go along. One of the things is about Hurricane Katrina. It was three days before it hit. It was a category one at the time. It was out there, just getting into the gulf and they were not quite sure where it was going to go. There is a dear brother whom I know down in Mississippi. I have known him over 20 years, a lovely preacher, a good preacher, a very dedicated man, a very committed man, one who loves God. What happened was, three days before it hit, the Lord spoke to him and to the people to fast and pray for three days. They fasted and prayed for three days and Hurricane Katrina came in. It was very devastating. I talked to some brethren and they thought that God was really dealing with the sinners. I said to them, "You don't even know what is happening. God is speaking to us. It is a wake up call for us, you and me." The Spirit of God is talking to us in this. I tried to get the brother after this had hit and I couldn't get him for about a week, but I finally got him on the phone. He called me on his cell phone and he said, "Brother Campbell." I said, "Yes. What is happening, Brother? Was there a lot of destruction? Were there a lot of people who lost their homes?" He said, "Oh, yes. Many, many lost their homes." I said, "What else happened?" He said, "Let me tell you something very unusual. Three days before the hurricane came, the Lord called us all together to pray and fast for three days. We did. We sought the Lord in the matter and God told us very precisely that He was going to spare our lives and not one of us would be killed. Not one of us were killed."

About three years ago, going back a little bit, the Lord had spoken to this brother and told him to move from where

he was. They had a building down near Pascagoula. They had a home right next to it. The fellowship there was paying for it and there was no rent involved in it at all, but he felt definitely that the Lord was telling him to move. So he moved over to Alabama. Well, Alabama did not get as much destruction as Mississippi or New Orleans did. New Orleans' destruction was mainly water. The levees broke. It wasn't the wind as much as in Mississippi. The eye of the hurricane came right in Mississippi. It did much more damage than it did in New Orleans.

He told me, "So, then we prayed and the Lord said to move. Move." So they sold the home, built a nice strong house and they moved over to Alabama, north of the shore, on the border of Alabama and Mississippi. After they had prayed, Katrina finally came and the eye of the storm came in and it was devastating.

Saints, if you saw any pictures, there was nothing left but the foundations of houses. There was nothing left at all that the people could salvage. The people in Mississippi were hit a whole lot harder than New Orleans was.

So, they had prayed and a lot of the people went and stayed with other folks and some stayed with him and the hurricane passed. After it passed and he got outside, first he looked at his house and there were just two shingles blown off. That was all. His car wasn't touched or anything. He got in the car and he drove over to Mississippi, north of I-10, about five or eight miles. They are inland a little further than being right on the shore, you know, close to the water like Pascagoula is. What happened was when he got there and he parked the car in the parking lot, he got out of the car and to his amazement, this building was standing and there wasn't a brick moved. There wasn't a shingle that was blown off of it. As he stood there, he knew it was God's intervention. As he began to cry, the Lord spoke to him, "I have spared this building to be a city of refuge." Now, without contacting the federal government, the state government, FEMA or any of those agents, they called a few saints and they got the word out - in Georgia, in Tennessee, in northern Louisiana, just from all over. They came and they brought foodstuff and they opened the church building as a refuge place. Listen to this. They fed 4,000 people a day. Are you there? Can you say, "Amen"?

You know what I get a kick out of? We are all going to do something but nobody does anything. You know what I am saying? We are all going to get something done but nobody gets anything done.

We have got to get out of the idea that we are the only ones that God speaks to, because God is speaking to who-

soever is open, oh yes, and has an open heart. He said that they fed over 4,000 people a day. The governor's wife came down and helped. Some of the TV celebrities came down and helped. They also gave clothing and medicine to those that were injured. That went on for days and days and days and weeks. After about a month or two, five or six weeks, the government began to send them some help and some aid.

I said to the brother, "What happened?" He said, "Well, Brother Campbell, get on down here." I said, "Why?" He said, "I tell you, these people are really repentant. They are really crying out to God." I said, "Well, it took enough to move them, didn't it?" He said that they were in a place of very contriteness. They had lost everything. Amen. Yet God preserved them and preserved this building as a place of refuge that 4,000 people could come in and be helped. When I talked to him, he said that it was down to 1,000 a day and the

building is standing. You know, some of the elders fought him on building that church. They said, "No, we don't need that. We have enough space here in the old building. We will get along fine. We will do fine." And he said, "No, God spoke to me. We need to have a bigger building." I saw the building a year ago. It was finished and he took me around, showed it to me and they had four or five prayer rooms. He informed me that they were going to have prayer going up 24 hours a day in this one room and the other room was going to be ministering and praying for those local needs and requests that come in. In the other one they would be praying for missionaries. He showed me the main auditorium, and I suppose it would seat about 500 people. It was a big place when all they had was 100 -150 people. But, anyway, God had spoken to him to do that and you know what? It served a purpose.

Saints, what are we in this for, anyway? If we are not in this to help humanity, then we are missing the purpose. We are not just in to feed one another. Come on, saints, we have fed and fed and re-fed. Now it is time to reach out. Now it is time to reach out into the highways and the hedges and the streets, for we have a message to share. We have truth to give unto this generation. We do so much talking about what we are going to do, and one of these days we are going to get together and do it. Here is a people who are doing it! Maybe some of you wouldn't fellowship with them, but I am. Come on, saints. Why? Because they are moving on in God. They are doing something with what they've got. God is not preparing us for naught. God hasn't taken all this time, over these twenty-

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OPEN HEART.

five or thirty years... He was preparing you and me for this hour. I believe this is our hour. This is the day of our salvation. Now is our accepted time. God is expecting great things out of us, but I think we have talked too much and done so very little. Come on, saints. Amen.

They were feeding 4,000 people and all the time they were talking to them about the Kingdom of God. All the time that they were feeding these people, they were talking to them about salvation, talking to them about Jesus Christ. What a marvelous opportunity it was. They were hungry and thirsty, all right. Maybe in the natural, but also in the spiritual. Hallelujah. He is asking us to come down this winter some time and I said that I would certainly pray about it and we'll see what happens. But, anyway, God spoke to them. They listened to what God said. They obeyed God. He had a lot of flack from some of the elders when it came to buying the building. By the way, talking about the building, there was a businessman down in that area in Mississippi. I don't know what he is worth, but he is a very wealthy man and one of the sisters from that fellowship works for him as a secretary. One day he was talking to her and he was saying, "You know, I would like to give an offering or help some young minister or somebody who is starting out and needs help and is really going to do something good." She said, "Why don't you meet the brother that we have?" So, he agreed to meet him and, by the way, this businessman didn't belong to his fellowship. He wasn't Full Gospel. He wasn't even saved. But I know one thing. I know that God spoke to this man after he met with this brother. They prayed and he gave them about four acres of prime land that was selling for about \$25,000 an acre. There was another man, a Christian man, who owned 8½ acres adjoining the four acres. This man told the preacher that if they would pay the back taxes, he would donate the 8½ acres to the work. The total acres cost \$200,000.

I thought about the church in Mahomet and I thought of how God had spoken years ago and had pointed out that it was to be a place of refuge. I don't remember all the prophecy, but it was to be a place like an armory to equip people that they could go out into the fields of labor. Still it is not finished, it isn't done, and it isn't paid for. I say to myself, "How can this be, Lord? Here is this man in Mississippi that trusted You; he just believed You, he obeyed You." One couple came to see him in his office. They said that they needed counsel and prayer. He counseled and prayed with them. They did not belong to that fellowship, however, they gave a check for \$50,000. Another

couple was prayed for and was blessed of God; the husband gave a check for \$10,000. This act of giving was repeated time after time. People came and donated to their building fund again and again.

God can certainly do the same thing in this fellowship. Don't you believe that? I believe God wants to lift the debt of the building in Mahomet so that it can be a place of real refuge, a place where you can come in and be equipped spiritually, like an armory, and then go out and fight the good fight of faith. I think sometimes that there are those who hold back and don't give. They don't respond. If we hold on to our money, we are going to lose it.

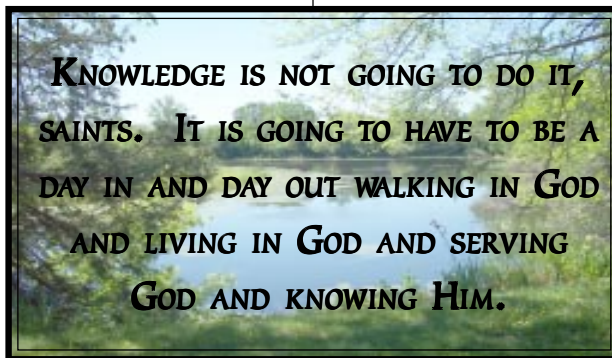
I don't know if you watched anything that happened with Hurricane Katrina when it hit the gulf coast. Some of the people came back to look at the damage the storm had done to their homes. There was nothing left. Everything was gone, their homes, their belongings, their money, everything. The television showed a woman who returned and she was holding a teapot. That was all that was left of her home and her belongings. What good did her money do, brethren? Some of you are saying, "Well, Brother Campbell, we don't live near the gulf coast, so that won't happen here." Don't fool yourselves. God showed me that we are going to have one of the worst winters we have

ever had. Very soon it will destroy crops and homes. Even people's lives will be lost. This has happened in the past and will happen again. Our money will not be able to help us then.

