



October 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; Philipians 1:27



Welcome to the October issue of Keeping In Touch! We are blessed to be able to share with you the many wonderful things that we have busily been writing, editing, designing and formatting. In particular, the words spoken by Cecil duCille, Martin Kluson, and Burt Asbill that we are putting in this bulletin have challenged and encouraged us in our walk with the Lord. As you read them, you are sure to be inspired, too! Many of you have been enjoying the series, The Seven Stages of Overcoming shared by Cecil duCille in the Czech Republic in 2006. This bulletin contains the concluding message to this series of seven excellent words. Martin Kluson's word was shared in Nigeria, also in 2006, and is an eye-opener as to the spiritual ramifications that our nationalities, family and upbringing tend to have upon us. You will be greatly exhorted to come out of the natural realm that each one of us is born into and climb higher into the things of God. Most of us are familiar with the words that Jesus asked Peter after His resurrection, "Do You Love Me?" but the message spoken by Burt Asbill shows us that God is still asking that question today... but to us! We praise God for His faithfulness to speak to us that which we need in this hour to help us become all that He desires us to be! May God richly bless you!

Please send your testimonies, words of encouragement, or anything that you think would be a blessing to the Body to the following address:

**News Bulletin PO Box 409 Mahomet, IL 61853
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Seven Stages of

Overcoming

Session 7 of 7

Cecil J. duCille
September 2006
Czech Republic

Mavis duCille:

It is very nice to see you all, the new faces and glowing faces, which means that you are going places. Praise God.

We learned in school that living things breathe, living things grow, living things feed. So, if you are not feeding, if you are not breathing, if you are not growing, you are not alive. We are supposed to be further along this year from where we were last year. It is good, as we move on, to take an inventory every once in a while of where you are in the LORD. There are just a couple of words that the Lord has been speaking to me that I would like to share. I'm not going to be long.

I have been thinking about Paul's life, and some things that he said. He was one of the law, he came up under the law. It always amuses me how he uses the law to bring us into Christ. A few verses that have been speaking to me much are in Romans 7:19-20. From verse 18, he says, "For I know that in him (that is, in his flesh,) dwelleth no good thing..." He explains verse 18 in verse 19, "For when I do good, evil is present with me." He explains what that means in verse 20, *Now if I do that I would not, it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me.* He was making a separation there, between the things that he would do and where they originate, and the things that he would not do and how he would attain to them.

He says, in verse 22, *For I delight in the law of God after the inward man: ²³But I see another law in my members, WORKING IN MY MEMBERS, warring against the law of my mind...* Are you familiar with that war? So, we understand that when we are to do good and we can't do it, when we do the wrong thing, the question that I want to ask you is, why? In his mind he wants to do one thing, but there is another law bringing him into captivity to the law of sin which is in his members. So, in the Word we find that what the Lord has laid down for us is "here a little, there a little..." (Isaiah 28:10), and right through the Word, we can put the "here a little" together with the "there a little" and come up fully with what the Lord intends for us.

So, Paul came to the conclusion that with his mind he serves the Lord - the law of God, but in his flesh, the law of sin and death. So, because we have that war going on in our being, we have to have the Word riveted in us and we have to have an abundance of the spirit of grace working in us.

But in Galatians 2:20, he said something very interesting.

I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live, yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me. So, it is a conclusion to which he came. He said, *nevertheless.* He made no more excuses for the things that he would do and he did not, and

If we are not overcoming,



we are **dying**.

the things that he did and he should not. So many times we hear people make excuses, "I am human," or, "It is in my family." He realized that from the earlier scripture, but he knew he was in trouble if he did not get rid of the flesh and the carnal life and rise to the life to which we are called in Jesus.

One of the first songs that was sung tonight speaks of overcoming. That is the greatest part of our walk in the Lord. If we are not overcoming, we are dying. And the experiences that we have through overcoming, and the victories, come through testing. "When we are tried, we shall come forth as pure gold" (Job 23:10).

So, as we look back at the things that used to bother us, cast us down, make us feel as losers - as we give way to the Spirit of Christ rising in us, day after day, we can say, "We are crucified... Nevertheless, the life I now live, I live by the grace of God." Amen.

Cecil duCille:

For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death (Romans 8:2). Hallelujah! That is almost enough for the night.

Let's go back to Revelation 3, down to the last two churches, Philadelphia and Laodicea.

Revelation 3:7, ***And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write, These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth, and shutteth, and no man openeth...***

The first utterance there to the church in Philadelphia actually tells you what he is going to talk about. It is like a summary.

Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie, behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee. Now, let us look at the reason why God could give this promise to this church. The reason is in verse 10, ***Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.***

In my experience, I have discovered that when Satan sends a spirit to fight against you, if you overcome that spirit, he sends a stronger one. I hear some Christians say, "But why? Why should this happen to me?" The reason this is happening to you is because you have overcome the first spirit, amen, and you have become worthy to meet the second.

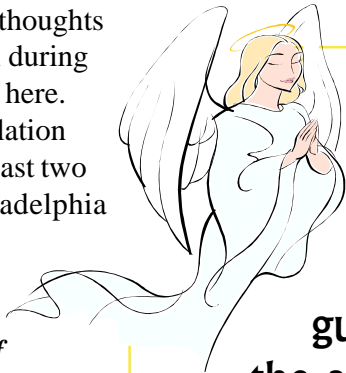
I remember the day when I saw Satan and he said, "I will send him a prince." When the prince came to me, it was a different ballgame. I have discovered that some spirits are foolish, some are wise, some are downright stupid. Now, my theology might not suit the church at large, but I can remember a woman who had befriended us, and how afterwards she tried everything possible to kill us. One night, she gave us something to drink. In my mind, I said, "Lord, what should I do with it?" He said, "Drink it." I drank it and I gave Mavis hers, and she drank it. Afterwards, the woman said that she couldn't understand. "How are you alive? What is happening?" We knew that we were baffling them, because the Lord said in the Word that if they give you poison, even poison won't hurt you (Mark 16:18). I don't tell you to do that, but if God tells you to do it - DO IT! I knew a man whom they wanted to kill and

they gave him arsenic. Have you ever known anybody who ate arsenic and lived? They put arsenic in the flour and he went home and made his dumplings, and he enjoyed them. Then he came back out to the store to get a drink, to wash it down. The man at the store looked at him and said, "How are you feeling?" He said, "Oh, wonderful! It was nice. Your flour was very good." The man said to him, "What-

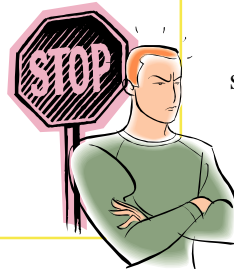
ever God you serve, serve Him. He is the true God."

So, when the Lord said, "You are a church in the midst of the synagogue of Satan, and because you have kept My word I will keep you also from the destruction that comes on the world," He was talking about a special people who will be specially protected. You have to be in the place to be protected by God, for it is God's will that each human being, from the little children right up to the oldest one of us here, have guardian angels around us night and day.

If Satan wants to attack you, the first thing that he does is to tempt you to do something to drive the guardian angel away because the angel of God cannot protect you if



If Satan wants to attack you, the first thing that he does is to tempt you to do something to drive the guardian angel away because the angel of God cannot protect you if you are in rebellion, disobedience, or any other form of sin.



you are in rebellion, disobedience, or any other form of sin. Remember now, it is not because you are righteous that you are being protected. It is because you are obedient, and obedience is righteousness. God says that He gives you His Word so that you might not sin (Psalm 119:11). Therefore, God has given you enough to prevent you from sinning. Then God adds something - BUT - if you sin (it is a blessed BUT), you have an advocate with the Father (I John 2:1). It means that God does not expect you to have a load of sin to be hauling around with you.

You know, a brother approached me one day and said, "Brother Cec, so, are you perfect?" Of course they were accusing me of saying that I have no sin. I said, "No, I'm not perfect, but the Word that I speak to you is perfect. I don't have any sin because God took them away, just a while ago." In other words, the principle is that you don't have to be walking around with a big load of sin dragging behind you, and we describe sin as a fault, mistake, whatever it is that is contrary to what God desires - that is called sin, from evil thoughts to evil actions. But God must have a church without spot or without wrinkle, or any such thing. So, if you belong to God's church, you must have NO SIN. Not because you are perfect, but because Jesus forgives your sins.

When He says that you have an advocate with the Father, it means that Jesus Christ is forever - continuously, night and day - standing before the Father, delivering you from any sin or any fault. He is saying to this church - remember, sometimes we belong to more than one of these churches, but to this church he is saying - "Because you are obedient to the Word of God I will put the angels around you to protect you so that you will be not destroyed."

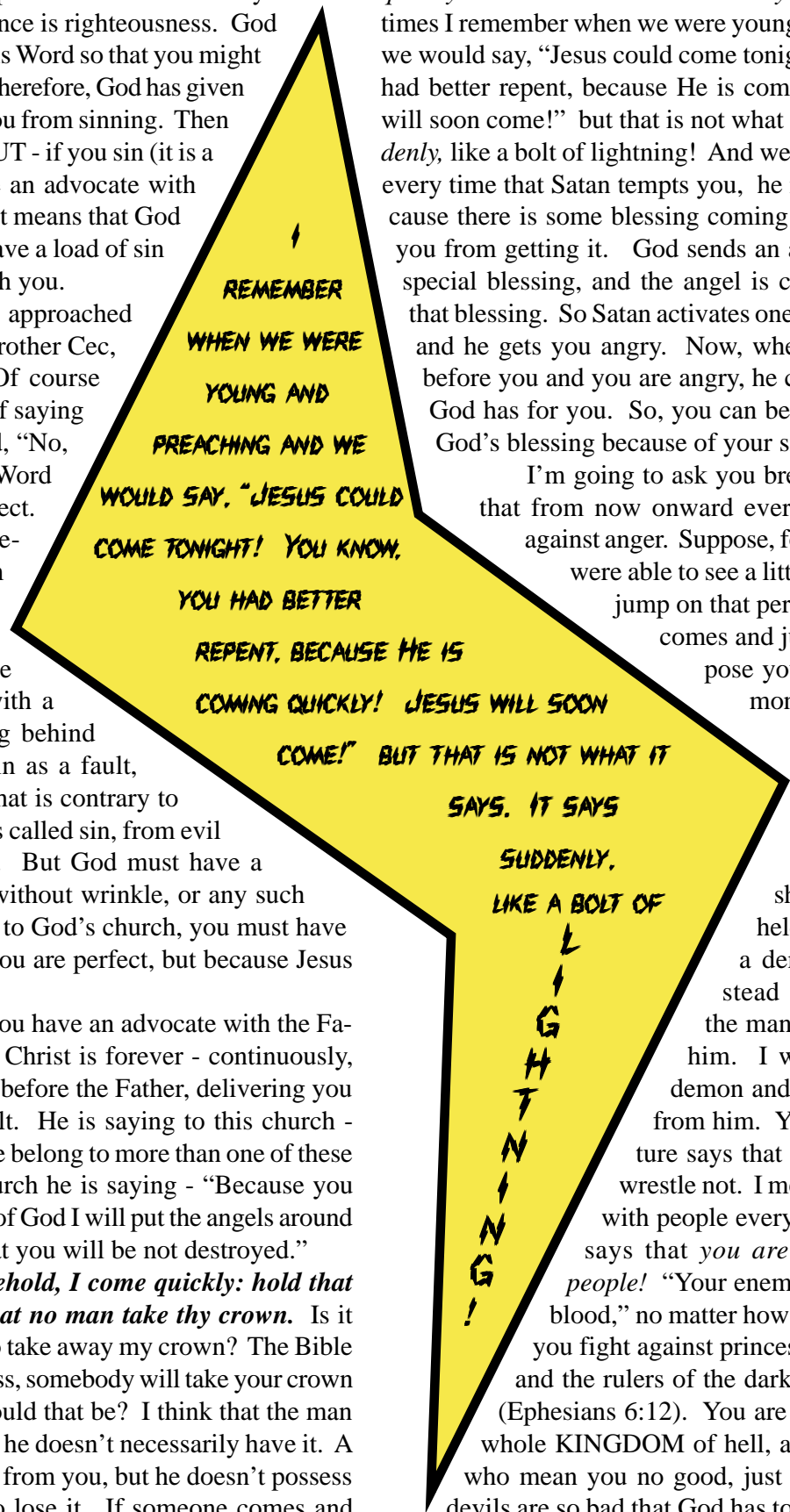
Now, in verse 11, **Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown.** Is it possible for somebody to take away my crown? The Bible says that if you are careless, somebody will take your crown away from you. How could that be? I think that the man can take your crown, but he doesn't necessarily have it. A man takes a crown away from you, but he doesn't possess it, he just causes you to lose it. If someone comes and provokes you and you get mad, you are the loser, but the provoker doesn't gain anything. God is saying that you must beware lest somebody takes away your righteous-

ness.

He says here, "Behold, I come quickly," and that word *quickly* should be translated *suddenly*. You know, sometimes I remember when we were young and preaching and we would say, "Jesus could come tonight! You know, you had better repent, because He is coming quickly! Jesus will soon come!" but that is not what it says. It says *suddenly*, like a bolt of lightning! And we need to realize that every time that Satan tempts you, he is tempting you because there is some blessing coming and he is blocking you from getting it. God sends an angel to you with a special blessing, and the angel is coming to you with that blessing. So Satan activates one of his sleeper cells, and he gets you angry. Now, when the angel comes before you and you are angry, he can't give you what God has for you. So, you can be frustrated and lose God's blessing because of your sinful action.

I'm going to ask you brethren here tonight, that from now onward every one of you pray against anger. Suppose, for instance, that you were able to see a little demon come and jump on that person and that person comes and jumps on you. Suppose you could see the demon, would you get angry? Once I had a man really attacking me, and I called on the Lord, and the Lord showed me the man held in a head-lock by a demon. So then, instead of coming against the man, I was so sorry for him. I wanted to slap that demon and get that man away from him. You know, the scripture says that *we wrestle not*, we wrestle not. I mean, we are fighting with people every day, and the Bible says that *you are not fighting with people!* "Your enemy is NOT flesh and blood," no matter how bad they look, "but you fight against princes and their -palities, and the rulers of the darkness of this world" (Ephesians 6:12). You are wrestling against a whole KINGDOM of hell, a kingdom of devils who mean you no good, just destruction. Some devils are so bad that God has to lock them up. The only reason they have not wrecked the whole world as yet is because of the Christians who are here.

God says he that letteth will let until a certain time



comes, and that time is when the antichrist will be let loose (II Thessalonians 2:7). So, you can understand what is happening in the world, when the antichrist is allowed, when his time comes and he is let loose. For every human being, there are thousands and millions of demons, but God has given us the power to rule everything in this realm, and that is why we survive. Because a very little child can say, "Get away, Satan," and Satan has to flee from them.