I believe God is saying something to us in this book of Corinthians. We have had exceeding great knowledge and revelation. It has caused many of us to grow in God. Amen. However, there is a tendency, sometimes, to allow knowledge alone to puff us up. We get complacent and we don't want to grow or to flow in God. We just want to come in and have "happy days are here again."

You know, that is not going to last. Things are going to change. Very shortly, things are going to change. You know, there are a lot of Christians down there in that gulf coast. They weren't all sinners. Don't worry. God took care of the bad area in New Orleans. There were about 15 blocks. I was told this by the same preacher. He said that all that lived there were homosexuals and the Lord totally destroyed that area. He said that they will never, ever build that one up again. It was so utterly destroyed and laid waste it will never, never be built again.

I believe God is passing judgment. That is quite obvious, but you know, the strange thing about it is we have an



idea that it will never affect us, it is not going to bother us. You wait and see. It is going to bother us. We are not going to escape these things. I didn't say our life would be lost; I am saying that we may lose a lot of material things. Amen. We might have to really begin to believe God and live by faith. Saints, I think if we are going to do what we are going to do, we need to do it now and not lean on what we know and lean on the knowledge that we have had. Amen. Knowledge is not going to do it, saints. It is going to have to be a day in and day out walking in God and living in God and serving God and knowing Him.

Two years ago at a conference over July 4th, God gave us a vision, and in the vision we saw some serpents, some animals that turned into serpents. We saw three brothers of the fellowship that were touching these and they turned into serpents. The Lord spoke to me very, very distinctly and He said, "Touch not this unclean thing." I was even going to touch it. He said, "Touch not this unclean thing." As we began to speak about the Canaanites and we began to talk about the Sodomites and these things, there was a spirit that began to move through the congregation and there were many young men and other men that came up. At that time, God spoke to me and He said, "The ones that are involved in this haven't come forward." Only one confessed. You heard the confession. I didn't. Only one confessed. The other two never came up. One of them right now is not even serving God. God spoke to me and said, "This is not resolved. It is not resolved." How in the world can we enter into the Holy of Holies when there are unclean things that are in our midst? Are you hearing what I am saying? When there are unclean things that are happening in our midst? Come on, men. This thing has not been resolved. There are still those that are involved in the very same thing, in pornography. Oh, yes, this has not been resolved. We are not going anywhere, we are not going to cross over Jordan or anyplace until these things are resolved. God is speaking very definitely to us today. He is speaking very directly to us, all of us and especially to those that have that problem. There are those that are walking in weaknesses. There are those that are walking in sin and it is covered up. It is covered up, saints.

God showed me another dream which I won't even share tonight, but I believe that there is a need in every one of our lives for cleansing, for purging. So, I went to God after the July 4th convention of last year. I went to Him again and again and again and I said, "How can this be? How can such a righteous people who are walking in such truth and light still have such corrupt minds and still have such corrupt souls? How can this be, Lord?" The Lord said, "This thing is not resolved. It is still lodged in the hearts of many." So, saints, we can get up here and we can say, "We are going to march forward," but we are not going anywhere until these things are resolved, until we are

cleansed. We are not going anywhere. The two other men that God showed me never came forward, but the Lord said to me, "One of them is going to call you." He called me at home. I am not going to tell you who he is or what he is, but he called me. On the phone, he began to confess to me, "I have had this problem, Brother Campbell, since I was 12 years old." I said, "Oh, brother. Let's pray. We need to pray that you get released and delivered from this thing."

I don't think that God says these things unless He wants to do something about it. I don't think God reveals things by the word of knowledge unless He wants to bring deliverance. I don't think that God called us together as a people unless He was sure we were going to be the people that He wants us to be. Amen. I believe God loves us. Amen. He loves us with an everlasting love. I believe that God, in His patience and His longsuffering, has been with all of us and yet there are those that are proud, exalted, arrogant and these are the things that are hindering the moving of the Spirit of God. There cannot be holiness when there is unrighteousness. Saints, there cannot be righteousness when there are unholy acts going on underneath.

He began to pour out his heart. I prayed for him on the phone. I did see him another time and prayed again and my understanding is that he is getting victory over this thing. Men, you can get hooked on these things. There is a spirit behind it. It isn't just looking at some pictures that you shouldn't look at. There is a spirit connected with it and if you get hooked on these things, it is just as bad as being a drug addict. These things will destroy you and destroy the life of God that is in you.

Saints, my feeling and my thinking is that God has called us all, and I love you all. Amen. I want to walk with you, but I am not going to walk in unrighteousness. I am not going to walk in uncleanness. I am not going to walk in these things. No saints, because I know that God has a people, amen, that are listening to His voice and that are obeying His voice and are cleaning up their act and sweeping their house clean and they are going to walk in this high place in God. I believe that. I believe that there is going to be a high place and we are going to walk in it. That is what we are called for. But saints, He is not going to tolerate this uncleanness. He is not going to tolerate this pride and this arrogance.

That is what he said to the Corinthians, "You are proud." In fact, his advice to them here, "Let us put aside these things. Let us put aside these unclean things. Let us not walk in uncleanness. Let us not walk in unrighteousness." I believe that God is speaking to us from His Word to have these things done away with.

I started to pray and fast after that, two years ago on July 4th. I began to pray and fast and I began to ask the Lord about these things. Do you know that is all He would

tell me? You know, that is all He would say to me. He would say, "Pray and fast." I would say, "But, Lord, there are problems there." He said, "Pray and fast." He said, "Do you want Me to address it?" He said, "Pray and fast." As I began to pray and fast, do you know what I found out? It wasn't the praying and the fasting. It was the obedience to His voice, to His Word. It isn't doing the actual praying and fasting. That is not it. It is obeying God when He tells you and me to do such things. I began to do it and, as I did, I was praying... How many of you have ever read Isaiah 58? Oh, you must have, because in there it tells all about the fast that God calls. A lot of people say that you fast to get power, to get glory, to get wisdom, to get knowledge, but that is not what God called. "I call a fast to break the bonds of wickedness." And every time I would pray and ask God, "Why do you want me to pray and fast?" He would say, "To break the bonds of wickedness." Where? In me, first. Come on, saints.

I believe God is calling each one of us to holiness and righteousness. I believe that we can march as the army of God. We can work as the church of the living God. Oh, yes we can. I believe we have been called to holiness. We have been called into this secret place. We have been called to walk in these high places in God, but if we allow the enemy to come in and get hold of our pocketbook, get hold of our thinking, get hold of our minds and they begin to get polluted, then God can't use us. It also hinders the work and the progress of the rest of the Body. "You mean to tell me, Brother Campbell, that God would hold up all the prosperity and the blessings just for one person?" Yes, I do. I am stupid and simple enough to believe that. I believe for one person that is not living right, that is living in sin, God will hold up the progress of the whole fellowship. Oh yes, He will even hold up prosperity. Yes, He will. I don't believe God will prosper something that is evil, which is not right and not good. So my cry in my heart is, "Lord, cleanse my heart. Cleanse my heart. Create in me a clean heart. Renew a right spirit within me, oh God. Oh God, that I might be righteous in Your standing and in Your sight. I don't care about anything else, Lord. I don't care about whether we heal another person. I don't care about another miracle, a healing, or works. I don't care about whether I have a great, oratorical voice. But, God, if I have a clean heart, You will not despise that and, God, You will take us through. I want to be in that people in the midst of that company of people that are called the overcomers. Lord, I want to arrive at that destination. I want to receive that

reward, but I can't, Lord, if there is something in my heart, if there is something in my spirit."

So, I tell you, God is digging deep into our soul, isn't He? All the soulish things and all the carnal things that we have propagated and entertained, God is dealing with them and He is rooting them out. So what is the answer to it all? God always has a solution to every problem. In writing to the Corinthians, Paul told them and admonished them to cleanse, clean up their act, deal with this man who committed fornication or adultery. Deal with this man, turn him over to Satan for the buffeting of his flesh, the destroying of his flesh, and they did that and the man got back in fellowship. It works, saints. I believe that there is a discipline that is coming of God. If we are going to be in this number, and in this overcoming people, then I think we are going to be a holy people and we are going to be a righteous people, not righteous in ourselves but righteous in His righteousness. Praise the Lord.