I just want to dwell a little bit on this part of the subject. You have a certain amount of fire power. You have all different calibers of guns, but in the world of spirit, they don't use bullets. They use energy. In the natural, we have so progressed, that we have lasers. The next thing you are going to see come out in war are laser guns. They are silent, you press a trigger, and a hole is bored through the target that you are aiming at. I saw a hole bored through a one-inch or two-inch thick plate of steel. It went right through it without making any sound.

The principle is very simple. It's light. The light is purified to a point that it will destroy you if you stand before it. The Bible described the principle long ago, that man cannot stand before God. He would die. And when the Philistines gathered before the army of God at one occasion, God told His army to praise. Come on, brethren. God told them to praise. Now, when you praise, what do you do? I can tell you what you do. You charge your gun. You pull energy from heaven in your praise.

When you praise, you must think of the words. Never praise without words. Some of the churches take up a thing that they call high praise, and they begin to hum, "mmm-mmm-mmm-mmm," and then everybody begins to jump, jump, jump, and they keep on and they say that is praise.

But I can tell you, in the occult, that is how they call demons. The people block out their minds and they keep on chanting. The demons will come, because they see mindless chanters, and the demons can see

you from a spiritual perspective.

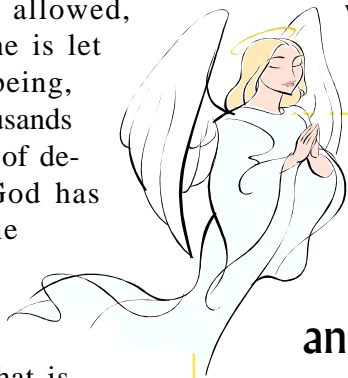
When people are seen in the spirit, they are seen as light or as darkness. In the spirit, a demon would look like a shadow, with no light at all. A living human being has an aura around him. A child of God, in the Spirit, BLAZES.

When the power of God works in him, a charge shoots out from him like a laser beam. I have seen spirits run and clutch themselves and fall, then get up and run, getting away from you. You have the power to send them to the abyss. That power is like when you call a policeman and say, "Arrest him!" The angels of God come and take them away. They never come back out until Jesus judge the scriptures say that will flee from you."

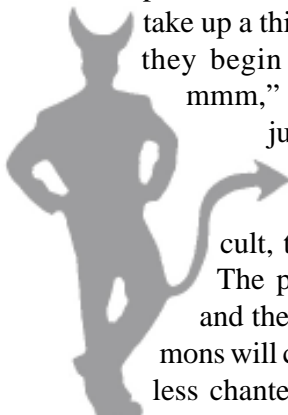
Christ comes to quick and the dead. The if you "rebuke the devil then he will flee from you," (James 4:7).

When you hate a person, or are upset by a person, you are just playing into the devil's hands, because people are not your enemies. Your enemies are demon spirits that walk around seeking your body to function through. You must just say, "Devil, you won't have my body to function in." The Word of God says that if you are hit, you should not strike back (Matthew 5:39, Luke 6:29). Why? In our human way we say, "It is my right to defend myself! I'm hit, I'm supposed to strike back." God says, "If you are hit, don't strike back!" WHY? Because every time you resist the devil, he FLEES from you (James 4:7)! And the devil is very good at using reverse psychology on us. If he wants you to go to this way ?, what will he do? He will start pushing you to go that way ?.

Then you push against him and go ? this way, and he laughs. But God is bringing forth a people who are wise. The first thing that you have to do as a Christian is learn to control your body. If you don't learn to control you, you are a loser. The devil will use you like a football! You know, bounce you against the wall and you must come back. And in the process, he prevents the blessing of



Satan activates one of his sleeper cells, and he gets you angry. Now, when the angel comes before you and you are angry, he can't give you what God has for you. So, you can be frustrated and lose God's blessing because of your sinful action.



God from coming upon you.

The prophet was praying for Israel, but Israel was out there bowing down before the idols. While he was praying, God said, "From the first day that you started to pray, I heard your prayer, Daniel." From the first day, God sent out one of the most powerful angels from the second heaven, and said, "Take the message to Daniel." How is it that this angel, who has so much power that he could blow Satan away by one word, couldn't pass the prince of Persia? Because of the sin of the people for whom Daniel was praying.

You are praying for your friend, or for your mother, or your father, or your child, and the child is fighting against your prayer. You see, it is difficult to go against the free-will, the will of a free-agent. So, God is saying to us that the rules of warfare apply when we walk in truth, but our actions that work contrary to righteousness can cancel out our own prayers. He says, **"Behold, I come quickly:** You must hold on to what you have received. Tonight, hold on to it. The more you are able to control yourself, the more power you have with God. So when we were young people, God taught us how to control our bodies. You are coming from a wild place, where you were like a wild animal in the jungle and now you have come to a place where God says, **"CONTROL YOURSELF!"**

Somebody asked the question, "When do I fast?" And the Lord brought the answer to me: "When do you run out of the building that is on fire?" You don't have to ask anybody, or pray, "Lord God, should I run out of this building?" Someone cries out "FIRE!" and you RUN! So, this body of yours is contrary, according to the words that Sister Mavis read, it is contrary to the law of God. Just as the body is fed by the food that I eat, then if I cut off the food that I eat, it will weaken the thing I am feeding, the body. But that isn't enough just to fast, I also have to pray in order that the Spirit might take a hold of my mind.

I saw a man fast one time, and in the middle of the fast, he committed sin. In the middle of the fast, he committed sin. So God is saying to you tonight, **"YOU HOLD FAST ONTO WHAT YOU HAVE RECEIVED!"** Because

He sayeth that he that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God,..” Let us look at the pillars. Pillars have a very necessary function - take them away, and the building comes down. ***12Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out...*** You know, it is sad to say, I have seen Christians who have behaved like and who had the potential of being very strong leaders, preachers who have turned back and become demons. But God is saying that there is a place in God that is permanent, a place from which you will never go back out, a place of security in God.

12...I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, and that has deeper meaning than just writing something on a wall. When the name of God is written in you, it means that you have become like Jesus Christ. It means that your mind no longer functions like a human being. That means that you cannot anymore be selfish, be cruel, lie, steal, think of violence, **THAT YOUR NAME IS NOW LOVE. LOVE**

IS WRITTEN ON YOUR SOUL, and you are becoming like Christ Himself.

12and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my

God: It means that your nature has been changed. But this is not the sudden work that God is talking about. He is talking about something that is going on right now. Suppose He is writing His Name upon you? The first thing that He would write is "Jeh." That means God. That means that your nature is

beginning to change. So, no longer are you So-and-So, but you are "Jeh." You only have a piece of it though. Then He writes "shin" which is the Hebrew for "s." "Shin," then He writes the rest of it: "Hu-Ah." **YESHUAH! AMEN!** And the next thing He says is, "I will write My name and the Father's name in your forehead."

Imagine you having the nature of God. In other words, God does not expect us to remain human. He is changing us from humanity to **DIVINITY!** Is that too high for you? That is why you were born. God said He made you His house. The reason why people can be filled with the devil

Somebody asked the question, "When do I fast?" And the Lord brought the answer to me: "When do you run out of the building that is on fire?" You don't have to ask anybody, or pray, "Lord God, should I run out of this building?" Someone cries out "FIRE!" and you RUN!



is because God made you a vessel, so that you could be filled with God. So, when you allow the devil to come in to where God should be, that is the greatest crime that a human being can commit. You have taken away the throne of God and you have given it to the devil. Hallelujah!

When the Bible says that God is going to sit on the throne of His glory and judge the nations (Zechariah 6:13, Matthew 19:28, 25:31) - the throne of His glory is YOUR HEART! When He says His throne will be in Jerusalem, the carnal man says that in the Middle East there is a little place called Jerusalem, and Jesus the Son of God is going to sit down there. Do you know why it is nonsense? Because He is omniscient, omnipresent - how can an omnipresent being sit in one place? Hallelujah! He said the glory of God shall cover the earth as the waters cover the sea (Habakkuk 2:4). God will be in every street, and in every house, and in every mountain, and in every plain. Can you understand then, when He says the name of the city New Jerusalem? You are the city of God sitting before me and as you give way to the Spirit of God, He is writing His name in your hearts.

There are many things that we have not learned as Christians in church, but thank God this is not church. This is not church. You must learn to meditate. They believe that it is only the occult people who meditate. Isn't it stupid to believe that it is only the occult people who must meditate? If a person talks about meditating - they say "uuuhhhh?" "Something is wrong with him." Listen, just sit down quietly in some corner and start opening yourself up to God. Tell God what you want. Tell Him, "I want to be like You! I am not satisfied with what I am. Your Word says that I can be so and so, and I am not it. What is wrong? COME, LORD JESUS! BREAK THROUGH MY FLESH! Loose the chains that bind me! Set me free from SELF and THOUGHT, from that which is HUMAN, and make me DIVINE!" Cover, in Jesus' name!"

Yes! We ask you to pray, but don't you pray like that in church. We don't pray like that in church. That is too intimate for church. Hallelujah! You must learn to have intimate times with God, when you tell God things that you don't tell anybody. You know yourself more than anybody else. You know where sin touches your mind that you wouldn't want your neighbor to know what you are thinking about. You must go to God and say, "If it is fire, BURN IT OUT, MY GOD!" Amen. Yes! "Put fire on me and burn that sin out of me, for I hate sin." Oh yes! "I want to be like CHRIST!" It is then that the caliber of your weapon will be increased and you will have a big gun.



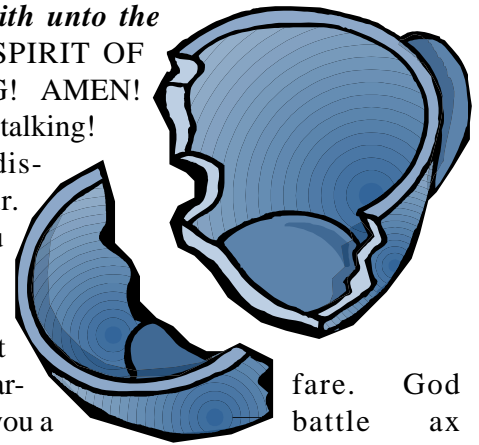
You will have such a BIG GUN that Satan will keep far from you, trying to get out of your range. Then after he thinks he is far enough, you will find that there is no such thing as "range!"

Oh yes! You are in the Czech republic and you can send a shot to America and blow the devil away! Saddam Hussein boasted about his mighty guards, his Republican Guards, and what they would do to the American Army. I understand that much of the Republican Guard was destroyed from 20 miles away. They didn't even SEE the American Army. Oh yes! God is creating a fire-power in His people that will not be matched by anything that Satan has. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

He said, "If you will obey my words, and if you will walk in my ways, there will be nothing that you desire that you shall not have it" (John 15:7). "And you will be the pillar in the temple of God and you shall go no more out," - you have hit the place of security. DIVINE SECURITY, where nothing on earth or in hell will be able to touch you. My God! Hallelujah!

¹³*He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.* THE SPIRIT OF GOD IS TALKING! AMEN!

The spirit of God is talking! And there is no discharge in this war. Don't tell me you want to go home to rest from the fight and the battle, that you are tired of war-says, He is making you a (Jeremiah 51:20), a sharp in-



strument, not for the purpose of sitting at home, but to be in the midst of the battle at the forefront of the fight.

The situation is that the candlestick has three sticks on the left and three sticks on the right, and one in the middle and it is the middle candlestick that holds up everything. God Almighty says, "But for the elect's sake, no flesh on earth will be saved," (Mark 13:20). Don't you understand what God is doing? He is making a nucleus, a small nucleus with the strength of God, and this small nucleus is going to add to itself. He had 33,000 men going into battle. God said, "No, I am going to show you that *Elohiym* is the God of Israel" (Judges 7). He brought them down to 10,000. And He brought that 10,000 down to the waters and He said, "Those who lap like a dog," a natural drinking of water. "I am going to use those that lap like a dog to deliver all of Israel." He said, "Those of you who are afraid, go home and relax." He said, "Those of you who have just married a wife, go home

and relax with your wife.” When they counted the men, there were only 300 left. Thirty (30) is the number of Sonship. Three hundred (300) is the number of the army of God. “Now,” He said, “I am going to teach you how the battle goes.” The secret is that there were 300 men that you could see, but there were thousands of angels that could not be seen.

Sometimes you go down the street and you feel lonely. There is no loneliness in God. There is no way that you are alone! Never consider yourself alone. Amen! The 300 men, all they had to do was obey God. He said, “Put your light inside of your vessels.” He put 100 over there, 100 here, and 100 over there, and he left an empty space for them to run. He said, “When God gives the signal, you take your sword and smash that vessel.” You are going to be broken vessels before God. Nothing will be left but the light of God. “And you must say, ‘The sword of the Lord and of Gideon.’” “The sword of the LORD and of Israel.” “The sword of the LORD and of the Firstfruits Company.”

“The sword of the LORD and of the ZION Company.” When the hour comes, the vessels will be broken. Do you understand that? “They loved not their lives unto the death” (Revelation 12:11b).

Suppose Jesus comes to you and tells you, “This day I give you immortality.” Jesus comes to you and says, “Georgie boy, I give you immortality today.” And you go out on the street and you feel so good as an immortal. And some fellow comes to you and says, “I’m going to kill you. I’m going to kill you!” You say to him, “All right, but I bet you don’t. Go right ahead - kill me!” And he chops your head off. Your head rolls off, and he laughs and says, “That stupid fellow.” He calls everybody, the whole world, and he shows them what he has done and he says, “Look at them, all these dead, headless bodies - we have got them. I have more power than they have, I will kill them all.” But the sun begins to rise on the third day, and all of a sudden the man who was dead, was advertised as dead, his picture was taken and sent all over the world, and they are dead, dead, dead, dead... Hallelujah! The dead man gets up, picks up his head and puts it back on, and says, “I told you so!”

This is the victory, but that is the order of the battle that God wants. Who will be among those few? If you will go to the 14th chapter of Revelation, verse 1, **And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and**

with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having (his name and) his Father’s name written in their foreheads. I would like to know what the Czech Bible says. Did it say “his name and his Father’s name”? (No, just his Father’s name.) Just his Father’s name. Okay. Well, your Bible, the original is written in Greek. Like this chapter here, when it was written, it was written in the Greek. The Greek says *tos patros autos*. (His Slovak Bible, it is good. It has His name and the name of His Father.) His name and the name of His Father – it means then that the nature of Christ has come forth in human beings. Yes.

Verse 4 describes them, ***These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are virgins. These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. These were redeemed from among men, being the firstfruits unto God and to the Lamb.*** When it talks about not being defiled by women, it was talking about the women like the one in the 17th chapter. Look at it. Revelation 17,

And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials, and talked with me, saying unto me, Come hither; I will shew unto thee the judgment of the great whore that sitteth upon many waters: ²With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication.

³So he carried me away in

the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns.

In other words, the scarlet colored beast represents the different nations of the world coming together with seven heads and ten horns. And the woman is the false church! As of today, all of the churches have gone into the false church!

So, let us go back to see if we can finish this Revelation 3. Now in verse 14, he is speaking to another church. In other words, we are talking about the women - the churches from the very beginning had in them the seed of falsehood. And the strangest thing is that all the falsehoods of all the churches come down into a concentrated falsehood, in this one church, which is a church of our time. ***¹⁴And 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; ¹⁵I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. ¹⁶So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out***



**...when you praise,
what do you do? I can
tell you what you do.
You charge your gun.
You pull energy from
heaven in your praise.**

of my mouth. *17Because 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:*

We are looking upon a church that is naked, not clothed with the righteousness of God. We are talking about the church of our time. We are talking about those massive buildings. The richest institutions on earth are the modern churches. I used to be involved with a church that had billions of dollars in the Sunday School fund, in the banks, invested in the different parts of the world. You can name it. The money of the church is in every investment in the world, including abortion, including all the pornography, including everything, the money of the churches is in those places. *18I 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. 19As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.*

Well, can you imagine God still stretching out His hand to the church of today, that has completely turned from God? The epitome of nicolaitanism is in the churches because they have a hierarchy that rules the people. But God said that there are some of His people in those churches. You must not be ashamed to tell the people to leave that church. For the scriptures say that some Christians who won't leave it will suffer the same judgment that the people of the churches suffer (Revelation 18:4).

You know, somebody was asking about Jezebel. Now, all the problems of all the churches are down in this one. I have seen preachers put out the thought that Jezebel is a woman in the church, and that it is in the church and they put the burden upon women. I want you to know, Jezebel is a spirit! The spirit of Jezebel is fostered, strained, and upheld by the hierarchical system of the church, led by men. The scripture says that Jezebel taught the people to commit fornication, and that she gives the kings of the earth to drink out of the golden cup. Now, the golden cup represents the offering of communion, the unity that God gives and the filthiness of her fornication means to say a mixture is in there, and she is offering it to the world as

godliness.

I saw the Pope go down to Verdun, and to Haiti, and have communion with the sorcerers, that we call voodoo workers. He said to the voodoo priests, "We are one." These are men who are steeped in the blood of humanity, innocent blood. But talking about innocent blood, you must look at how the present Pope criticized the Muslims and said that their religion is a violent religion. No matter how many people the Muslims kill, they cannot kill as many as the Catholic Church has killed. The most violent religion on earth is the Roman Catholic religion.

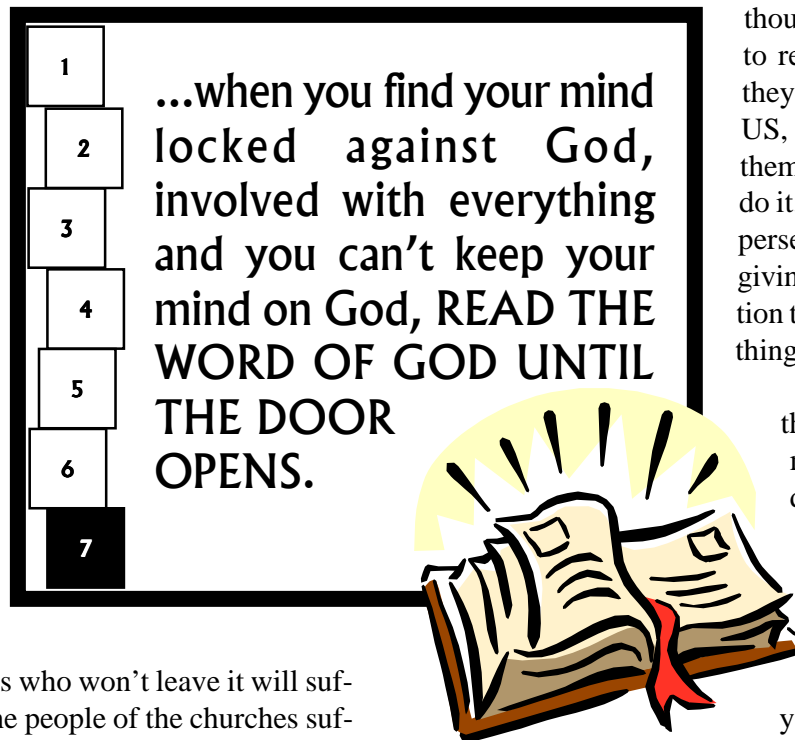
In their catechism they say that every heretic is worthy of death. All of us here qualify as heretics. We qualify because we reject the Pope as Christ. We do not believe he is the vicar of Jesus Christ. We do not believe that he is vice-Christ. We believe that it is the head of the antichrist system of the world. So when the Pope rises up and says that the Muslims are a violent religion and no religion

should foster violence... I thought the man was about to repent. The truth is that they are going to persecute US, so we might as well give them enough ammunition to do it. Since they are going to persecute us anyhow, we are giving them enough ammunition that they will have something to persecute us for.

They are the antichrist of the Bible. Now, people make charges and they don't prove them, but I can prove this from the Word of God. Now, I expect you guys who love to research to research this, and if you find anything wrong,

you tell me. I will repent. I am

not the Pope. The prophecy of Daniel said that there would be four kingdoms coming out of the antichrist Alexander the Great (Daniel 8:21-22). The four kingdoms coming out of Alexander the Great: I'm trying to remember the names of the Generals. Ptolemy Soter, Antiochus Epiphanes, Antipater, and Perdiccas. There were four of them. One went east, one went south, and one went north, and the northern kingdom was Rome. The Bible says that out of one of these kingdoms will come forth the little horn. If you read Daniel and research it for yourself, you will find that the antichrist must come out of Rome. Historically speaking, the ancient Christians, the first Christians, believed that the antichrist was coming out of Rome.



So, we see that the Roman kingdom formed in our time, formed the Treaty of Rome in Europe. Now, in our latter days, it has evolved into what is called the EU, or the European Union. This country, the Czech Republic, will also be a part of the European Union. So, brethren, you don't have any time to waste. You are in the belly of the beast. Amen.

We go back to finish up this chapter in Revelation here, verse 20, **Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.** There are many doors in your soul: the door of your mind, the door of your emotions, the door of your will, the door of your desires. **GOD IS KNOCKING AT THOSE DOORS!** And He wants you to learn how to open them. Oh yes. You know, one time a child got locked in the bathroom and we were telling the child, "Open the door." But the child didn't know how to open the door, and we had to be instructing the child, "Do so and so. Do so and so. Press the lock and turn it," to get the child out of the bathroom. God is teaching you how to open up your soul to Him.

Let me tell you something. First of all, when you find your mind locked against God, involved with everything and you can't keep your mind on God, **READ THE WORD OF GOD UNTIL THE DOOR OPENS.** *Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee* (Psalm 119:11). When you find sin comes down on you, begin to repeat the Word of God. *Thou art my King, O God: command deliverances for Jacob* (Psalm 44:4). When fear

takes you, *The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?* (Psalm 27:1). Psalm 1:1, *Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. ²But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. ³And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.* Praise God! The Word of God will break that door open.

When the door of your emotions gets closed: closed by anger, closed by fear, closed by unhappiness, you feel uncomfortable, discomfited. Call upon the name of Jesus! Call upon the name of Jesus! Call Him by His name – "Yeshua Hamashiyach, come to me!" Keep on calling His name. Hallelujah! He will come! Hallelujah!

So, we read the last two verses: *²¹To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne.* God is calling man to rule with Him over the nations. You don't think much of yourself. You just think, "Poor me. I am nothing." One day in Prague, you may be the ruler. Hallelujah! It sounds far away. It sounds weird, but it is true. Not very long from now - to reign and to rule with Jesus Christ. **BUT YOU HAVE TO OVERCOME FIRST!** In Laodicea it is not easy because you are very close to hell in this place. *²²He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.* 🕊

Just Married



It is with great joy that Timothy James Culver and Adela Pocajova would like to announce God has put a new song in their hearts.

They were united in Holy Matrimony Saturday, September 8, 2007 at 1:30 in the afternoon Prague, Czech Republic The happy couple will be making their home in Mahomet, IL. Congratulations, Tim and Ada!

Unseen Persecution in the United States

by Terry Smith

After reading articles of torture and abuse with imprisonment because of faith in Christ Jesus as Lord, I became very aware that you do not have articles of those in the U.S.A. who suffer similar persecution for their faith in Christ Jesus as Lord.

I didn't know if you were aware that in the U.S.A. there are many true believers who have been in 24hour/7days a week non-stop concentration camps to cause them to lose their faith, to cause them to lose their minds. These believers have been attacked mercilessly, every way possible, to cause them to renounce their faith in Christ Jesus. Their friends and families have been threatened. Their privacy has been totally lost as they are constantly watched and monitored victims. Their cries for help have been heard by Christ Jesus Himself and His angels, and the few close ones they may have confided in.

They have been offered so many enticing riches, titles, homes, and ministries, all at the cost of losing Christ. Constant ridicule, badgering, and criticism have plagued them. They are esteemed less than a dog on a leash, less than a freak in a cage at a circus, much like a bird in the snare of a fowler.

Their jobs are jeopardized. Their relationships are attacked. They are constantly lied to about everything that could possibly be imagined by any one.

Their only joy is their thoughts of their precious Lord Jesus Christ. Their strength is the truth that comes to life in their (original) King James Bibles. Instead of being turned away from their faith, they are found to be pressing harder into their faith in the Lord. Their life becomes of no matter to them. Their ultimate goal becomes, ***He must increase, but I must decrease*** (John 3:30). ***For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds*** (II Corinthians 10:4).

For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places (Ephesians 6:12). These true believers are attacked by invisible foes that do not rest. These believers are rising up with a testimony not often heard of, because they have no physical bruises to bear witness of their torture. They have no marks to take pictures of, no open wounds to show, no scars to account of their mistreatment. But they were partakers of the Lord's suffering in a totally unseen way.

You will not read much about these persecutions. These believers are not dwelling on their torture and abuse. They are overcoming their captives; they are rising above their tormentors; they are being renewed in their minds by the Blood of Jesus Christ; they are pressing on to gain

the Kingdom of God at all costs.

When you meet these believers, you may not even realize that you are sitting beside an overcomer; you may not even be aware of all of the anguish that has brought that contentment and peace to their countenance. You will see the reality of walking out what is believed and the Word of God being written in their hearts and in their minds. You may not even be aware of them praying for you.

When you are praying for the true believers that are in natural prisons, being beat and mistreated by the beast that dwells within men void of God's presence, think of this:

Pray also for the true believers who are under the oppression and merciless attack of the unseen enemy.

Pray also for the families of the persecuted believer, whether their enemy is visible or unseen.

Pray also for the men that are void of God's presence and being influenced or manipulated by the enemy.

May the grace of God enlarge all of our hearts and minds in the wisdom and knowledge of Christ Jesus our Lord. God bless you!✈



OVERCOMING

Country

&

Kindred

Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee: ²And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: ³And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed (Genesis 12:1-3).

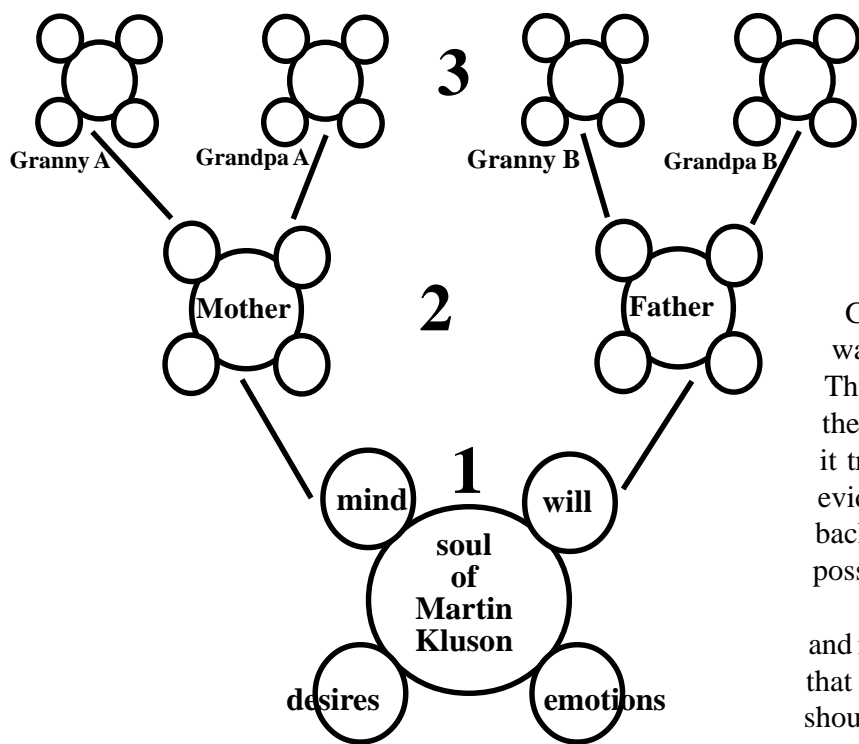
Father's House

Martin Kluson January 2006 Lagos, Nigeria



Father, in this very moment we come before You with a desire to shut out any humanity. We pray that You would use Your vessel and that You would speak. Open our mouth to speak and open our ears to hear and open our minds to understand. Lord, I pray that You would be walking around and touching people, touching our minds and giving us power to overcome and rise up and smite these things which are holding us so low, which are not allowing us to go and fly. Hallelujah! So I pray, my God, that we would not miss, but that we would understand Your mind. In this very moment we submit ourselves to You. We bless Your name. Amen.

Well, praise the Lord. I have said it before and I need to say it again because it is so much on my heart: it is a great privi-



Picture #1

lege to be here and I would not trade it with anything else. It is about you, it is about Nigeria, but it is mainly about the Lord, because, for me, I believe being here means being in the will of the Lord.

I will make a little picture which I am sure you are familiar with (Picture #1). This is the soul of man (1). This is my soul. We know that we are spirit, soul and body. The soul is the mind, will, emotions, and desires. This is, you could say, Brother Martin Kluson. Let's make this illustration my soul. This is the way I think. This is the way I desire and the things that I desire. These are my emotions, when I am glad or when I am sad. This is my will, things that I will do and will not do.