So, Paul deals with the whole Corinthian fellowship. He points out all these things that they were doing. It is no wonder that they were not being blessed. It is no wonder that the blessings of God were not on them. Yet he shared with them some deep things. He shared with them about the resurrection. In I Corinthians 15 he talks about the moon and the stars differing in glory. He is talking about the resurrection. "So is the resurrection." I believe that he shared some things with these people and some of them got on the ball, got on the stick. I think after Paul taught them and told them where they were (he didn't like doing it, but he did) that they began to change and there was repentance. I believe that God will not despise a broken and a contrite heart. Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah.

We have been through a lot of things since I last saw you. We are going to be going through some more things. I got a healing in my knees. We were in a Sunday morning meeting in the fellowship in Colorado. I had had a lot of problems with the knees and the lower back. Anyway, Sister Emily Sonmore got up and she said, "I have to obey the Lord." She came over and prayed for Judy and for me and I felt the power of God touch my knees. I am doing fine. I am not on any medication. I am telling you the truth. No medication on my knees or my back. God has definitely healed that. So, I am going to run this race. I am not staggering or stumbling. I am going to run this race. I am going to finish my course, amen, and my destiny in the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen. Hallelujah.

Saints, I have shared this with some of you, about the

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three angels that I saw that poured out three vials. One was over Asia and Malaysia. By the way, I don't know if you are aware of that, but that area where that tsunami hit was actually a hot spot for Islam. When that came... I had seen the waters come and after that, I noticed that the angel that was over Asia stopped it right here. Then there was a pause and after that pause, he poured the rest out, and after that there came an earthquake. You see, there was an earthquake that brought the tsunami, but then there was another earthquake after that, after the tsunami had hit. A dear friend of ours had been down there and he said, "Brother Campbell, it was just completely devastating." Look what has happened in Pakistan. 78,000 people died in one earthquake. Then the Lord began to speak to me and He showed me the second vial over Europe and He spoke to me very clearly, "England, France, and Germany." England, of course had those terrorists come. They blew up the double-decker bus. They went down into the subway and blew up another bomb and a lot of people's lives were lost and there was a lot of damage that was done. Many people were hurt. Then this thing broke out in France. They almost lost control of it. It was breaking out all over France. There was insurrection and behind it were the Muslims. The last angel with a vial that I saw, believe it or not, was over America. I noticed that, as the angel was pouring it out, he was doing it very, very slowly. I saw more than just the hurricanes. I saw devastation. I saw fires. I saw land being destroyed. Thousands upon thousands upon tens of thousands of acres being burned up, and I know that every year they have the Santa Anna winds, but this was way worse than that. I saw snow covering places where it had never snowed before. I saw people frozen in their cars on the street, just laying there frozen. I believe that is coming. So, we can't say that we are far away from it. Saints, this is the beginning of the end. This is the beginning of the end in the natural. There will be nothing to cling to in the natural. Therefore, we need one another in God. We need God, but we need one another in God. Hallelujah.

I believe as we unite together in prayer and in fasting, that God is going to cleanse the church, cleanse our hearts, every one of us. I believe that we are going to walk in that high calling. I believe we will have the answer. I believe we will be able, the power of God and the glory of God will be in the midst of this people that overcomes and so great it will be that people will be astounded by it. So God has the best for the last, doesn't He (Ecclesiastes 7:8)? Can you say, "Amen"?

Why did I choose this to speak about? I didn't. Actually, the Lord spoke to me. He has been speaking to me for, I don't know how long - most of the summer - about this word and I am not even going to get into all of it tonight. I know I won't.

The thing that stuck out to me was that the Lord said this Corinthian church did not come behind in any gift. They had revelation. They had knowledge. They had all these things and yet they didn't have love. They didn't have God. They didn't know Him. That is a terrible state to be in. Knowledge alone puffeth up. But knowledge with experience, with the practical experience working in us, oh yes. There is a development that takes place. There is a change that takes place. Just knowledge alone will puff up and sometimes, if we are not careful, we allow our minds to receive things, but there is no evidence of it in our own personal lives. Hallelujah. Can you say, "Amen"?

So what is God saying in all of this, if He is saying something? You probably won't see me for a long time, so that's all right, too. But the thing that has been bothering me and grieving me and troubling me in my own private prayer... God won't let me go anywhere. It was the strangest thing. Brother duCille was talking this morning that we need to reach out, and the last time Judy and I went to Europe, we went to England and we went to Scotland. When we left and we got to Germany, as we were on our way on the plane, Judy said, "I don't think we will be going back there again." The Lord had already spoken to me about it. We got to Germany and we visited with a couple that we have known for about 10 years now. We stayed in their home and they were telling us how he was with the Full Gospel Businessmen. It is not the one they have in America, but he was with the one in Germany and Europe and very active in it. They used to have their dinners and their breakfasts and what have you, but they were also doing mission work. Just going out and ministering one on one. They have been in Thailand. They have been in Cambodia. They have been in Russia and have been all over and they have won many, many, many, many people to Christ. Many have been born into the Kingdom of God.

So, when we were there the last time, they were sharing something with us. They had been down to Guatemala, Central America. While they were there, different people from different churches came together and they all prayed. They prayed and they fasted and they went to the government and they asked permission to go into the schools, to go into the government offices and the buildings and just witness, give their own testimony. The government allowed them to do this. There was something like 10,000 Christians that went out in Central America. They went out and they witnessed. They went into the government offices, they went into the schools and they could give their testimony. They asked the little ones and some of the older ones if they would like to receive the Lord Jesus Christ, if they would like to be prayed for, and all of them raised their hands. I guess they had quite a response and they were so impressed by this. Then they came back to Germany. He said that the Lord spoke to

them that they are not to go out like that any more. He told them that they are not to be active in the Full Gospel Businessmen anymore. But the Lord spoke to them that they are to go to their neighbors and their friends right in the neighborhood and witness and tell them about Jesus Christ. They began to pray and the Lord spoke to Sister Marianne and she called a lady that she knew 20 years ago from school, or something, and she called her up because the Lord prompted her to. She got her on the phone and she was talking to her and saying, "You know, we need to get together some time." And the other woman said, "That is strange, because I was thinking of you just the other day." This girlfriend of hers was not saved. She was not a Christian. She said, "Well, why don't we do dinner?" The girlfriend said, "That would be great." So she and her husband - that was one couple. Then Juergen, her husband, called some man that he worked with (a couple, husband and wife) that had worked with him at IBM years ago. They were wondering what happened to him and they said, "Yes, we would love to come and have a dinner with you." Altogether they called three couples. They went to a restaurant where they had a back room where they were all alone, and they just listened to all of them. They didn't say a word. They were bringing them up to date on what had happened in their lives. They had children, of course, and some of them had grandchildren and they were telling about jobs and all of the things that had happened and I suppose, the operations some of them had. When the old friends were all done sharing about themselves, they said, "What about you?" Then they began to talk to them about the Lord Jesus Christ. They began to cry and they began to weep and they led, I think, almost all of them to salvation. They are now doing that all the time. Just doing that with people, friends, acquaintances - offering to go out to dinner with them. I know it might seem like a small thing, but the thing is, they are reaching out. They are reaching out and they are sharing. Oh, come on, saints. I think that is an area where we have lacked. I would say myself, as well. I have lacked in just reaching out.

Several years ago when we lived in Colorado Springs, I talked to Brother duCille on the phone one time. He said, "You know, I have always felt there should be a work in Colorado Springs, not just Denver, but in Colorado Springs, too." When I got ready to make this move out there, the Lord spoke to me that I was to open the home out there and have meetings in the home.

Well, we lived in a small place in Wisconsin. Let's see, Mark has been to that place where we lived in Cedarburg, and so have Brother and Sister Myers. Well, the house we have now is much, much bigger. The way the Lord worked that out for us, you just know it is God. The place was for rent and I called the owner and the owner happened to be a lieutenant colonel stationed in Germany,

and I began to tell him that we were making a move and we liked the house and if we could get in, I would show my wife. He said that was great and he told me how to get the key and get in. So we got in and looked at it and, of course, Judy liked it right away. It was much bigger and much nicer and we would not have a grouchy landlord anymore. Of course, I know that none of you have ever had that!

Anyway, I talked to him on the phone and he said, "Do you like it?" "Yes." He said, "Would you like to take it?" "Yes." He said, "Let me send you a lease." I said, "Ok." So he sent us a lease and the price that we had talked about - maybe I had misunderstood him - but it was way, way more than that. So I called him up and I said, "Steve, there is a little error here." He said, "What is it?" I said, "Well, it is the price of the house." He said, "What's the problem?" I said, "It is too much. I can't afford that." He said, "Oh. What were you paying before?" The Lord had told me that I was going to get that house for the same rent that we were paying for the dinky, little one back in Cedarburg, Wisconsin. I thought that was great. Anyway, we finally sent back and he said, "All right, how would it be if I let you have it for the rent that you paid back in Wisconsin?" I said, "That would be nice." So I got that and then he sent me another lease, but in the next lease there was \$120 added on to cut the grass, shovel the snow and all of that. You know, I didn't want that and I didn't want to pay for it, either. So I called him again and I said, "Dear brother." He said, "What?" I said, "We still have a little problem." He said, "What is it?" I said, "That \$120 a month." He said, "Is that a problem?" I said, "Yes." He said, "All right, we will just dissolve that and I will just let you have it for the whole thing and I will pay for the others." I told the brethren out in Colorado, like Alan Westfall and of course, Terry and Gary. They are in the know about renting. They are in the know about housing. They told me, "You don't do that in Colorado. If they quote you a price, that is the price you are going to pay. You are not going to get that kind of a house for the kind of money that you wanted to get it for." The Lord did a miracle there.