You might be asking where the soul came into being. "What is the source of it? Why do I think how I think? Why do I have joy in certain moments, and I'm sad at other times?" You know, there were two other souls before this soul came into being. Let me make them smaller (2). They are not smaller, they are only back in the history. These are the souls of my mother and my father. I inherited the mixture of these two souls. Amen? So I think partly like my father and partly like my mother. I have desires like my father and desires like my mother. Both have an intricate part in the make up of my soul. So, this is how I came into being, this soul that was my father and this soul that was my mother came together to produce this soul that is me and hence I was born. Now, you look in the flesh, in the natural, and you can see the evidence of this same pattern. You see somebody and you can say who the father is,

and who the mother is. Sometimes you can even go and say, "This is not Father or Mother even, this is Grandpa." So, you can figure out that there were two other souls. It means I am a little bit of Grandpa A, and little bit of Granny A, a little bit of Grandpa B, and a little bit of Granny B (3), and I could go on and on and on. So, it seems there is something somewhere here in Grandmother, something in her mind in the way she was thinking. Let me make a little star (picture #2). This star (4) travels from Grandmother to Mother and there it is mixed with something else a little different, it travels from Mother to me, and it ends up here as evidence of my soul. So this star is traveling from way back here and ends up in my soul. And you are very possibly wondering why you are what you are.

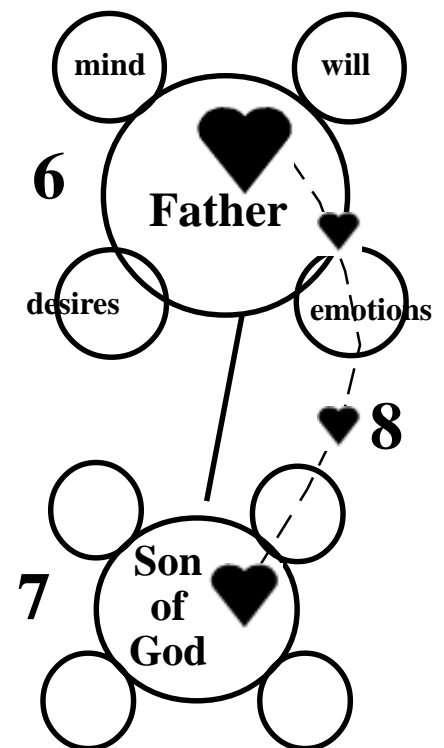
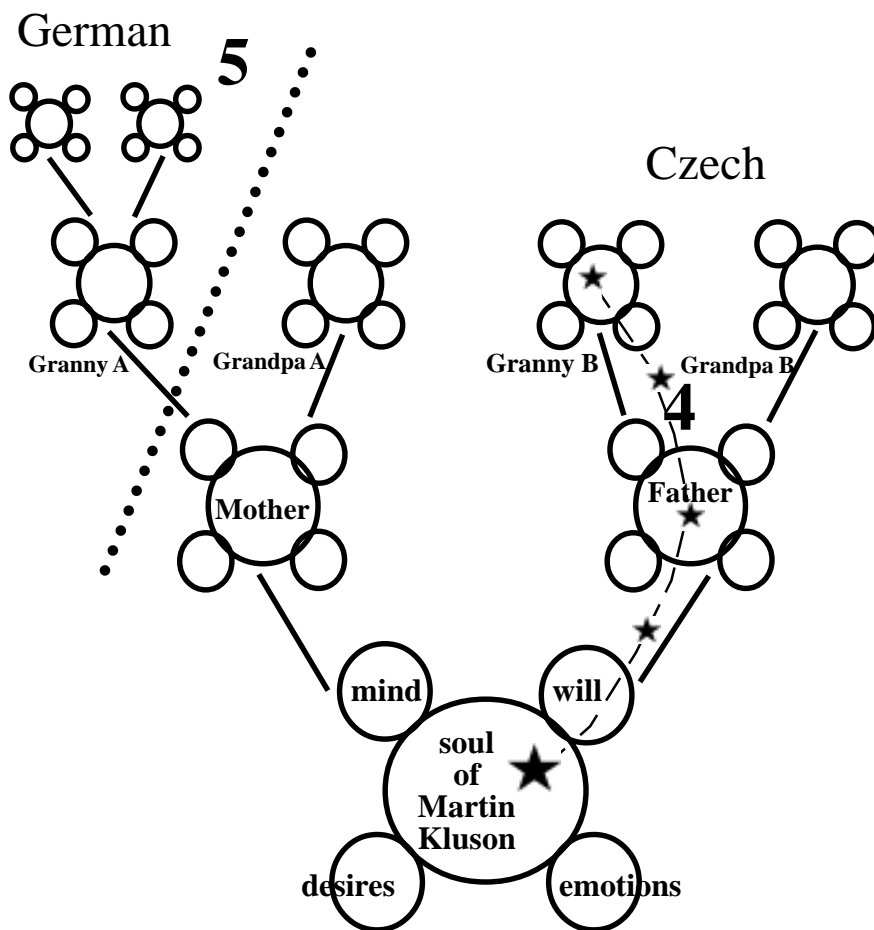
Now, it so happens that you become a Christian and it comes to your attention that there is a list of things that you know should be different, that you know you should change. It may be that you are smoking because somebody somewhere in the chain of command, in your history, had a propensity to do this sin. You find out, after some wrestling, that you can give up smoking. It may be that there are two, three or four other things you can give up. I have been there. I was an unbeliever, then I was saved and there were a few things I managed to give up. They were things that a new Christian shouldn't do, so I stopped doing them. Then I started having a major problem because I realized that there were other things. There were other things that God was demanding. There were other things God wanted me to change, like the way I thought, and when I realized it, I said, "God, I cannot change it, because that is me. I mean, how can I destroy my soul? How can I destroy the way I am? How can I change it? This is the way I am. This is the way my mother and father and grandfather were. And somewhere here, if this is my mother and this is my grandmother, comes a nation. One part is Czech, another is German (5). So I inherited my partly Czech, partly German, and maybe somewhere back further there was something else. So I have all these nations, all these things which are working on the soul. Working and working. Then the Lord says, "You need to change the way you think. Change your desires." Did you have the same experience? Did you say, "God, I cannot change myself. I cannot do anything about it."? It is like when I was a little kid and I was thinking I was strong. We had a little basket for carrying laundry and I knew I could lift this weight that was as heavy as me. So I got into this laundry basket and I wanted to lift it and carry it away by myself and I found out that it was not possible. Try it. It is not possible. I cannot take myself and carry myself somewhere else. I cannot change myself just by, "I decide that I will think differently."

And then I realized that I don't like all of my soul. I thought, "Lord, why did You do things in this way?" I struggle with the soul of my mother and my father, and they were not righteous people. Amen. They were not righteous people. I didn't have a Christian family, and there was nobody in my line, as far as I know, maybe as far back as Noah, who were serving the Lord, who were knowing the Lord. I said, "Lord, why did You put this all into my soul and now I have to carry the burden of all the generations and that I am like my father and mother?" You know what? I tried not to be. I tried not to be in many things, but I find myself having the same DNA of a soul inherited.

What the Lord told me was that this principle that I so much dislike will save me (Picture #2). He made a line, and He said, "There was a Father, and the Father was God and He has a soul." You can say it is the Father God (6). He has a soul; He has a mind - the way He thinks. He has a will - what He wants, what He doesn't do and what He wants us to do. He has desires - the things He desires. You know, God is not just a list of things not to do. God is a person. God is a person with emotions, because if we have emotions, we can be sure that God has His emotions.

You know, God weeps and God laughs. God desires things. He has ambitions. There is something - let's make a little heart and let's call it LOVE. There is "agape love" in the **Father's** soul, just like the star in my grandmother's soul. And God used the same principle, because He created it for a purpose. He gave birth to a Son (7). And the Son having the same principles, finds out that He is like the Father. Amen. He thinks the same. He does things the same. He desires the same. He has the same will and the same emotions. If God moves, He moves. If God cries, He cries. If God desires to smite the enemy, He desires it. So this Love and everything else came, and by the Blood was transferred to Jesus Christ (8). Amen.

There is the story of Jesus when they brought this lady to Him who had been caught in sin. They were saying, "What do we do? What does the law say? Shall we stone her?" He sat down, took His finger and wrote in the sand. Have you ever wondered what He was writing? Was He making little pictures or was He writing something else? I went to the Lord, and I said, "Jesus, I really would like to know what You did down there. What did You do? I really would like to know." The only thing He told me was, "I have never done anything but what I have seen my Fa-



Picture #2

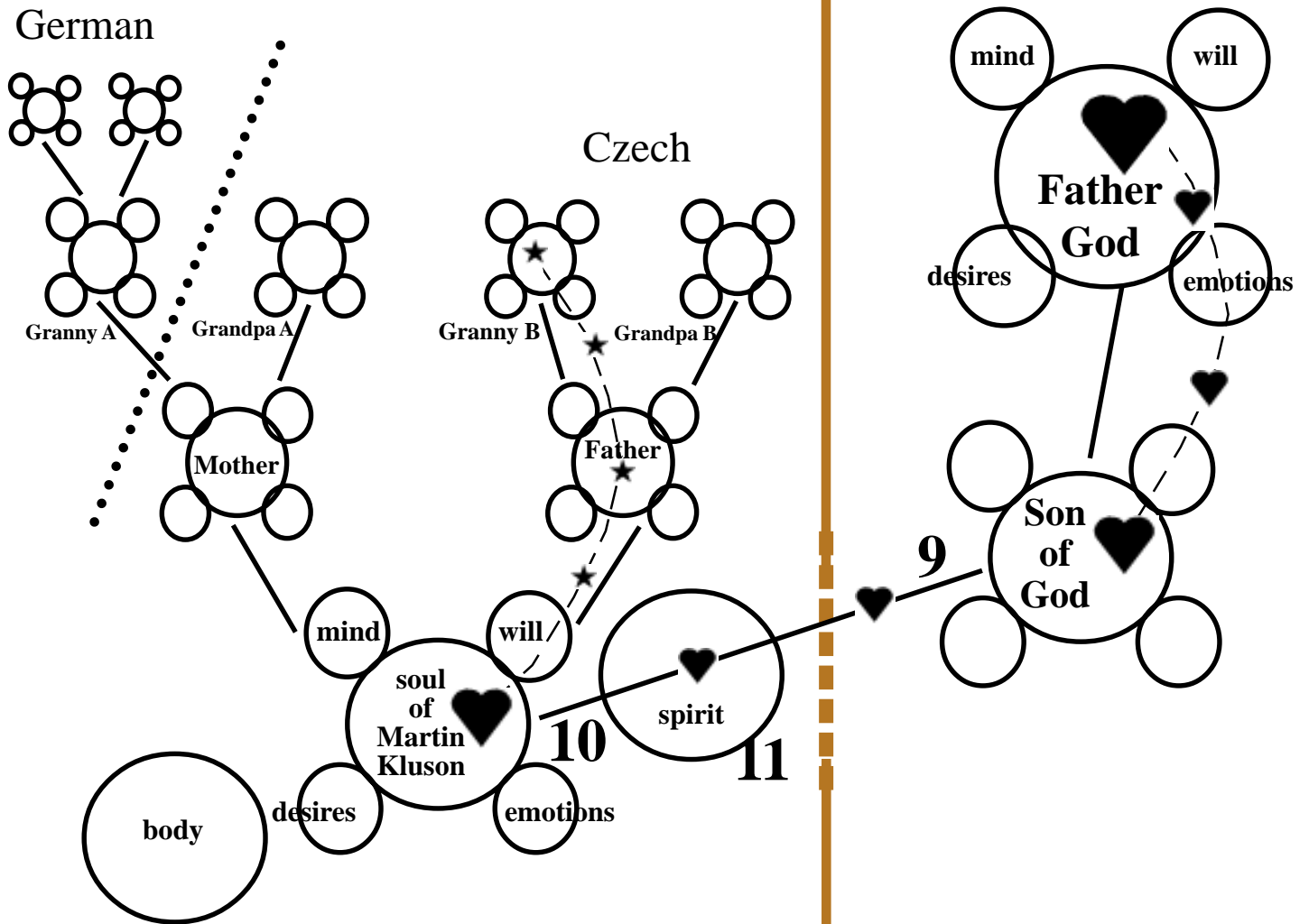
ther do.” And that was enough. So I went to the Bible and I looked for where the Father was writing with His finger. I realized that He took His finger and He was writing the law. The Lord told me, “This is what I was doing. I was writing the law on the hearts of the people.” So I know that a son would not do anything but what he inherited from the father.

The Bible says that the name is the character. We know that, don't we? We are very, very careful what names we give to our children. They know the meaning of their name and they are very proud about it. They walk around about it, they want to be called by the name, and when we speak and say the name, we are prophesying. Amen. So we know the name is character in the scriptures. We know that the scripture says that He was higher than the angels by the name that He inherited (Ephesians 1:20-23). So it was the very name, it was the very nature, it was the very character which was putting Him above every other creature.

You might well say, “Well, what do I do with this? I have my line, and Jesus has His line. I can envy Him in that He has the Lord God as His Father.” But this is the very hope, this is the very salvation, because God comes

to your life and He says that Jesus will have children. Do you know that Jesus will have children? Amen. We are called to be the children, and this is the great hope. For me, this was the answer and this was the hope for, “What can I do about my soul?” There is no way you can change people without Christ. They can go and try whatever program they want and they will not change. They will be the same. But here (picture #3), crossing the line between God and me, there was made a way and I was born again. Here in Kluson, from my father and mother, I was born the first time and this that is behind me is what I inherited, but here I was born again (9).

You know, in John the 3rd chapter, it is written very clearly. There is no way to enter the Kingdom of God, but to be born again. John 3:3, *Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.* You can't even see it. If they are intellectual people, theologians, whoever, and they are speaking about it, they don't even know what they are talking about. They have never seen it. They have never seen it because they are not born again. They are in the condition of the unregenerate man. They have an intellectual mind, they have sinful desires and they speak



Picture #3

about something that they have no idea about. But, if you are born again, something happens in the soul. A transformation happens and God starts to call you a son. It is by faith. **It is by faith** because I have a little boy and he is not a mature son. I wouldn't let him be responsible for the house. Amen. But I call him by faith - he is my adult son and I see he will inherit what we have.

So, I was born again and the process of replacement started. The Blood started to flow from the Father to the Son to my soul (10). There are implosions. The chapter quoted here very often says it is a mystery. It says in Colossians 1:27, **To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory:** I was thinking and meditating over this scripture and God told me, "It is a mystery for Gentiles because they would like to know how to get the glory, how to change the soul." There are many schools teaching how to change the soul, make it beautiful, make it righteous, and do something about it. But God says it is a mystery for them because they can try everything. Before they can understand this basic principle about being born again, they have no key to solve this.