We had been to Europe, so we had to wait till we got back, but we have now opened the house for prayer and Bible study. Well, the dear brother came from Isle of Man to visit us and we had some meetings in the home there and there were 28 people that came in. I said 28 people. I said 28 people, did you hear me? Twenty-eight people, and there was a Hispanic couple we have known; they came in with their two children. There were some friends that Brother Terry knows that came in - friends that worked with him on the jobs or what not, they came in. When we got them all in there, I counted them, right, and there were 28 people, and there were a lot of new ones that we had never met before.

God said, "Reach out." We are reaching out. He said, "Reach out in your neighborhood. First in Jerusalem, then Judea, then Samaria and then in the uttermost part of the earth" (Acts 1:8). I had been doing it backwards. I was doing it first in the uttermost parts of the earth, then in Judea, then in Jerusalem. But God said, first Jerusalem, right here in your own town, right here in your own village, in your own city, your next door neighbor. Go and knock on the door. Pray and fast. God said, "Go down the street and knock on the door and talk to somebody." You just never know. Mark was a little surprised when the meeting was there. People from the neighborhood came in. Isn't that right, Mark? I think there is a whole lot more out there that are in the neighborhood. I think this is a ripe time. The harvest is ripe. We have the right message. All we need is the right attitude and the right spirit, honey, and I think we can gather in an abundant harvest. So, I am not preaching something to you that I am not doing. I am doing it. I am not just saying you should do it and I am not doing it myself. We are doing it!

Just this past week, on Sunday, we had a brother who we met in Moscow years ago, just a fantastic testimony this young man had. Just fantastic. He had gained an awful lot of weight because they put him on steroids for seven years and seven months. He had just ballooned out, but he had a tremendous testimony of how God had healed him and not only healed him, but went and took him back to Russia. He just got back there a couple of weeks ago and had fantastic, fantastic results. He prayed for one of the Russian Orthodox wives, one of the priests' wives and she got healed and he got healed and I guess that wherever he went throughout all of Russia, not just Moscow, there were just fantastic deliverances and healings and people getting saved. Praise the Lord! There is something happening and God wants to get you and I right smack dab into the middle of it.

Saints, don't misunderstand what we are saying tonight. I recognize and I believe that we have knowledge, good knowledge. We have revelation. We have been tutored well, but now it is about using what we have got. It is sharing it. It is declaring it. I believe it is a time of ingathering. The harvest is truly ripe and all we need to do is go out and compel them to come in and they are going to come in! I said, "They are going to come in." I didn't know what to do. I had never done any shepherding or anything. I said, "Lord, I'm not a shepherd." He said, "Well, yes, but you have a shepherd's heart." I said, "Well, thank you, Lord, for that, but that's not our ministry." I

said, "But, Lord, I will do what You want me to do. I will open the house and I will have prayer and Bible study and if You bring them in, Lord, hallelujah, I will sock it to them." So the Lord is blessing. Amen. Can you say, "Amen"?

Come on, I didn't knock you down. Amen. I told you good things. I told you the truth. I believe that there are things in our heart. It is the little foxes that spoil the vine (Song of Solomon 2:15). There are little roots of bitterness and resentment, little things in us that are spoiling us and for that, we are not entering into that fullness. Oh, come on, saints! I think it is so close I can almost touch it. I sometimes get rays and flashes of it and I want to enter in but the Lord says, "Not yet. Not yet." But I believe that day is coming. I believe the veil is going to be lifted and we are going to enter in and see things and hear things

that no man has ever seen or heard.

Can you say, "Amen"? Will you bless the Lord with me? Will you praise the Lord with me? Hallelujah! Glory to God! May the Lord stir up our pure minds tonight. May the Lord stir up the Holy Ghost in us tonight, that we don't just talk about it but we do it. Amen. Hallelujah.

I am praying, Peter. I have been praying a long time and I am still praying. I am praying that God would get that roof fixed and finish off that building. That building is to be a place of refuge. It is to be an armory to equip people to come in and to go out. When I have been praying... I was so stupid. You know, when you get in a place of favor...you know what I am talking about. When you get in a place of favor, when you are doing everything God tells you and then the Lord says, "What would you want Me to do for you?" Like a dummy I was saying, "Well, You could fix this or You could fix that little thing," and I never thought "Lord, if you give me \$20,000, I think we could finish the church off." Now, I didn't ask for that, but I should have because I probably won't get three wishes or three guesses or whatever again. But nevertheless, I thought of that and I said, "Lord, let the monies come in from wherever You want them to come in. If You want to move on some businessman, that is fine. If You want to move on some saint, that is fine, too." But I believe we have got to get the building finished and done. Amen. For I believe there is going to be people coming in that will be homeless just like they are down where the floods were, where the hurricanes were. In Mississippi, they went up north and stayed with their relatives and friends in Tennessee and Georgia and all the other places up north. Saints, I think that God wants to have that building finished, **DONE**,

HE SAID, "REACH OUT
IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD.
FIRST IN JERUSALEM,
THEN JUDEA, THEN
SAMARIA AND THEN IN
THE UTTERMOST PART OF
THE EARTH."

amen, that it can be used for the thing that God wants it to be used. So, God is dealing with you, or me, even. I don't have it, but I tell you, I can pray for it and if I ever get it, I know that God will supply. You say, "Well, how in the world, Brother Campbell, would He do that?" Well, you would be surprised.

Did I ever tell you about Judy? Judy went to the hospital back in May of this year. She had a gall bladder operation. How many of you know that these things are expensive when you don't have health insurance? I think it ended up that the hospital gave us a bill of \$21,000. The doctors came to almost \$12,000. Add that on and that came to \$33,000 and we had no money. There was a few people who helped here and there, \$500 or \$600 or something of that sort, but the bulk of the money we did not have. God began to speak to people not even of this country. Not even in this country. Not in this fellowship. Don't always look to somebody here. I mean, if God wants to do it, He can do it. It just floored me when I got a call and the brother told me, "Brother Campbell, you have been on our hearts. We have been praying for Judy and we feel to do X number of dollars." I said, "Well, thank you very much." After I hung up, I was sitting there and I was in shock. I was in a state of shock. The Lord said, "Why shouldn't you believe that?" Why shouldn't we believe that, saints? As long as we are walking in God and we are walking in His divine favor, why shouldn't we believe that God is able to pay and do these things? It didn't pay for everything, but it took care of half. I want to tell you right now, it took care of half and then the rest of it God supplied as well. As far as I know, the whole thing has been paid. Taken care of. \$33,000. Oh, glory to God. There was no sending out letters and no begging and pleading and, "Who will do this?" and, "What and how?" God will bless us.

God wants to bless us. Money is nothing to God. God can take care of this by the snap of His finger and the blink of His eye and take care of all of the needs that we have. Praise the Lord.

Let's pray. *Father, thank You for speaking to our hearts. Thank You for reminding us of these things and let us not fall, Lord, into the habit of these things. Let us not fall, Lord, and neglect this so great a salvation. Let us not put it aside, Lord, but let us search after You with all of our hearts. Let us lay aside the weights that have so weighted us down and run this race with patience. For God, You are calling us each one. You are calling us to righteousness and holiness. You are calling us, Lord, to come and be a part of this unity of the Body of Christ. Let us, Lord, not hold back any longer. Let us not just hear with our ear and not walk in it or receive it. But, God, that which You have spoken to us, may we receive it. Lord, may we begin to walk in it, in the name of Jesus. Lord, that we might see You, the great Commander-in-Chief, leading us against the foe, Lord, conquering them and destroying them that no longer, God, these powers and principalities would come against us to hinder us or knock us down, Lord, to rob us of our place and position in Christ, in the name of Jesus. Let there come a loosening of Your Spirit, a loosening, Lord, of Your faith in us. Amen! And a loosening of the finances, Lord, that all these projects that You have laid on our hearts, all of our hearts, God, that we will see them come to fruition. For, God, You are a great God and You are a big God and You are our God and, God, we pray this night that, as we commit ourselves to You again and submit ourselves unto Your mighty hand, that, God, You will lead us unto victory. Hallelujah! In the name of Jesus. In the name of Jesus. Hallelujah!*

Can we praise the Lord? Hallelujah! Hallelujah!□

SAINTS, DON'T MISUNDERSTAND WHAT WE ARE SAYING TONIGHT. I RECOGNIZE AND I BELIEVE THAT WE HAVE KNOWLEDGE, GOOD KNOWLEDGE. WE HAVE REVELATION. WE HAVE BEEN TUTORED WELL, BUT NOW IT IS ABOUT USING WHAT WE HAVE GOT. IT IS SHARING IT. IT IS DECLARING IT. I BELIEVE IT IS A TIME OF INGATHERING. THE HARVEST IS TRULY RIPE AND ALL WE NEED TO DO IS GO OUT AND COMPEL THEM TO COME IN AND THEY ARE GOING TO COME IN!