So, it is Christ which is the hope of glory. It is Christ in our spirit, because He comes through our spirit. It is spirit, soul, and body. He comes through my spirit, and starts to shine the light, the Blood, the Word, into my soul (11). In this darkness, this little star starts to change and what it is doing is forming His character in me. What happens is, I am deciding to stop being a son of my mother and my father. By implication, I decided to stop being a member of the Czech nation and the German nation and whatever other nation. What I am becoming is a member of a new family of a new nation. I cannot be a member of both. There is no dual citizenship. Amen. **THERE IS NO DUAL CITIZENSHIP! YOU CANNOT BE BOTH!**

So it is a choice. You are choosing. What do you want to be? Where do you want to be? Amen. Let us be a little practical. What are we talking about? In this picture of my soul, this is my home. This is my desire. The Lord came into my life when I was 15 years old. I had no idea there was God. We are a very, very, very unbelieving country. I think in Nigeria you have very different problems, but I think everybody believes something. Everybody here believes there is a God. You don't need to go to the people and tell them that there is a God. Right? They know that there is somebody somewhere there or a spirit, or something. In Czech Republic, we believe that there is no one, nothing. We are just matter. My great-great-great-great grandpa was a monkey, and his great-great-great-great grandpa was a fly. So, this was the thing, and I believed it with all my heart. I thought, "Yeah. This all makes sense, and you know this believing people, it is just their lack of

education." So that is what I thought. Then the Lord started showing me biology and things. To make a long story short, I found out that there **is** a God. That was a major shock for me that there is a God. But, I could not leave it there. Right? I could not leave it there. I mean, there is a God. What do I have to do with Him - what He has and what He desires from me? Amen. I mean, can I talk to it? Can I talk to it? Who is it? What is His name? Can I ask Him questions and He can answer me? Can we even have a relationship?

So I prayed a funny prayer. I prayed, "God, I don't believe in You, BUT if You are there and You can talk to me, I would like You to talk to me. I would like You to become LIFE in my life. I am interested in You. BUT beware, I am not believing in You." You know, the Lord is very gracious and very merciful. He could have smoked me in a moment to prove it to me. He could have done anything, but He very gently came into my life, and started very diligently to show me that He is God, that He is a powerful Creator, and not only that, but that He cares about



I prayed, "God, I don't believe in You, BUT if You are there and You can talk to me, I would like You to talk to me. I would like You to become LIFE in my life. I am interested in You. BUT beware, I am not believing in You."

me personally. He wants to become my Father, my Friend, my Lord, my Master. Needless to say, I got excited. I got excited! I was the only one who got excited. My mother and my family - I kind of didn't have a father. I can choose, either I didn't have father, or I had many fathers. It was kind of strange. He was not around but my mother was, and she didn't like the idea of me becoming a believer, a Christian, because she thought, "He had a good education and he knows all of these things." What was worse, I not only became a believer, but I started to speak to the Lord and He started to talk to me and my family thought that I had gotten crazy. I was about 16 years old when my mother thought I was adult enough and told me that I could move out of the house. So I had no one to take care of me. Do

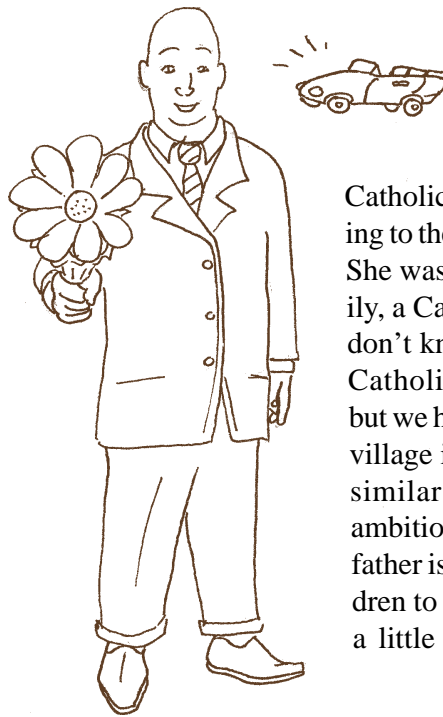
you know what happened? My Father came, the new One. He came into my life and said, "I'll show you the character of a Father, the character of a parent." All right? I was excited! So, I was alone there, a 16 year old boy, and the Lord started to talk to me and talk to me. I would go to sleep in the night and it was so sweet. I would lay down and He would talk to me and give me a good night. He would speak to me and give me such love, I could sleep in peace. I never had any luck getting much to eat, sometimes I had nothing to eat, but it didn't seem to bother me; it didn't seem there was any problem.

The Lord started to teach me and do you know what my desire was? To be close to Him, to be like Him. I wanted to be His son indeed. I wanted to be like Christ, like the Father, and I found out very soon that it is a business of replacement. It is as if you give me something and I want to put it in my pocket, and I cannot, it is full. I cannot take it. Do you know what I mean? I cannot take it since there is no way it will fit in. So I say, "Hold on for a second," and I have to take something out of my pocket and throw it away. Then I can take something in. Amen. So I realized it is a job of replacement.

You know, I had my own ambitions. I was a young boy, and there was a girl in the church somewhere there. Praise the Lord God, He saved me very young, so I knew by that time that dating was "Nay, nay!" So I knew that if it would be the will of the Lord, I needed to go and ask my Father. So I went to my Father and I said, "Father, there is this girl and I talk to her and she is a Christian, you know, and she is a good girl and everything. She is baptized by the Holy Ghost," and so on and so forth. "Can she be my wife?" And the Lord said, "No. That is not the girl for you." You know, I felt very hurt. My emotions went a bit ahead. So I went to the town and I told her. I told her, "I am very sorry but I have gone to the Lord and the Lord says, 'Nay, nay!' So that is it." I went and walked in the town and I was crying. I have to say that because I felt, "I am losing here." I was crying, and I said, "Lord, I love You, but why?" And the Lord said, "I want you to go to University." "What kind of university?" "The University of the Holy Ghost. The University of LIFE. Are you ready?" I said, "Well, I don't know if I am ready, but I want to. Yes! Yes! Yes! I want to go!" He said, "It will be a lot of suffering. It will be a lot of things and this girl is not for you. She is not part of the University program. Are you ready to give her up?" I said, "Yes, Lord, whatever it takes. Whatever it takes, I want to give it up." Amen.

I want to be in this business of replacement because what He is giving me is much, much more than I can ever get in the world. I could have great ambitions in the world, but God is doing greater business.

Later on, a couple years - not many years later - there



I had a
plan...I wanted
to borrow nice
clothes..

was another girl and the Lord started to talk to me. She was a little girl from the

Catholic Church who was going to the same school as I was. She was from a Catholic family, a Catholic environment. I don't know if you have much Catholic environment here, but we have it where the whole village is Catholic. It may be similar to here. The great ambition and the pride of the father is to come with the children to the Church. So it was a little Catholic girl and the

Lord started to talk to me about her. It seemed the Lord was saying, "She should be your wife." So I started to share the Word with her, she got saved and baptized, and she got into this message. To make a long story

short, one day, her parents found out that she was not into this Catholic environment any more. She gave up on Catholicism and she had "hell" at home. I mean "hell" at home. The parents, they were speaking against her. I mean, she was this 17 year old girl, and her parents and brothers turned against her. She said it was like they would come and the father would work on her and he would leave, then the mother would work on her and she would leave, then the brother would come and work on her. They were trying to tell her and threaten her. Then the father came and brought money, put it on the table, and said, "You can have it all, but you forget this Kluson! And you forget this religious thing!" Well, she didn't yield to it, but I can tell you, they hated me. They even ordered the brothers to find me in the city and to beat me up. The father said that if I appeared at the door, he would shoot me. He was a hunter, so he had guns. He said he would shoot me. That is not a pleasant environment, but the Lord told me, "Don't worry!"

I had a plan. I had a brother and my brother had some money. By that time, I didn't have anything. I didn't have anything! I mean, I had nothing, but I had a plan. I wanted to borrow nice clothes - nice shirt, nice pants, nice shoes and everything. And what is more, I had a driving license.

I wanted to borrow a fancy car, you know what I mean, a fancy car. I wanted to buy a big flower, a BIG flower. And I would come one day, on a Sunday, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. I would drive into this village, come to the house and ring the bell. They would open the door, see the nice car, the young boy who is coming with the flowers, and I'd say, "Hello, Mother! I would like to introduce myself. I am Martin Kluson." And I was hoping they wouldn't shoot me.

The Lord didn't comment on that idea and ambition. What happened is, one day I was walking; it was October, I think. It was cold. It was not winter, but it was cold. It was evening, so it was dark, it was raining, I was heading home and the Lord said, "Go and introduce yourself to the parents." I was thinking, "What do you mean, God? I have no time to borrow anything - no money, no clothes, no car. It is raining. It is very inappropriate." I don't know how it is here, but you don't come visit in the evening like that. And it was dark. AND it was 12 miles to the village from my city. I said, "How do I get there?" The Lord said, "Go home, put your sweats under your pants." I had two pairs of pants, sweats and pants. He said, "Because you will be cold. Take a sweater and take a hat." So I put my sweats under my pants. Do you know how sweats look under your pants? You look a little bit weird. I had a sweater that I had washed over and over, and it was a little bit longer, you know. I had my hat and I felt terrible. I looked in the mirror, and I said, "I am Martin Kluson." And I said, "Lord, are You serious?" The Lord said, "Go and introduce yourself to the parents." I said, "How do I get there?" He said, "You walk." I said, "12 miles in the rain. Okay, I will walk it."

I had learned by that time that God is good. I knew He is good. I don't always understand Him, but I knew He is GOOD. I said, "Lord, I trust You. I feel very bad about it, but I trust You." I was afraid not to obey. So, I walked it. With each step, with each mile, I felt worse. I mean, it was so humiliating. I mean, who am I? I wanted to come there to make an impression on the parents. I wanted to make an impression - I am somebody. I came there and I was wet, wetter, and wettest. You know? I walked five miles, seven miles, eight miles and I was one village next to it. I had one and a half crowns. It is five naira. I go in the town and there are people waiting for a bus. I think, "Praise the Lord. Maybe I can go and at least cut three miles." So I went to these people and I said, "How much is it from here to the next village by bus?" "Six naira." "Thank you." You know, the Lord meant it, so I walked and I walked and I walked, and it was dark and rainy. I came to the house and I stayed in front of the gate, praying. I was collecting all my strength and my boldness. I was trying to talk the Lord out of it, you know, but the Lord said, "Go and introduce yourself to the parents." So I rang the bell. The

father came. I said, "Excuse me, I came to visit Kristyna, my future wife." You are laughing. Well, I was not! I entered the house. He went and two minutes later, Kristyna comes, "What are you doing here?" I said, "I came to introduce myself to your parents." She looks at me. She sees the pants. She sees the wet. "How did you get here?" I said, "I walked it." "Why did you walk it? There is a bus. A bus came an hour ago." "I had no money." "Well, come in. Come in." So I came in. The parents wouldn't talk to me. They hid in their house, in the kitchen. The father was MAD. The mother was crying. The daughter was a little bit confused. And I was sitting there on the couch, saying, "Lord, what is going on?" Then the father called the daughter and said, "How did he get here?" "He walked it." "Why did he walk it? There are no buses coming now, but there was one hour ago." "He had no money for a bus." "Oh, he has no money. How is he going to get back?" "By bus." "Where is he going to get the money?" "I'll give it to him." "You will be feeding him." You know, you cannot feel worse. There couldn't be a worse scenario to introduce yourself to the parents of your future wife, supposedly. Why I am saying this is, what happened is, he actually made it worse. He didn't kick me out - I wished he would have just said, "Go away!" and I would be released. He said (instead), "You cannot go because no bus is going tonight. And it is raining. I will not let you go. You will sleep here." So he let me sleep in the house. I would have rather walked it, I tell you, I would have rather walked it back. He let me sleep in the house. He gave me money for the bus the next day to get out of there. I felt BAD the next days or weeks.

But I talked to the Lord. I said, "Lord, I've



It was evening, so it was dark, it was raining, I was heading home and the Lord said, "Go and introduce yourself to the parents."

done this. I've made myself a fool. But you need to explain to me. What is it about?" God said, "I knew what your plan was. You had a plan to be somebody. You had a plan to come and to introduce yourself as a young boy with a nice bouquet of flowers, to come in a fancy car. But that is not you. You are a fool. You are a fool. You are not a man of the world. You are not like everybody else. And if you introduce yourself in the nice car with the flower, then you would have to spend a lot of effort to tell them it was a LIE. You are somebody else. You are somebody who believes God so much that he is crazy enough to walk in the rain to obey the Lord and know nothing but to say, 'The Lord told me.'" Amen. From that moment on, it was settled. The parents knew. They knew one thing. I loved the daughter. I must have. They knew the second thing, and they said, "He is obeying his God. He is obeying his God, and he will do anything the Lord tells him." Amen. And the thing was settled. From that time, there was never any question. They knew it was a wasted effort to talk me out of things, if the Lord told me. It was a waste of effort. We made this thing settled. You know what I am saying?

She wrote herself out of the Catholic Church. All the village turned against her, but I knew there was no question. There was no question. We started to be known at school. They knew at school that I was the Christian. I was the crazy Christian who does what the Lord tells him to do. It is not that I was doing crazy things. I was just obeying the Lord and they knew it. Amen. We started to walk out our lives. There was this - how would I describe it? They would never talk about me otherwise, but "He is this believer. He is the follower of the Lord. He is the Bible carrier." I figured out that this was what God wanted. They started to say, "He is not like his parents. His mother is normal. His father is normal. His mother is so and so and so. And he is - it seems like he doesn't belong there." My grandpa didn't like it. He loved me very much before I got saved because I was like him. He wanted me to be like him and after I was born again he couldn't understand me. He couldn't figure it out, he couldn't grasp it, and he said,



I said, "Lord, whatever it costs. Whatever it costs, I won't cancel this. If that is the price, I am ready to do it, and I will be your son. I want to be your son."

"You are somebody else. You are somebody else." Then we didn't talk for a few years. My mother wouldn't talk to me for a few years. I had nobody. Listen, I had **nobody**. You know? At school, they thought I was crazy, BUT I KNEW ONE THING. I WAS THE SON OF MY GOD!

If I am crazy, He is crazy - I mean in a good sense. I realized that I can have just one citizenship. I can have only one God. Amen? I can have only one Father. I can have only one type of mentality. I cannot be two things. I cannot be the young man of this world and a son of God. It doesn't work together. If I would try to please the people, I could not please God. You have to choose - either/or. I made up my mind, I chose, and I said, "Lord, whatever it costs. Whatever it costs, I won't cancel this. If that is the price, I am ready to do it and I will be Your son. I want to be Your son." Hallelujah!