On Eagles' Wings



By Brother Wayne Wickboldt

Isaiah 40:31, *But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.*

The eagle illustrates some important Biblical truths. As this majestic bird soars high in the sky, he defies the laws of gravity, searching with keen eyes for his prey. He lives an existence far above the mundane things of the earth below. When the thunderstorm blows in, the eagle sets his strong wings into the wind and rises up above the storm.

How does the eagle help us understand spiritual truths? In the same way that the eagle soars high above the earth, so God, through His Word, invites us to rise above earthly, temporal things into a heavenly realm of fellowship with God. Philippians 3:7-8, 14, *But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. ⁸Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ, ¹⁴I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.*

Unlike the birds that peck and scrounge on the ground for food, the eagle “rules the skies,” rising into the heavenlies, continually surveying the earth beneath. He lives his life in a place of majesty. Even the eagle’s nest is built high above the ground. Ephesians 2:4-6, *But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, ⁵Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved; ⁶And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus:*

The eagle has remarkable vision, being able to see

about six times farther than a human being. An eagle can easily spot a rabbit on the ground from a mile up in the air. God desires us to have a vision of His plan for us. He will lead us into truth and teach us His ways, if we keep our eyes focused on Him. Proverbs 29:18, *Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he.*

A flying eagle overcomes the law of gravity that continually tries to pull him back to the ground. Romans 8:2-4 tells us about a spiritual law. *For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death. ³For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh: ⁴That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.*

The law of sin is like spiritual gravity, attempting to draw us downward and away from God. The attractions of the world around us try to keep our minds in a carnal realm. But the higher law of life in Christ has freed us from the law of sin, and enables us to overcome the sin in our lives.

Colossians 3:1-3, *If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. ²Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. ³For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.*

May our vision be focused on the Word of God, which is like a well of living water. Let us wait upon the Lord, who renews our strength. Let us mount up with wings as eagles, setting our affections on things above, not on things on the earth. As we have risen with Christ, let us also dwell in Him.□

THE SPOTLIGHT IS ON



THE GOMEZ FAMILY

INTERVIEW BY NATHANIEL CHATTIC

I recently received the opportunity to interview the Gomez family in their home. I must send them a personal thank you, first and foremost, for their hospitality and their willingness to be questioned. There were many blessed things said and received in our hour and a half exchange. I trust that all readers will be greatly blessed by this family's testimony of what God is doing and continuing to do in their lives. With that, I encourage you to read on!

Alfredo is from Valle de Santiago, Guanajuato, Mexico, coming from a family of 12 children, 8 brothers (including him) and four sisters. He lived there until 1986, and it was at that particular point in time that he ventured out to California, where he remained for 16 years. He stayed in Georgia for a couple of years, then in Louisiana for a few months before making his way here to Mahomet. As he states, "I've been all over, from coast to coast!"

Alfredo was involved in the Catholic church, the predominant church in Mexico, as well as his family. He was introduced into the Apostolic Assembly in 1990. He explained that this particular faction "did not believe in the Holy Trinity. Instead, they believed that Christ was the center of everything, and there was a lot of legalism in that environment." He described one of the specific requirements for the women attending this church is that they had to wear a veil, or as he described it, "more of a head covering only, because it did not come down over the face."

In 1991, after spending one year with the Assembly, he came to hear of a group in California, the Sonlight Gospel fellowship. Although he did not know anything about the Sonlight Gospel fellowship, he got to know Mr. Asbill while he was there, as well as a family from Guatemala who were

friends with one of his brothers, who invited the pair of them to fellowship in Livingston. It was there that Alfredo became more familiar with the brethren of the SG fellowship. Alfredo stated that the way these people prayed and worshipped was "very different from what I had already known." But it seemed the difference was enough to whet Alfredo's appetite, for three Sundays later he returned, and began to fellowship with them regularly.

Alfredo was drawn to the prophetic word, specifically citing Mr. Asbill's ministration in the prophetic realm as a major influence on his return visits to this new fellowship. "He (Mr. Asbill) was not just preaching doctrine. He was prophesying anywhere that he was, and it was like God talking directly to you! There was nothing of man interfering with that kind of communication." He had never experienced that before, and it was that form of ministration that "kept him coming back for more." Not only was Alfredo drawn to the word(s) of prophecy, but he also enjoyed the family atmosphere that that fellowship showed forth to him. He was very appreciative of the way he could interact with the brethren in this fellowship, how each and everyone, from the youngest to the oldest, had the opportunity to participate in the meetings. He stated that in the church system he came out of "you could not do that. If you wanted to say something, you had to be 'approved' first, and what you said had to fall in line or accordance with what the minister had to say."

Since Alfredo had some experience in travelling, I asked him if there was anything specifically that stood out to him during his travels, any adaptations that he had to make, major or minor, after finding his new faith. He mentioned

one major reality that he had to come to terms with during his travels that there were not many real, genuine people that shared his faith as he thought. Coming from a church system where multitudes underscored the success of the church, finding a genuine believer was hard for him. He saw various ones come in and go out, and he had to come to terms with the fact that church was not solely about how many people came and filled in the seats. "It was difficult in the beginning," he said, "but more and more, I did not care as much (about the number of people), because I knew that I could rely on the people that were there, and that they genuinely cared about me."

I asked him what his family's initial reaction was to his "conversion," to which he replied simply, "They did not like it!" His older siblings especially did not seem to care for his newfound faith, but a couple of his brothers closer in age appeared more receptive. At one point, his conversion divided his family, and he explained that some of his brothers and sisters actually moved out. However, a year later, two of his sisters came back and became Christians, as well as his younger brothers, but he was the first one. The major breakthrough seemed to come when his mother became a Christian. "She was a strong Catholic all of her life, and she was a major influence in the family to become Catholic. So when she became a Christian, some of my family did not like that all, because she had influenced them to become Catholic!" He also mentioned that God was still working on two of his sisters and two of his brothers. Alfredo has been blessed to receive opportunities to witness to them and believes that God will "apprehend" them for good!

Mederana lived in Montego Bay, Jamaica, and has been active in the Christian faith for about a decade. "I've always been God-fearing, I believe, but I really made that decision to go all the way with Him about 10 years ago." She further described her walk, "I have experienced being the lamb that has gone astray, and when found had to have my legs broken and taken back into the fold by the Hand of the Good Shepherd Jesus Christ. I wish I never had to experience it that way! But it has helped me to stay humble and understand a lot of things that I took for granted."

She comes from an immediate family of 6 including her mother, three girls and two boys, but her extended family totals to about 20 people! In her family, her father was Catholic, while her mother was Baptist, but neither forced their religious views on the children. Her brother was an Adventist, which Mederana describes as "coming close" to converting to one herself. She went to an Adventist school from age 12 to 17, and was close to getting baptized there, but it did not happen. However, the fellowship that drew her in came from the Montego Bay Church of Christ, specifically their discipleship movement. As she describes, "What pulled me in was feeling that you were with a fam-

ily. You did not walk in there without someone hugging you or greeting you." She continued on to say that during this time she was yearning for that family atmosphere, and she remained with them for almost 4 years, until she came to a point where she needed "progression in her life." However, she went on to say that "God really worked on me," during that period of time, even though she was not receiving the full reality or truth of God's Word.

Coming at the end of that 4-year period, she struck a friendship with Mr. Carl duCille, meeting his family, and coming into their fellowship. Through her observations, she came to respect their fellowship, and eventually moved away from the discipleship movement, "having to learn some lessons along the way." Mederana was met with some emotional struggles, but she was thankful for the new relationship she had found with this new fellowship for their openness and willingness to pray for her, particularly during those hardships.

In June 2004, during the Jamaica conference, she recommitted her life to the Lord, and His Word was further established in her being. However, God was not finished yet! Mederana met Brother Burt Asbill and Brother George Herrig in late May of 2005 in Jamaica, and she received prayer from Brother Asbill that served as a "release" for her spiritually. She was convinced that God was indeed doing something tremendous in that place. She came to a position "that there was nothing that the world could offer her, and she did not want to be failing God anymore."