I was in high school at that time and the Lord told me to finish high school and He told me to study. So I studied hard. When I was an unbeliever, I kind of did not care much, but then the Lord told me that it was part of the testimony to study well. So I did. Everybody from my school - it was a very prominent high school - went to a university. There was no question about whether you go, but **where** you go or if you go to one or to two. There were quite a few people who went to two universities. Lawyer and medical doctor, or lawyer and economy engineer. So they would go around, but I prayed, and I said, "Lord, what do I do?

Which university do I go to?" And the Lord said, "You don't go to any university." You know - shock! - but not a big shock, because I knew God by that time. I knew He wanted something different. I was spoiling their numbers by this time because they said that everybody goes to the university, and now I don't go. So, the teacher talked to me and everything, and I said, "You know, I cannot help myself, but I have to follow the Lord." "But how are you going to feed a family?" I said, "He promised He would take care of me." You know, the people thought I was crazy.

But you know what? I have a job now and everybody

around me is university educated. That is a condition - you cannot apply for this job without a degree. I don't know what happened or exactly how I got in there, but I am in there. You know, sometimes I go to business meetings and they call me by my title and I don't have any. So I have to tell them, "I am not an engineer." "Oh, so you are a doctor?" "I am not a doctor." "Oh, so you are a master?" "I am nobody." "Oh, I see."

But the Lord told me I would not miss anything. If I chose Him and followed Him, I would not miss anything. Maybe I would not go to the university. Maybe I would

not have that type of life. Maybe I would not have this or maybe I would not do that. Amen. BUT I CAN BE A SON OF GOD! I can do the things the Lord requires. I can be of the high calling. Amen? And this carnal inheritance, I mean, compare it to the eternal inheritance. What is it to that? What is it? Would you exchange it?

Then we had a wedding. Oh my! Weddings!



Then we had a wedding.

The Lord told us very clearly that I was the son of God and I was marrying the daughter of God. You know, which nation are we? Czech Republic? No, we are not. We are not. We are not. By that time I was not Czech Republic anymore, and she was not, either, but our parents were. So, there is a way that we do weddings in Czech. I'm sure there is a way that you do weddings. I'm sure there is a way that other nations do weddings. But the parents knew by that time, they knew that there was no way to talk to me otherwise. You know, they knew.

So I prayed and the Lord told me to do this and this. We were sending invitations. Imagine - we are an unbelieving country. So you never write a scripture in the invitation, right? You make it nice and gold and shining and everything. The Lord told me, "Make them yourself." I didn't have much money then, so I made them, cut them - tried to cut them straight but I was not always successful. I printed them on my printer, and the biggest thing of all was, "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and everything else shall be added unto you" (Matthew 6:33). I am translating from Czech, but I think it is about right. We handed it to the parents and they went, "Uuuuhhh! You will be sending it all around!?! 'Seek ye first' - don't you have something about love?" I said, "Well, the Lord told me 'Seek ye first,' and this is the thing for my marriage." Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His

righteousness, and everything else (even the love) shall be added unto you. Amen. Praise the Lord. So we sent those out and everybody knew, there was no question that it would be a strange wedding. Amen. They had never seen anything like it, nobody did it like that. Nobody did it before me. Nobody did it around me. I would hand the invitation to somebody, they would look at it and immediately they would say that it is not white and gold (in Czech Republic we always have it white and gold). It was green and there was a big picture. I said, "I cannot help it." The father did not like it and I said, "I am sorry. I am sorry I am not doing the wedding as you are used to. You just take it or leave it. You know, I would like you to come. I am inviting you. But if you cannot make it because it is not according to your ideas, well, that is okay. I know you have this daughter and I respect her dearly. She is twenty years old and you took care of her. I am very sorry that in your mind you have a type of wedding, how you want to have it, and I am spoiling it. I am aware of that. But I can't do otherwise. She is a daughter of Zion. She is not a daughter of Czech Republic, neither of this village, neither of any other things."

So we went and got married. It was a different marriage - the Lord instructed us and I asked Him about everything. I said, "Lord, how do You want it?" I did not know how to choose a wedding. I didn't study that, so I didn't know. I knew I shouldn't have a Czech wedding, so I just had to ask Him what to wear and what to do, what to say and what not to say. What to sing. Amen. I even asked Him, I said, "Lord, do You need a chair?" I was ready to have a chair for the Lord, just to tell them that the Lord is at the wedding. I said, "Lord, I want to invite You first." I asked Him, "Lord, we are going to be fixing this food. What are You going to have?" I meant it, you know what I mean? I meant it! And the Lord meant it, too! Do you know what He said? He said, "You know what I like? I like fruit." I knew what He was talking about. He likes fruit. I said, "Yeah, right." So I told all these people that were coming to this wedding, "We will be serving fruit." There was fruit on the table. Of course, there was some chicken and a few other things to eat. But I put the fruit on the table, and I said, "This is the fruit, but symbolically, the Lord told me He

I asked Him, "Lord, we are going to be fixing this food. What are you going to have?"... He said, "You know what I like? I like fruit."



likes to eat fruit. The fruit according to Galatians is 'love, righteousness, peace, meekness and so on' (Galatians 5:22), so we are going to make sure we are serving the Lord His fruit and His name will be glorified." Amen.

Well, my brother and my mother came. My mother wouldn't talk to me much, you know? She was not in agreement with the type of wedding that it was. "I'm sorry, very sorry. Honestly, I am sorry." My wife's parents came and kind of helped and even paid for some of it - so we said, "All right. Praise the Lord." You know what the parents do sometimes, right? They try to bless you in telling you the way to do things. So they told us, "We decided, for your wedding, we will bless you and we will pay to have these people come and play this music for you. You like music." So we said, "Thank you very much, we appreciate it, but we cannot accept it." "But we are blessing you!" "No, no, no, if you really want to bless us, leave the money with us, and we know what to do with it. Or we will tell you what we need and you decide what you want to bless us with." "Oh no, we would like to decide; I mean, every wedding in the village has these guys playing this music. This is not bad music. This is not rock and roll. It is normal, traditional music of the village. You know, the brother had it, and the other brother had it." "I am very sorry again. I am very, very sorry. I cannot have it. It is not music that is glorifying my Lord. It is not music that is coming and touching the heavens. It is not music that is speaking about the Lord. It might not be bad, but it is not good." Amen. You know, I was willing to give up on the money. What we had were some brethren that played the guitar - simple guitar - and we worshipped the Lord and it was beautiful. You know, we stood there, hands up - the parents didn't stay for that part. You know, it was too much. We had the pictures of it, though.

We had no hard drinks. Do you know what I mean? Well, I don't know how it is here, but in Czech Republic, a wedding is drinking. Is it the same here? Yes? Yes! Well, we had no drinks. I mean we had some soft drinks, of course, and we had juice and water, but we had no beer, we had no rum, we had no liquor, we had nothing like that. The parents said, "At least the beer? At least one beer? Is it wrong to have one beer?" I said, "Well, it is wrong at my wedding. The Lord didn't say to have drinks and I think it would be very bad symbolically to start my marriage and having people drunk there, or drinking. They couldn't get drunk on one beer, but I am sorry. Again, I am very sorry, but this is not a wedding of the village, this is not the wedding of the parents."

Then the parents saw the pictures. They went through them and the mother went very carefully, very carefully. Very slowly - and she was thinking. Then there was this picture of Krystina. She was praising the Lord, and I was standing there praising the Lord. She stayed on this pic-

ture for three minutes. She was looking at it, looking at it, looking at it, and she turned to us and said, "I have never seen such a joy. I have never seen such a joy, and you were not drinking anything? I have never seen such a joy. I have never seen Kristyna being so happy." Amen. That was a testimony. They knew we gave up some things, but we gained much more and they started to see. They started to see their daughter prospering in the Lord. Amen. They saw that the Lord was speaking through us, that the Lord was doing things. We decided that we go and it is crazy, but in the end they see the testimony.

My wife has a grandmother. We went to help them cut the hay. You leave it there on the ground but you have to keep coming and turning it to dry it. We did it manually out in the big field. The whole family kind of went. There is a way that you do it from one side to the other side. What happens is, because it is wet, it would kind of kill itself, but you spread it and the sun makes it dry. Amen. But there is a funny thing; you have to make sure, if there is rain coming, it must be in the heap. Amen. So you are observing all the time. If it might be raining soon, everybody runs and makes a heap. It doesn't rain, or it rains but when it stops raining and the sun comes out, you spread it. I knew nothing about it. It was the first time I was there. I knew nothing about it. Grammy, she was doing it, I don't know, 50 years, I suppose. So they were having a spread, they were heading home, and the rain was starting to come, the clouds. It was very unfortunate, because we were tired and everything. I said, "Lord, what do we do? I think now we need to put it into heaps really quick." Grammy said, "Let's put it quickly into heaps!" Everybody obeys the grandmother, you know? On the field, she is the most experienced. And the Lord told me, "Do not worry about that. I will dry it for you tonight, and you can take it home." I said, "All right." So, I went to the Grammy - I am still a young boy, you know what I mean? I came to her and I said, "Excuse me? I think we can leave it as it is." She said, "No, no, the rain is coming." I said, "Well, the Lord told me that He would dry it for us, that we don't need to worry." By that time, they knew us. Do you know what she did? She goes, "Hey, hey, hey! Stop it! Stop it! Let's go home!" And everybody said, "Well, what do you mean?" She said, "Well, don't worry." She didn't tell them. She was afraid to tell them that she believed what I said. You know? So Kristyna came to her and she said, "What are we doing, Grammy? Why aren't we putting it into heaps?" And she said, "Martin just told me that the Lord said that He would dry it for us, so there is no need." She is a Catholic woman. So they knew by that time and they believed. They believed. When the father was in major need of things they came to us and asked, "Will you pray for me? Will you pray to your God?" He is still Catholic. He still does his own things, but they have a major respect to know that

there is a God. There is a God! There were many other things that the Lord was doing in our lives.

But what I wanted to share, what I wanted to leave with you brethren, is - You have to choose! YOU HAVE TO CHOOSE! **You cannot have both!** Amen. You cannot just study the people in the Bible, if you are aspiring to be a son of God. If you want a University of the life of the Holy Ghost, if you want to have the Lord talk to you, you have to listen and obey. You know, once I talked to the Lord and I said, "God, I need You to tell me this." He said, "Well, I told you to do something. If you don't do it, I have no reason to tell you anything more." So I learned, if I don't obey, I don't hear. Amen. God is not talking and talking and talking. He sometimes says a word, and unless you do it, He won't say anything else. I do it with my children. They come and they say, "Daddy, can we watch this?" And I say, "Go, tidy your rooms and then we will have dinner soon." "Daddy, but can we?" I don't talk to them anymore. I said what I said and I am not negotiating, I am not discussing it. "You go first," and you know, they

I look back, I love it. I love it and I say, "Lord, You made the best thing." I know some of the people from the church, and they are kind of playing with the thing. They go, they are very religious, they are very holy in the church. Then they go to visit the parents and they are like the parents.

When we come to the table, we pray and we bless the food. I wasn't there one evening - I was coming late. The father, who is not believing our God, is Catholic. He would not pray a prayer otherwise than whatever the Catholics pray. You know what I mean? He grabbed the children's hands and he said, "Children, we need to bless the food." He wouldn't pray, but he asked our daughter to pray. She was five years old. He said, "You pray." So she blessed the food, he said, "Amen," and ate. Then, instead of us yielding to their culture, we are bringing the culture of God to them! Amen. The mother, Kristyna's mother, has a major respect for our God. She has a major respect for me as a man of God who takes care of her daughter the best way. She came and she personally, about 15 times by now, apologized to me that she was not happy when I came

YOU HAVE TO CHOOSE!

You cannot have both!

know by now. So she tells the other girl, "Well, all right. I think we can. It makes no sense to stay here. Let's go tidy our rooms and do dinner and then let's see if Daddy can speak to us." Amen. God is like this often. He tells you to do something - why do you ask what to do? Amen. He told you something. Why do you ask? He told you again and if you don't do it and you don't do it and you don't do it, you have stopped listening. You stop hearing the Lord, and you start hearing something else. Something else is motivating your life. Listen, if you have ambitions for your life, you CANNOT be a son of God. Did you know that? Is it bad news? Is it surprising? Am I wrong, Brother Burt? No.

Sometimes, very often the Lord blesses you, and He gives you more than you would think. He always provided for my family. We always had what we needed. Sometimes we had to learn that we didn't need what we thought we needed. BUT He always provided, even over and above, because you know what? GOD IS GOOD! You can always trust Him. I thought I was a fool going to introduce myself to the parents. I felt bad! But now, when

in my wet pants and that. I explained to her that I understand that. But she apologized and she said, "I should have known better." The Lord will not leave you. He will not forsake you (Hebrews 13:5). You do not worry, brethren, but you need to make a decision.

Brother Burt was reading a scripture. Let me go back to it for a second. It is the decision question. In the 24th chapter of Joshua, he speaks about the Lord and he says, "This is the God" and he gives all the history. Then in verse 15 he says, ***And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.*** So the question is, "Choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether... the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell." You can be Nigerians if you want to. You can be anything if you want to. We can become Americans. We can become Czech. But the Lord says that we have to choose. Brethren, don't deceive yourselves. Don't deceive yourselves in thinking that you can try to do both.



I always asked,
 “Lord, this is
 the music You
 like?”
 “No.”

The Lord said, “There is a music and I don’t want you to confuse your ear. I don’t want you to confuse your mind. I don’t want you to confuse yourself with junk. Just stick with the pure and holy because if you just stick with the pure and holy, then you can have discernment and you can discern what is of God.



Don’t try to be a dual-carrier. Do you know what I mean? Don’t try to be successful in the world, be successful being very busy doing the things of the world, and then try in the remaining time to be very busy and do the things of God. It doesn’t work that way. You are not schizophrenic. You cannot split your mind and do half a day this and half a day that. **Everything you do must be done unto the Lord!**

Joshua 24:16, *And the people answered and said, God forbid that we should forsake the LORD, to serve other gods; ¹⁷For the LORD our God, he it is that brought us up and our fathers out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage, and which did those great signs in our sight, and preserved us in all the way wherein we went, and among all the people through whom we passed. ¹⁸And the LORD drave out from before us all the people, even the Amorites which dwelt in the land: therefore will we also serve the LORD; for he is our God.* Check the answer now. Check the answer. ¹⁹*And Joshua said unto the people, Ye cannot serve the LORD: for he is an holy God; he is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions nor your sins.*

sions nor your sins. So Joshua said, “Choose ye this day,” and they said, “We will serve the Lord,” and he says, “You can’t.” Amen? Verse 19, *And Joshua said unto the people, Ye cannot serve the LORD: for he is an holy God; he is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions nor your sins.* What is it saying to us? It says that sometimes there is somebody speaking here or somewhere, and he says, “Do you want to follow God? Do you want to serve the Lord?” And there is a major, “AMEN!” “No, no, no. That is not the question. You cannot be what you are, do what you do, think how you think. You cannot be children of your parents. You cannot be members of your village. You cannot be citizens of your nation BECAUSE HE IS AN HOLY GOD!” Do you know what holy is? *Holy* means “set aside for a purpose, that which is consecrated.” Amen. He is a holy God. It is for a purpose. If you want to serve Him, you have to be consecrated.