Things continued to happen rapidly afterwards. The Word of the Lord was continuing to take root in her life, she saw some of the Jamaican brethren reconfirm their lives to God, and some new people come into that fellowship, shortly after getting re-baptized herself. She also received the opportunity to meet more of the brethren, including Alfredo.

I asked the couple when they felt God was directing them to come to Mahomet. For Alfredo, he had the intent to come for some time. But he "kept putting it off," before long, "getting away from the fellowship." However, he remained in contact with the brethren, and it was at Jamaica that the ball began to roll in that direction. Alfredo had been talking to Mederana about coming to Mahomet, and they were in agreement that they wanted to be in a

place that was close to the fellowship. For Mederana, it was a necessity to be close to and a part of the fellowship, and she was amazed at the way God worked everything out, to the t!

When it came time for the pair to be united in marriage, the blessings of God continued to flow. The couple planned for a "quick" wedding, but through listening to the elders' advice, they decided on a date (April 1st), and trusted God to take care of the details. From that point on, the pair

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the Logos and the Rhema

by Brother Barak Asbill
Atlanta, Georgia
December 29th, 2005



I believe the message has already been preached in the song service this morning. If I might supply some technical support and application, there is something that I began to see in the scripture with regard to the purpose for which God created us. Let us look at the scripture in II Corinthians 5. It says in verse 17, *Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.*¹⁸ *And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation.*

Now, I am mainly going to speak out of John 14:23. *Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.* There is a picture that I am sure most of us are familiar with and it is the diagram of what is actually going on (see illustration on opposite page). We have earth and we have heaven that is all around the realm of earth. Now, within earth there is a timeframe or a time schedule that had a beginning and has an end that God gave to His creation. In this timeframe, He has an objective and a plan. If we look in the Word at this 23rd verse, there are two words I want to look at. It says, *If a man love me, he will keep my words.* The two words I want to look at are *keep* and *words*.

I think the first thing we need to look at is that the Greek for *word* in this particular passage is *logos* (Strong's Concordance Greek #3056). *Logos*, by the definition given in the concordance, is "something said (including the thought); by implication, a topic (subject of discourse), also reasoning (the mental faculty) or motive; by extension, a computation; specially, (with the article in John) the Divine Expression." *Logos* comes from *lego* (G#3004) which means "to lay forth." So, in keeping the Word of God, there is a necessity that we go back to the original

thought or intention in which that word was spoken.

There is another scripture in Matthew 6:10 that is a directive from God to His creation and the Word says, *Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.* Now, this is the directive that the function of the earth is to come in alignment with. Everything else that pertains to our realm and earthiness should be second place with regard to this direction. This is a thought that is coming from God to you and me. His intention and desire is that His Kingdom would come in our earth, both the physical, natural earth, and the created being "earth" that I am, that *Thy*

will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. This heavenly directive is given in the present tense and must be implemented and instituted and brought into existence in the earth realm.

The word *logos* is also translated as *communication*. In Matthew 5:37, it says, *But let your communication be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay: for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil.* Matthew 7:24 says, *Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings* (that *sayings* is the same Greek word *logos*) *of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock.* Likewise, in Matthew 7:26 it says, *And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand.* So, we have a demonstration in the scripture establishing what the intention and the purpose of *logos*, the spoken Word, is and it is connected with the action of doing.

There is a principle that is applied with regard to the accomplishment of *logos*. If you turn over to Isaiah 55:8, it says, *For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD.*⁹ *For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.*¹⁰ *For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater:*¹¹ *So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.* Do you see something here? It says *as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud.* So, the intention of the *logos* is to come in its intended form as it

is properly applied, do its work, and return again in another form. The form it is to return to Him is as *rhema*. The Word says “that it may bring forth and bud.” Hallelujah! The whole intent and purpose of God was to come inside of man and irrevocably change man, that man might then become a fruitful bough or a fruitful vine that is bringing forth and budding. This is a Kingdom principle. This is the Kingdom principle that is working and overshadowing the earth realm. Now, whether or not you and I are cognizant of it is another story, but nevertheless, it is there and it is available to you and me.

Turn back over to John 14 and let us see “keeping” the *logos*. This is where it gets fun. Verse 23, ***If a man love me, he will keep my words.*** The word *keep* is *tareho* (G#5083) and means “to guard from loss or injury, properly, by keeping the eye upon.” There are three angles from which I want to look at this word.

The first one is that this particular word *tareho* is translated as *watched* and *watching* in Matthew 27:36 where it says that the Roman soldiers *watched* Jesus being crucified. In Matthew 27:54 it says that they sat down and *watched*. It is the same Greek word. So by virtue of *watching* the politically manipulated murder of an innocent man, they became *witnesses*. Hallelujah.

So let’s look at the word *witness*. In Acts 1:8 it says, ***But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.*** The word *witnesses* in the Greek is *martus* (G#3144) which is also translated as *martyr* in Acts 22:20 when Paul said ***the blood of thy martyr Stephen was shed.*** Hallelujah!

Now, this is all in conjunction with keeping the *logos*. This is the criteria, these are the parameters that have been set up in which you and I are to function in order to accomplish the objective of what the *logos* says.

The second angle that we want to look at is the story of the rich young ruler in Matthew 19:17. ***And he said unto him, Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God: but if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments.*** ¹⁸***He saith unto him, Which? Jesus said, Thou shalt do no murder, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness,*** ¹⁹***Honour thy father and thy mother: and, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.*** ²⁰***The young man saith unto him, All these things have I kept from my youth up: what lack I yet?*** The link here is, ***if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments.*** It is the same Greek word

that is used in ***keep my words***, or *logos* (John 14:23). So, He is explaining to the young man the Kingdom principles saying, ***If thou wilt be perfect*** this is the way you ought to go or the way you have to go. ***The young man saith unto him, All these things have I kept from my youth up: what lack I yet?*** ²¹***Jesus said unto him, If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come and follow me.*** Another principle of the Kingdom is that if you want to live, you have to die. If you want to receive, you have to give.

So, we look at the word *perfect*. ***If thou wilt be perfect... Telios*** (G#5046) means “complete, completeness, a full age man.” If thou wilt be perfect, if thou wilt be *telios*... Now, look in I Corinthians 14:20 and you will find the word *telios* is translated as *men*. It says, ***Brethren, be not children in understanding: howbeit in malice be ye children, but in understanding be men*** or be *telios*. ***Be perfect.***

Again in Hebrews 5:14 it says, ***But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.*** ***Of full age*** is the Greek word *telios*. Hallelujah.

It occurred to me that *telios* also sounds like *huios* (G#5207) and I believe that there is a relationship between *telios* and *huios*. *Huios* we know is the Greek word to describe one as a mature son, of full age, of being complete, perfect, of a man or men of full age. In Galatians 4:6-7, we find a scripture that demonstrates this relationship between these two words. Starting with verse 6, ***And because ye are sons (huios), God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son (huios) into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father.***

Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son (huios); and if a son (huios), then an heir of God through Christ.

Again, in Ephesians 4:13 it says, ***Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son (huios) of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ.*** Hallelujah. Now, all of this is in conjunction with “keeping My *logos*.” If a man love Me, he will keep My *logos* (John 14:23). Praise the Lord.

Now, I found something interesting in John 12:46. It says, ***I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness.*** ⁴⁷***And if any man hear my words (rhema), and believe not, I judge him not: for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world.*** ⁴⁸***He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my***



words (rhema), hath one that judgeth him: the word (logos) that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day. There is an expectation that the *logos* becomes something in the earth realm. Now, if you will turn your Bible over to Luke 1:38. *And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her.* Or, you can read it and say, “Be it unto me according to thy *rhema*.”

Now, this *rhema* has a demonstration. It has a viable, touchable demonstration and expression that can be seen and witnessed to. In Luke 2:15 it says, *And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing (rhema) which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.* It is speaking of Christ’s birth. Again in Luke 2:17 it says, *...and when they had seen it.* In verse 15 we see the future tense of “let us go and see.” Now, we see the past tense in verse 17, *And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying (rhema) which was told them concerning this child.* There is a typology in Mary’s submission to the *logos*, or the Word that came to her, asking her to yield her personage to the directive that God had with regard to completing man that He started in the beginning. She willingly yielded herself to that directive and she became a manifestation of the Word in *rhema* form. The same thing is to happen to you and me even as our own soul nature is of a feminine characteristic. There is a Word that is delivered to you and me in *logos* form that comes from out of the midst of Heaven. Now, remember, the directive is *Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven* (Matthew 6:10). The reality of Heaven, the way Heaven is now, should be superimposed over our current, existing condition and take priority until the fullness of that aspect of Heaven is made fully known and is fully made manifest in the earth realm. In effect, our earth realm is being redeemed into a heavenly realm. Hallelujah! Praise the Lord!