If you have a vessel at home, and you say, “This vessel will be used for drinking wine at communion and I will not use it for anything else. It is not that sometimes you clean a toilet, you need a vessel and you grab it and use it. It is not that sometimes you need to drink juice and you use it. That is not like this. That is my precious vessel. Amen. You have vessels - each is used for a different purpose. Brethren, if you want to be a vessel for God, do you think it is different? He wants to fill you with the Holy Ghost. He wants to fill you with His Word. Do you think He would use a vessel that is used at a meeting - He puts the Holy Ghost in - then you go in the evening and sit in front of the TV, switch it on, and let junk come in? The Lord is not ready to share! Amen. The Lord is not ready to share!

When I was a young man, my brother played in a band. I didn’t listen to any of his music. I cut off heavy metal music. That was easy, because I didn’t like it anyway. But I cut off this and that and this. I always asked, “Lord, is this the music You like?” “No.” He didn’t like anything. He didn’t like anything! Then I thought and I brought home a tape. It was Christian music - soft, nice, Christian music. I put it in, “Lord, do You like this one?” “No.” So I ended up having nothing. The Lord said, “There is a music and I don’t want you to confuse your ear. I don’t want you to confuse your mind. I don’t want you to confuse yourself with junk. Just stick with the pure and holy because if you just stick with the pure and holy, then you can have discernment and you can discern what is of God.”

So he says, Joshua 24:19, *And Joshua said unto the people, Ye cannot serve the LORD: for he is an holy God; he is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions nor your sins.* Brethren, let us not take it lightly. I was talking about it here before. Let us not think He will just forgive, He will just forget. I have been thinking a lot about Ultimate Reconciliation while being here. We don’t

Speak about it at home, because we kind of never ran into it. But I realize it is a mentality. It is not only false doctrine, but it is a whole mentality, you know? In a way, rapture is for me the Ultimate Reconciliation mentality. "Don't worry, do what ever you want, God will cover it anyway." I make sure I treat my children differently, and you do the same, such as, make sure you tell your children there is some consequence. If you don't do the thing, there is a consequence. Amen. This is the best thing that you can do with the children.

You know, I was thinking about your nation, about Nigeria, and I think there is a lot of Ultimate Reconciliation in your laws, in the way your government does business. You know why? There were so many things where I asked, "Is there a law?" "Oh yes, but nobody cares." "Is it legal to do this?" The motorbikes are this and here and there.

Many of the people answered me, "No, that is not legal." Some of the things, yes. I said, "But why is it happening?" "Because nobody enforces that law." Amen. "Nobody enforces the law." So people end up believing that the law doesn't matter. The law doesn't matter; if it is here or if it is not, we can behave how we want. It is better not to have law than to have law and not to enforce it. It is better to allow the children to do something, than to say, "You can't do something," and you don't enforce it, because then you teach them the WRONG lesson. What the Lord says is that you cannot serve the Lord as you are. He will not forgive the sin. Let us not be mistaken, we are told that they did not enter into the rest, and He is saying to us, "Beware. You can miss it." That is a serious message. That is the deadly poison of Ultimate Rec-

onciliation because Ultimate Reconciliation will tell you, "You can do what you want. You can be half and half." "You can be born again, but you can still have major business in your family, in your village, in your nation. And you can still make it to the first line." The Lord is very clearly saying, "It is not possible."

So, choose: the way you walk, what music you listen to, which people you are around, what you watch, what you read, with whom you talk. Hallelujah!

Joshua 24:21, *And the people said unto Joshua, Nay; but we will serve the LORD.* ²²*And Joshua said unto the people, Ye are witnesses against yourselves that ye have chosen you the LORD, to serve him. And they said, We are witnesses.* ²³*Now therefore put away, said he, the strange gods which are among you, and incline your heart unto the LORD God of Israel.* So, brethren, if that is your



So brethren, if that is your decision, you put away the strange gods which are among you, and incline your heart unto the Lord.

decision, you put away the strange gods which are among you, and incline your heart unto the Lord. There is a high calling. There is a high calling, and it is a very late hour. God is doing marvelous things on this earth. Everything is culminating now. We are very privileged to have this Word; we are very privileged to have the brethren.

I am very privileged in my life that I met Brother and Sister duCille, and other brethren. They are marvelous examples and we can follow them, as they follow Christ. It is not only that you see it in the scriptures; it is not only the Lord Who is talking to you, but He can show you. It is easier. It is sweet that you can follow somebody. You know, it works. It challenges you. Amen? You know, I hope you will not understand it wrongly, and I hope

Brother duCille will not take it wrong, but in many things, I say I want to be like him and my wife, she says she wants to be like Sister duCille. Amen. It is not to put somebody high, but it is something God has given us in the Body. Amen. He has given it to us and it is a blessing. God has given us everything we need. You press a button and you have a scripture. If you want a copy, if you want Greek, you have it. You have a word, you have the music, you have the knowledge. You have everything. Amen. So it is time to decide, but know that you cannot have everything.

The devil doesn't care if you are Christians. I got saved. It was my first conference. It was 1992. The brethren came. I believe they came from Africa that time, and Brother duCille and others came in the summer. They were speaking and giving us the Word. Everything was new for me. I had no idea, and I didn't understand it all. You know, they were laying the foundations, AND I LOVED IT. I said, "God, I don't understand it, but I love it. My heart is saying, 'YES! YES!'" It was dark like this and I went for a little walk through the forest but before I reached the forest, a man came out of it. I was ready to say hello, you know, just to greet him, but he came directly to me, and he didn't beat around the bush. He just came very plainly, and he said, "I have a message for you." By that time I knew it was some demon. He said, "I have a message for you from the master." "What is the message?" He said, "If you are a Christian, it is all right. He doesn't care about that. If you want to be a preacher and go around the world and preach and do evangelizing, that is all right. He doesn't care about that. BUT if you stick with this Word, he personally will come to kill you." And he left. He made it very plain to me. I didn't know what to do. I was standing there, frightened to go back to the brethren, because he might go follow me and kill me. I didn't know what he was talking about. You are all wondering, "What was he talking about?" He doesn't care about me being a Christian. He doesn't care about me being a preacher. But he cares and he personally will kill me IF I stick with this Word, this Word that I did not even understand. So I waved at somebody who was there. I said, "I am afraid to go in. I need you to..." I told him what happened. They said, "Don't worry, the devil is afraid." So we prayed and I got some boldness to go in and I told some of the brethren. Later on, a few years later, I thought, "He actually gave me a major hint." Amen. He gave me a major hint. If I am just a Christian or even a preacher, I am not a threat to him. Did you know that? We are not a threat to him if we are Christians or even preachers. But if we stick with this word that can bring us into sonship, that is the end for him! He bothered to send one of his

knights to me - it was 1992, I was 18 at that time - to a little boy, and he talked to me, and he said, "I personally will make sure to go after you to kill you." Amen.

So, we are to make decisions. Brethren, what do you do about your life? What do you do about your nationality? What do you do about your village? About your parents? Young people, older people, whoever, we need to go down and do business with the Lord. Talk to Him, hear what He says and do what He says. Praise the Lord.

Let me pray. *Father, I thank You. I thank You for coming into my life and saving me as a wretched man. My God, I thank You, Lord, that You came into my life and You gave me ways and tools as to how I can change. You said that I should be changed by my mind being transformed (Romans 12:2). Hallelujah. My Jesus, I pray in this moment that You would talk to every soul which is here, that You would talk to every mind, that You would talk to everybody, that You would personally meet every person and speak to them what You have prepared for them. I pray You would give us understanding - what we are choosing and what we are to reject. Help us, Lord, to understand that we cannot serve You in the condition we are in. We cannot serve You and try to please our nation, our family, the people around us in our work. We cannot. Help us, Lord, to trust You and believe You, to know that You are a good God. Lord, I thank You for what you have done in our lives up to now. I thank You, Lord, for what you have done in this conference, in this Africa trip up to now. I pray that every word spoken by You will bring forth. I pray, Lord, that You would encourage the people, that they would go with a new joy, new power, new strength. That they would lay aside the gods, that they would lay aside every thought that is contrary to You, my God, every strife. Hallelujah! I pray, Lord God, that You would walk in the midst of them, that they would be people of God, that they would hear what You say, that they would speak it and see You working in their midst - delivering them, healing them, sending them, hallelujah, changing them. And that everybody will be able, when they see them, to say, "They are people of God! There is something weird about them. The Lord walks with them, and talks in them." In the name of Jesus. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.*

We were walking in Jamaica and the people there were yelling at our girls, "Hey, you Christian girls." So how do they know we are Christians? The way you talk, the way you walk, the way you are dressed. Amen. I want to be called Christian by the way I am dressed, the way I talk and the way I walk. I don't want to be called, "Hey, you Czech people!" Amen. Praise the Lord. God bless you very much.✠



Kids' Chronicles!

Rebecca Chattic, 10

I was very blessed to go the 4th of July conference. Mr. duCille shared that on the 7th day, God must complete His work and that we are in the time of the 7th trumpet. We must become one with Christ and God is training us to reign and rule with Him. We need to be like Jesus Christ and God wants



us to be what Christ ordained us to be. Mr. duCille also shared that we should know who we are and the ministry. Not only know who we are but what we are. God has ordained a ministry in our midst to bring us to that place of the completed man. In another meeting Mr. duCille shared that we are at the golden altar, we come to the point where God wants us to give up everything. God is giving us the power to overcome what is to happen on earth, and we need to pray and ask God to not pass us by. Mr. Campbell shared that we are at these meetings because of divine appointment and that God has brought us here to be vessels of God and we are to enter into the kingdom of

God through much suffering and tribulation. God is calling us out of the darkness into the fullness of His light. Mr. Campbell also shared that when God is saying something, He expects a response. We are awakening to righteousness, and we the people of God are coming out of a slumber, a spiritual slumber. He also said that God is giving us the equipment to touch this generation. □

I was blessed to go to the 4th of July conference. Mr. duCille shared that we need to know who we are and what we are. He said that the 7th trumpet is the resurrection trumpet and that God is training us to reign and rule with Him, and we need to be what Christ ordained us to be. He also shared that we need to be like Jesus Christ, and be one with Christ. In another meeting Mr. duCille said that we are at the golden altar and we are near the day of atonement. God is asking for a total offering. Mr. duCille also shared that we are going to have to walk where the spirit is leading and that God is giving us the power to overcome whatever is to come on earth. We have no time left. We need to keep praying and we need to believe and we need to pray to God to not pass us by. We are going to move where God says move. God wants us to wait on Him, for we ourselves are bound to be wrong. Mr. Campbell talked about we are here because of divine appointment. We are here because God brought us here. He shared that we are a chosen vessel and that God is calling us out of darkness into the fullness of His light. There is a place in God that we enter in.

Rachel Chattic, 10

When God speaks to us he expects a response. We are the people of God coming out of a slumber and God is giving us the equipment and the anointing to touch this generation. □

Isaiah Chattic, 6

I was glad to go to the July conference. Mr. duCille spoke about us needing to be like Christ. Mr. Campbell said, "when God speaks to us, He expects a response." To me that means that God wants us to be hearers AND doers of the Word. When God speaks to us we must listen to God and obey Him. I want to obey God and to be like Christ. ✨

High Beams are on Steven Gassman

Spotlight by Wesley Schell



For the past two months we have been blessed to have Steven with us here in Mahomet. He originally was coming down to work on the farm for a week or so and his adventure has developed into two months and is still ongoing. He has been a great help and blessing to have here and to work with personally everyday.

Steven has a very interesting background that not many people have experienced. He is from a family of eight children. He is the second oldest and has four sisters and three brothers. One can only imagine the excitement and activities that are always happening there. His parents are Erick and Cheryl Gassman, and they live in Monroe, Wisconsin. When asked when he became a Christian, Steven was not 100% sure, because it was at a young age. He does remember an experience when he was three or four and his mom was present when he asked Jesus into his heart. Throughout Steven's childhood his family has spent time together learning about God. He told me that a couple of nights a week their family would have a time of devotionals, reading the Bible, watching a conference, or praying together. Steven specifically remembers two books *The Calling Out of Sons* by Norman Wakefield and *Thoughts for Young Men* by J. C. Ryle that his father read with all of the boys. Both books are designed to help a young boy mature and become a man of God. As a side note, his mother also goes through books with her daughters to train them to become ladies. What a huge blessing and encouragement it is to see parents involved with their children's development into adulthood. This influence is evident in Steven's life because he is a respectful young man, willing to help at any moment, and overall a great brother in the Lord with tremendous potential to be mighty for God. I had asked him what it was like having such a large family, and he told me that it is a little stressful at times, but even with that he wouldn't want it any other way. In fact, when he came down to Mahomet, the first couple of nights he had a hard time because it was so quiet and he was not used to having an empty house. "It took a little getting used to," he said. One nice thing about large families is that they can play together and also work together and help get big jobs done faster. Steven told me that he is responsible for the outside work, being the oldest son. He mows the lawn and takes care of the animals. They have chickens, a milk cow, and sometimes pigs on their farm along with a large garden. Eric, Steven, and his older sister Stephanie all take turns at milking their cow, and for anyone who has never done that, it takes a lot of effort and time. Something interesting that he told me was that Stephanie is his best friend. He said they understand each other and can talk to each other. When listening to Steven tell me about his family life and all the interaction and activities that they do together, it really blessed me. Typical families in the US are all disjointed and don't have many interactions together. Instead of following that trend and having 10 islands, his family has ten units all trying to flow in the same direction. Having the small family farm environment gives them a common job to accomplish and also brings them closer to each other.

My next question was about baptisms. Through the fall of 1998 Steven began to feel God nudging him forward to get water baptized, and his parents were also in agreement that he was





ready for it. Well, opportunity arose at the Dubuque Conference that winter and Steven was water baptized. He told me that he remembered saying that he was baptized because he wanted a cleansing of his heart and remission of his sin. I then moved the conversation to the Holy Ghost baptism. He told me that he was baptized in the Holy Ghost during the 2005 kids camp. There was a move of the Spirit of God in one of the meetings where a call was made for anybody who wanted to be baptized in the Holy Ghost. Steven went forward that night and asked Jesus for the Holy Ghost and received it. If a person gets baptized in the Holy Ghost, it is going to change their life, so I asked what happened afterwards. Steven told me that he gained a desire to spend more time with God and he became interested in the signs of the times that are occurring, which were prophesied back in the Old Testament. His perspective was also changed from always thinking about himself to being able to look for ways to help other people's needs. Lastly, God changed the desire for worldly things.