Now, in Matthew 8 we have a demonstration of this principle of receiving and bringing back, or giving back, in a completed form. Verse 5, *And when Jesus was entered into Capernaum, there came unto him a centurion, beseeching him, ‘And saying, Lord, my servant lieth at home sick of the palsy, grievously tormented. ‘And Jesus saith unto him, I will come and heal him. ‘The centurion answered and said, Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldst come under my roof: but speak the word (logos) only, and my servant shall be healed. ‘For I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me: and I say to this man, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it. ‘When Jesus heard it, he marvelled, and said to them that followed, Verily I say unto you, I have not found so*

great faith, no, not in Israel.

I never really understood why Jesus was so impressed with this man coming to Him in the form and the fashion that he did. But I began to see the principle which this centurion was cognizant of and it was on his understanding of that principle that he came and submitted himself to Jesus. As he did this, what he was saying to Jesus is, “You speak the word and I am presenting myself as the agent to receive the word and by which to take the word back, believing that, as You have spoken, so shall it be done.” This is why Jesus said, “I have not seen such great faith in Israel,” because this is what He was looking for. As He moved to and fro throughout the ranks of humanity, He was looking for individuals that were willing to give up their current existence of what they were. Consider here that this is a Roman man of a different nationality, of a different culture, of a somewhat, I suppose, prestigious position of authority. Yet it seems as though he was willing to put it all on the line for the sake of receiving the Word from Christ to be an agent to carry that Word and see the manifestation of the Word being accomplished in his locality and in his environment.

This is the directive that has been given to you and me. We are to divest ourselves of what we are, of our current condition, of our current environment and be in tune with the directive that is coming out of the midst of Heaven, that we would present ourselves as agents that say, “Here am I, Lord. Speak Thy Word because I want to see it accomplished.” In other words, “I want to be the agent through which Your *logos* flows and comes out as *rhema*.” *Logos* is the spoken Word and *rhema* is the living Word. As a living Word, it is an abiding, undeniable, indestructible demonstration of a living God in a dead environment. As a living God in a dead environment, I can guarantee you that wherever that living God goes, the environment is not going to remain dead. Praise the Lord!

In Ephesians 1:10 it says, *That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ.* Do we understand that in order for there to be oneness between those who are in Heaven and we who are on earth, there has to be a diminishing of the restrictions that are in earth for they inhibit that which is in earth from connecting to that which is in Heaven? God breathed into man His Word and began to form and fashion a viable experience of a living God living inside of man and creating a kind of Heaven in man. The purpose is that there is coming a time and a position and a point and a place where that Heaven is not going to be contained within the confines of that man and it will begin to spill out within his environment. Now, we have had men all along God’s time schedule that have demonstrated for us a reality of the Heaven that they had and that they, on an individual basis, broke through the barrier of earth and

connected with Heaven. There have been little explosions, if you will, in history. There have been little explosions of Heaven in the midst of this earth realm and it began to break down the barrier of the confinement of earth. They did not do it of their own will and volition but they did it in accordance to the overall plan that God has set from the beginning. Each of these men was in their own time and dispensation. Each was working in tune with God, cognizant of the directive that they had from Heaven - building, making, laboring, suffering for the purpose of seeing the totality of all things being made one.

So the *logos* comes and the intent of the *logos* is to change us. It is to bring about a change. The scripture says, **Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new** (II Corinthians 5:17).

The Word says in II Corinthians 4:7, **But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us. ⁸We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair.** See, you are talking about a catalyst. You have a catalytic conversion when *logos* is administered to the soul of man. The term "conversion" in my mind seems as though it has kind of lost its true meaning within Christendom. "I have had a conversion." Well, "conversion" in the dictionary means "to change a substance from one form to another." That means the previous existence of that substance is no more and the form it has been changed into is completely different and it can't go back. When we talk about a catalytic conversion, we are talking about one condition, one particle, one sort of substance being brought and the necessity of

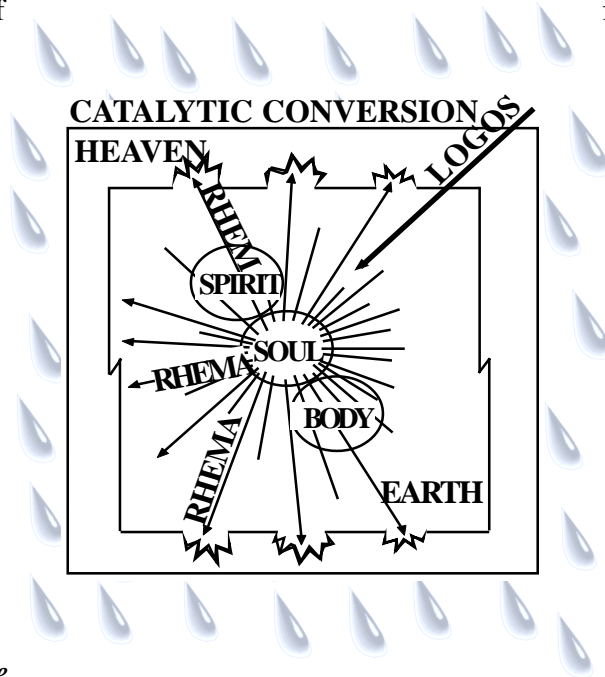
a catalyst to be introduced to this substance to induce change so that the substance of previous existence is changed from one form to another. When the *logos* comes to you and me, there is an explosion within the soul of man that changes the man from what he used to be and what he used to do and it makes him more Heaven conscious (see illustration). Now his motives and his mode of operation are becoming more in tune with the heavenly objective so that he becomes so heavenly minded that he is of no earthly good. The Word in Isaiah 55:11, **it shall not return unto Me void**, is not in the sense of me giving you something and saying "keep it for me" and then I come back and receive it from you in the same condition that I gave it to you. I

don't think that idea exists in the Kingdom of God, at least the way I would think about somebody keeping something for me. Now it is good that they would return it back in the same condition that I gave it to them. That is good. But it seems to me that the principle that is in the Kingdom is the principle that, as He gives, He wants back that which He gave plus an increase. Plus an increase! You see it throughout the Bible. It says, "He gave the water and He gave the snow not to return, but He wanted the water to bring forth and to bud" (Isaiah 55:10). You see it in the parable of the talents. He gave out certain percentages to certain individuals and those individuals not only brought back that which was given to them, but they brought back 100% plus. So you see that the intent and the purpose of God was to bring or speak the *logos* into our realm, into the earth realm of our soul. The ingredients that He has given to be mixed with the Word are the Blood, the Holy Ghost, and my being and it is to bring about a catalytic conversion.

Now, there is a simple example that I can give you. You can take vegetable waste oil that they used for frying in restaurants and it can be converted into biodiesel that can be put in diesel automobiles. But vegetable waste oil, VWO, in the form that it is in as waste vegetable oil will not burn very well and it has adverse effects over a period of time if it is used in that condition in the thing into which it is put. So, if you take VWO and you take methanol and you take sodium hydroxide and you add that to the oil, the methanol and the sodium hydroxide are the catalyst that causes the oil to change from one form to another. The interesting thing about it is that you have to heat the oil

from its solidified condition into a liquid form before you can add the catalyst. Isn't that interesting? God applies heat to our solidified condition of spent, used waste oil which is dirty, filthy, unclean, and not fit for any good use. He adds heat to liquefy us so that we would move and then He brings the catalyst and injects it into the circumstance He has us in and the catalytic conversion in itself generates heat. There should be something of a fervency within the heart of every believer to know and to want a deeper relationship with Him to whom he has been called. As that fervency is in the right environment that is

conducive for it to grow and mature, it begins to take over and transform the individual from what he used to be, from how he used to think, to another form that he has never



been before. Consequently, in the process of making biodiesel you create a byproduct. These byproducts can be likened to the things that have been worked out of your life - things that are incompatible or out of line with the plan of God for your life. Many times I think it is the hanging on to the byproducts that causes the problem for our forward progression into the Kingdom of God. These byproducts keep us in a position where we are more in tune with the things that pertain to the earthly realm than we are with the heavenly realm.

So, you see, the *rhema* is the living reality of Jesus Christ in my life. Not only is it just a living reality, but it is something that as I begin to move in accordance with the will of God, there is a viable demonstration to me, personally, and to those that are around me that I am moving in the will of God. This is why Jesus was able to say, "Thomas, touch Me; I am the living bread" (John 20:27). And I think that when Thomas touched Him there was something of a transformation that began to work within Thomas' life that gave Thomas the revelation. History says that Thomas ended up in India and gave his life as a martyr for Christ. He had an understanding of the principles that the Kingdom of God is working by and his desire to live with God and the purpose and plan of God superseded the naturalness of time and space (Acts 8:39-40). This is the reason why the early church was able to give and to give and to give and to give until, as the Word says, **they had all things in common**

(Acts 4:32). They were in tune with the directive that was coming out of Heaven and the desire of the *logos* to come into the soul of man to transform it that it might begin to radiate the *rhema* of God. Praise the Lord!

Going back to John 12:46. ***I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness.*** ⁴⁷***And if any man hear my words (rhema), and believe not, I judge him not: for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world.*** ⁴⁸***He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words (rhema), hath one that judgeth him: the word (logos) that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day.*** Do we see what is happening? Regardless of whether we participate or not, the *logos* is going forward. Whether or not we allow the objective of the *logos* to move in the framework of our lives is the determining factor of whether we are receiving Him or rejecting Him, because by receiving the *logos*, you are going to receive the end result which is the manifestation of the *rhema*.

To solidify this, the Bible says in Matthew 18:23, ***Therefore is the kingdom of heaven likened unto a certain king, which would take account of his servants.*** The word *account* is the word *logos*. Luke 16:2 says, ***And he called him, and said unto him, How is it that I hear this of thee? give an account of thy stewardship; for thou mayest be no longer steward.*** Again, the word *account* here is *logos*.

The final verse is in Romans 14:12. Praise the Lord. It says, ***So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.*** Again, the word *account* is the word *logos*. Hallelujah. Praise the Lord. Amen.

Father, we thank You for Your Word. We thank You for the revelation. Father, we want to have the living reality of what we see in the scripture to be resident within the midst of our lives. Father, we want the totality of what You have promised. Father, we ask that You would move Heaven and earth on our behalf to bring about this experience that we see here in scripture. Father, we desire with all of our heart to be in tune with the Kingdom of God, the Kingdom of Heaven. Your Word says, Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done in this earth as it is in Heaven. So, Father, let every band be broken. Let every hindrance that does keep us from entering in to that position and that place, Father, we want to lay it down before You that we might receive that fullness, the totality of what You have promised us. Father, we just bless Your holy name today, in Jesus' name, amen. □

Visitor's Corner

Pusan Herrig
Sunday fellowship,
November 5th

Tom & Nelda Farnan
Sunday fellowship,
November 5th, 12th, 26th
& December 3rd

Dave & Jeremy Kuhns
Saturday creation movie,
November 11th

Kelvin & Judy Price
Wednesday fellowship
November 15th

George & Pusan Herrig
Sunday fellowship,
November 19th

David & Sandra Walter
& Tom Unger
Wednesday fellowship
November 29th

Bob Rutledge
Sunday fellowship
November 26th

RISING EXPECTATIONS

by Stacy Asbill

The past year has brought many changes to the Keeping In Touch Bulletin. The first change came in the format of the bulletin when we went from the smaller, booklet style bulletin to our current full-page layout. With this change came a desire to publish a more professional looking K.I.T. This has been accomplished, in part, with the assistance of Brother Gordon Gerber, who prints the bulletin for us on a professional printer instead of the little laser printer we had been using for years. Another change is that we have been learning new programs that help us with adding and editing the various photographs and clip art that make the bulletin more visually appealing. How exciting it has been to be able to put each bulletin issue (in color!) on the web. We are grateful to Brother David Wickboldt for his help in this endeavor! Last, but certainly not least, has been the addition of the K.I.T. for Kids. This marvelous publication brings excitement and encouragement through the Word of God to both the young and young-at-heart. We are so thankful to the Lord because all of these changes have been precipitated by His direction.

As our vision for the bulletin has expanded, our desire to get it into as many hands as possible has also grown. Now, as you can imagine, all of this growth comes with a greater financial outflow. We are rejoicing to say that God has been faithful to meet every need in this arena, also. One of the doors that God has opened to provide financially for the K.I.T. and K.I.T. for Kids has been through the avenue of fundraising. This fall we started out with our annual ButterBraid and cookie fundraiser. Year after year we have sold the ButterBraids and people have come to expect and love seeing our young children's smiling faces. In fact, when our children meet previous customers in various places, they are always asked when they are going to be selling the pastries again! About this same time, some candy bars were made available to us to sell and we have also had great success in this venture. Kids have taken them to school and adults have taken them to work and all have been diligent with selling them. On November 18th, the weekend before Thanksgiving, we also held a bake sale at the local IGA. The people at the grocery store are always so gracious to us and really enjoy having us come.

You know, God is so amazing because He always moves on more than just one level. The fundraising that we do for the bulletin may seem like a natural thing, but there is so much more that is actually taking place. You know, sometimes a smile and a kind greeting brings the light of Jesus to someone's day or perhaps it is sensing the need to pray for the new acquaintance you've just met. A little example of this happened at our bake sale when some of our children were selling candy bars. As a person was walking by, the children kindly and politely greeted them. The children received a cool response and yet, by the time the person reached their car, they felt the need to come back and apologize. I believe it was the love of God that was reaching out from the children and touched this individual's heart. Isn't it wonderful to imagine that we are not only blessing the work of the Lord, but we are also touching other people's lives for Him!

We would like to thank all of those who have so eagerly participated in selling ButterBraids and candy bars. A BIG thank you to all the ladies who helped bake for the bake sale and all the ladies and gentlemen who helped out at the bake sale. You are all truly co-laborers with us in putting forth these publications!

It is with great expectations that we embark upon this next year and all that the Lord has for us in it. We thank all of you for your prayers and contributions financially and also contributing to the K.I.T. by writing or sending us pertinent information. We would love to hear about all the exciting, wonderful and challenging things that God is speaking and doing in your life! May this upcoming year bring us all closer to His desire for our lives - that we may become His sons! ☐



...continued from page 28 (*The Spotlight Is On the Gomez Family*)

named instance after instance where God was providing for them in this way or that way through the fellowship, to the very thought of having their wedding video-taped! Mederana stressed the importance of submission throughout the entire process, saying that God told her, "If you give your life to me, I will pour forth." Alfredo was in agreement, stating that "everything just came together, and God did it." The couple agreed that God's mercy was definitely upon them.

I could not forget to ask Nikolai some questions as well. He was born and lived in Montego Bay, in a relatively quiet neighborhood. He went to both private and public schools there, beginning at age 3, and he definitely acknowledged God's protection in the midst of both environments. Nikolai came to Christ the summer of 2006, and his viewpoint "changed a lot of ways. "Some of the things I used to think about, I don't think about now, and the Lord has helped me." Since his arrival to Mahomet, he enjoys spending time with the children and the young people in the church. The Bible has definitely served as a useful tool for him in school today, as he has answered with scripture references to the teachers and students. He has proven himself to be quite the fisherman for his age (13), and it definitely appears that God desires to use him as a "fisher of men" as well. I cannot forget to mention that Esther Daniel immensely enjoys the praise and worship in our times of fellowship, as well as hanging out with the kids afterwards!

To conclude our interview, I asked the couple if they ever imagined or thought they would be in the position that they are now, starting a family together, being in a place close to both a natural and spiritual family. Alfredo replied with a simple, "No, I did not foresee anything like this." He went on to say, "God has been faithful to provide everything that we needed." Mederana had an idea through some visions that she had prior to meeting her husband-to-be, but she also said that she was thankful that God "did not reveal everything at once," because it helped her to keep going by putting

her trust in Him. The family continues to share with others around them of their testimony and what God wants to do in their lives. As the happy couple put it, "continuing to try to be a light to others around them." We thank God that He is continuing to bring in people from all across the globe and knitting our hearts together as one. **God bless you.□**



In
Memory
of
Mr. Charles
Murphy

We offer our prayers and comfort to Mrs. Connie Hutchison and her family as the Lord has taken Mr. Charles Murphy, her father, home to be with Him on Tuesday, October 31st, 2006. We thank the Lord that He is faithful in all things and his mercy endureth forever.

...the Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord. Job 1:21

Students Can Learn Much from the Bible

written by William Schuh

printed in the News Gazette, Champaign, IL

The Bible, the most widely read book in history, has had the most influence in shaping Western culture and profound effects on American history. But it is not taught in public schools.

No other writing has had such a powerful influence on our culture, and the basic understanding of the Bible is necessary to comprehend the events of our past and present.

European history from the Roman Empire and through the Crusades, the Reformation, the rise of the nation-state to the pilgrim movements that resulted in the founding of America are unintelligible without the basic knowledge of the Bible.

American history, from the Mayflower Compact, the Declaration of Independence, the writings of George Washington and the civil rights movement led by Martin Luther King Jr., cannot be fully comprehended by those who do not know the Bible.

Without question, the Bible is the key text of our history. Despite this fact, many Americans think it is illegal to teach about the Bible in public schools. This is a misconception.

In 1963, the Supreme Court ruled that public schools may not require devotional use of the Bible. But the court acknowledged that academic study of the Bible in public schools is constitutional. To understand the Bible is not the same thing as endorsing it.

A course about the Bible can be taught in public schools if it is fair, balanced and constitutional with respect to the First Amendment. Currently 82 school districts in 28 states are teaching such a class.

I urge our school boards to seek out information about this elective course and bring it to our schools. Further information can be obtained at www.bibleliteracy.org.□