Being that Steven is fifteen years old, I was interested in what he thought of the last days. He said, "I believe it and do not want to be found unprepared, but rather ready and willing to go forth." He also said that he wants to be ready for the persecution that will come during that time frame and doesn't want to be afraid of it and recant but go through it victoriously like many other Christians have in times past. He was honest though and said that sometimes he wrestles with the thoughts of the world as we know it ending and also 2008, but after he thinks about the thought he kicks it out of his mind and believes that we are living in the "last days."

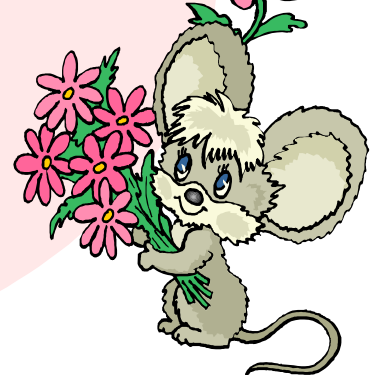
Steven has been here in Mahomet now for two months and I asked him what God has been teaching him during his stay. His reply was, "I am learning to follow through with a job, submit to the authority, and to become more conscious of the needs around me and doing it before being asked." He said, "Overall I really enjoy being on the farm and helping out the brethren here. One blessing is that I never have to worry about falling asleep at night. It happens without effort." God bless!²³



visitors' Corner

We send bundles of welcomes to our visitors this month! We are happy to have had you among us! Come back anytime and God bless you!

*August 26th - Huey & Kate Freeman & Mikala; Susie Sigwarth; Kristi Wickboldt & children, Joshua & Elisa
September 2nd - Erick & Cheryl Gassman & family -
Stephanie, Steven, Hannah, Peter, Andrew, Grace,
Mercy; Kristi W. & family
September 9th - Paula Gassman*



Do You Love Me?

by Burt Asbill
April 1st, 2007
Mahomet, IL

Praise the Lord. It is very good to be here with you this morning. The Lord has been very gracious to us in the last several weeks. We were able to go to the Czech Republic for 9 days. We were gone twelve days altogether, including the travel time. We had 5 or 6 very good meetings. There was a very good anointing and the Word flowed quite well.

The Bible says that we not only have to be hearers of the Word but that we have to be doers of the Word (James 1:22). I believe that one of the maladies of the Christian church today is in doing and not so much hearing. I believe that there has been some anesthetization of the church in hearing in that we take for granted much of what we have heard. I don't know how much the church really believes what it has heard as far as the end time is concerned. I am sure that most of us have a hope concerning eternal life. I think most of us have a position of hope concerning the sons of God and all that it entails.

There was a revelation that the Lord gave me during one of the services regarding the position of the church today, not so much in what was happening in the natural realm that Jesus and the disciples were living in at that time, as far as the nation of Israel was concerned, but in the aspect of the spiritual counterpart that we are acting out in the time frame that we are presently living. It is more abstract for us because we don't see the physical manifestation of Jesus and we are not living in the land of Israel, so it really seems to have even less meaning today than it did in that day.

Just imagine yourself following a man for three

and a half years, seeing many different wonders and miracles being performed. From the beginning of Jesus' ministry up until that night in the garden of Gethsemane, there must have been some hope in the disciples that had been birthed and built upon by what He was teaching them and the things He was telling them about who and what they were and what they were going to do because of who and what He was. Can you imagine what was going on in the minds of the disciples? I believe we can, because of the interaction that they were having with Christ. Not only that, but we also have the Word, so to some degree we can determine what the disciples were thinking by the thought perceptions that we have. Visions of grandeur seem to be something of an adolescent stage of the growth and development of the sons of God. James and John wanted to sit on His right hand and rule the rest of Israel because that is what they thought was going to happen. Of course, we probably would have thought something different if someone came up to us and said, "Hey. I have a throne that you can sit upon and you are going to judge one of the tribes of Israel." Of course, you would probably have spiritualized it and made it something symbolic at the very most, but that was not the case with them. I don't know that it is so much the case with us either.

I think that what we have here is the living Book. That thing right there in your lap is alive but we take it for granted because we don't believe that it is really alive. What these people were working out in the natural realm is a demonstration of what was happening,

but also what is and will happen as far the church is concerned.

So there they were, following this man around for three and a half years and at the end of those years, instead of all the expectation and hope they had built up, the situation crashes down around their heads. Well, we could give them some excuse. We could grant them some leniency or tolerance in the way that they responded both before and after the garden experience, because in truth, we probably know that we would have demonstrated something of the same reaction, hiding or secluding ourselves, because we all have demonstrated the spirit of self-preservation at one time or another. You know, the Jewish hierarchy had a taste for blood. They had killed their King, so there was the thought within that level of authority, "Let's get the rest of them. Let's eradicate it. Let's stamp it out while we have the upper hand." So the disciples were hiding, cowering and sneaking around, as it were, in the dark. At least, I think it was in the dark. They might have had some lights on in the room, but the shades were closed, the windows were barred and the door was locked. Whatever it was, I believe that it is an allegory of what is going on within the church in this hour. If this is a living book, then that condition that was prevailing in the church then is now within the ranks of the sons of God movement. Had they not been told that they were kings and priests? Had they not been told that they were the elect of God? Had they not been ministered to in that respect? I mean, you go through the teachings of Jesus Christ with His disciples and ask yourself: is this not what I am aspiring to be, is this not the Word that I am following?

Let me put it to you this way. "It is not given to you to stumble around in the dark. It is given to you to know. Those out in the world are those that are ignorant. They are hard of hearing and cannot see but it is not to be so with you. To you has been given the ability to perceive and to understand (Matthew 13:13). Now, if you were sitting in the environment that they were sitting in, wouldn't you think that's pretty special? "I am pretty special." Well, because of a revelation and knowledge that we have, there is something of an attitude within the church today that is similar to the church then. I don't believe we really understand the ramifications of all that we have that could be termed as knowledge and revelation. So, here they are in the dark, quivering and shaking. I believe it is like that with us. Something rises up in our circumstances and begins to menace us and what do we do? We just

rise up in strength, right? Strength and faith? Disappointment comes and we smile, right? Destruction hits and we rejoice, right? Financial dilemmas come and we are happy, right? No, absolutely not. We probably cower. Our reaction is not one that is righteous most of the time, in spite of what we have heard, in spite of what we say that we believe.

Here they are in the situation and all of a sudden, in the midst of the situation, here comes Jesus. Now, this was not the only appearance that He made in the room and demonstrated to them that He was really alive. He had met the disciples on the road to Emmaus (Luke 24:13). This is a man that they knew, right? They met Him and they were at the tomb. They met Him on the road. Now here He was meeting them in the room and yet it really did not do anything for them, did it? I want you to think about it. What is the comparison? What is the parallel? Well, I would ask you what is that knowledge of who and what you are and the place that you are in doing for you? Is it changing you or are you the same today as you were yesterday? Are you still dealing with the same issues that you dealt with yesterday and if you are, why are you doing it? Why did they do what they did? Do you know what the disciples did after all of those magnificent miracles and appearances and those demonstrations that He had been resurrected? Do you know what they did? They went fishing. Of course, you probably would have done different, wouldn't you? You probably would have risen up in strength and power and gone out and begun to prophesy, to proclaim and preach that Christ was risen, that He was walking and talking and that you had met Him just the day before. Isn't that what you would do? Probably not, because that is not what the church is doing today. Most of the church is out there fishing.

I appreciate the children's word today because it is really apropos to the place that we are in. We have not yet overcome the word of the devil that was prophesied to the woman in the very beginning. The word was *ye shall be as gods* (Genesis 3:5). The first thing the devil did was call God a liar. That was the first thing he did. The first thing that the devil wants to convince you of is that God is a liar and that what you believe, you don't really believe because it is really not true.

Oh yes. When we get sick we say, "Where are You, God? Why am I sick?" And your sickness goes on and on and on and on. Your faith gets smaller and smaller and you end up in a situation without God, without faith and sometimes in a place of hopeless-

ness and not understanding the reality of the kingdom that is within you. Not that it can heal you from being sick, but it can give you the strength to bear your sickness with faith and power. Now, as to whether God wants to heal me or not, that is God's business. But what I do with my sickness to glorify God is my business. That is something that is a credit to me with regard to my relationship with Him.

So, the devil comes in the very beginning, in the VERY beginning and the first thing he does is call God a liar (Genesis 3:1). I can guarantee you that no matter what your circumstances are, the first thing that you are going to do is begin to doubt God and the reality of God to do for you what needs to be done. Especially if He does not do it in the time frame that you think that He should do it if He does it at all. That is kind of self-centered, isn't it? Because most of our disappointment arises when God does not perform as we think He should. He doesn't give me what I need. He doesn't meet my financial position. He doesn't give me my position of emotional security. He doesn't bring to me a confidence or a comfort with regard to whatever it is that I am involved in. Because I, I, I want something other than what I am presently enjoying, whether it be prosperity or poverty. I don't mean that in the sense of just money, because prosperity and poverty can be mental. It can be emotional. It can be in the realm of the soul as well as in the natural. However you want to figure it. Why? The devil came in the very beginning and he has been coming to the church ever since.

Now, the fact is, my relationship is dependent upon what I know or believe to be the desire of God. First of all, I have to really want to know God. Most of the church does not really want to know God. It really doesn't, because God interferes with all of your plans. He really does, because most of your plans have nothing to do with God. They really don't. Most of our

plans have something to do with us and the position we are in. Why? Not because you are such a bad person. No, no, no. It has nothing to do with you being a bad person. It has to do with the sin that has overshadowed the world and the word that has been spoken into the midst of humanity to create humanity in a certain fashion and a certain way, that humanity would have a manifestation of a different nature and not God's.

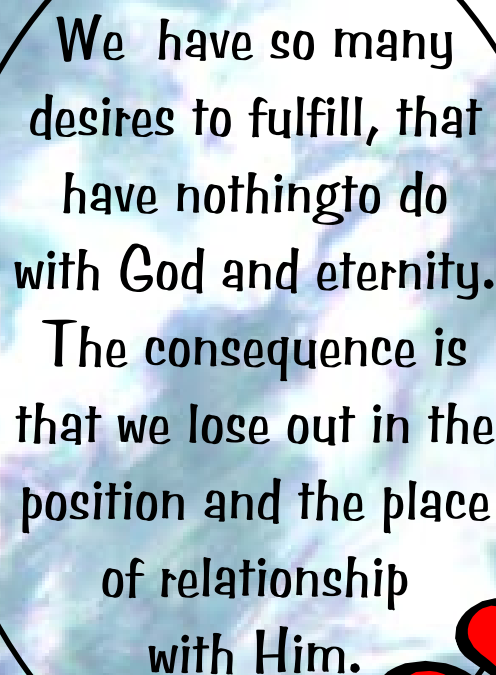
Now, the devil did that because he wanted to turn God's business upside down. There is something the devil knows better than we do and that is the desire that God has for us. We really do not understand the desire that God has for us as individuals.

We do not understand the love that God has for us because it is beyond our comprehension and the devil knows that if he can get between us and God, he has hurt God immeasurably. That is the victory and the place of warfare between the devil and the people that are living in the world.

Jesus prophesied during the time when He was walking with the disciples. He told the disciples in John 17, "They are in the world, yet they are not of the world." Jesus was prophesying about a position that they would come to, but at that point in time, the world was in their hearts. The world was in their hearts as was demonstrated by their actions later on.

I do not know that I can really convey to you the thoughts that have been working so strongly in my soul concerning the relationship that God desires to have with us individually, personally, as well as collectively. I don't think there are words in my vocabulary to speak them, quite frankly.

But the fact is that the love He has for us is so immense and so gratuitous, what we do with it is totally absurd because we are not cognizant or conscious of the overriding passion that is within Him for us. We are not conscious of it because we are so "me" oriented. We are so mesmerized by our own reflection that we have difficulty understanding or comprehend-



We have so many desires to fulfill, that have nothing to do with God and eternity. The consequence is that we lose out in the position and the place of relationship with Him.

ing a God outside of ourselves. We don't have time to serve God! We have so many other things going on and so many issues that are always popping up. We have so many DESIRES to fulfill that have NOTHING to do with God. They have NOTHING to do with eternity and the CONSEQUENCE is that we lose out in the relationship with Him. The bad thing about it is the pain and the hurt that is in the heart of God. It is not vindictive. It is not revengeful. It is a sadness that is beyond the ability for man to communicate when we go about doing things that are temporal, that have nothing to do with Him or bringing forth a reality of Him within us. He knows the only thing that is of any value to you as an individual, that will fulfill you and bring you to this place of excellency, is a manifestation of Him in you. It is not so much that He wants to do it for Himself - His love is not like that. His love wants to exalt you above Him! Can you imagine a Being with such a great capacity and love and determination that He would want you to be up here above Him?

How pitiful. How pitiful is our understanding. How pitiful is our reaction. Someone may step on our toes, push us around, do something that we don't want them to do. Perhaps there is something more important for us to do than serve a loving God, or get into a relationship with Him. We are so busy doing other things that have nothing to do with God. You can be busy in God. God has so much business to do that you could be busy from now till the time that the kingdom comes and never get done with what God wants to do. But we are busy doing other things. We are busy doing other things.

Oh yes, and we can spiritualize it. We can religious-ize it and make it seem appropriate, but I have got news for you. If it isn't under the scope, if it isn't under the order that God has set down in the Book, then what we are doing is foolishness and it doesn't bring any lasting results or fulfill the heart of God and His love for us. God so loved the world that He gave (John 3:16). He gave. He gave and He gave and He is giving, giving, giving, giving and we don't have time. We don't have time. We walk over here doing this. We walk over here doing that. We don't have time to do the business of God. I don't understand His tolerance, His mercy, His position of forgiveness in the aspect of what we do and do and do and do again and all that time nothing of what we are doing is accomplishing what it is that He wants done.

"Hath God said? God knows that you won't die"

(Genesis 3:1,3). Die they did. It didn't make any difference what the devil said. Didn't make any difference what the devil promised. Die they did. He said, "ye shall be as gods" (Genesis 3:5). "You are going to be the center of the universe. There is nothing outside of you that really matters. You are to be equal with God." Yes, there is part truth in that regarding the equality that God gives us. We want God to be preeminent. We are willing to sacrifice our position of lesser value. Not starting out trying to save or facilitate our over-inflated sense of self worth.

It is a little like the housing market. They are building these houses and they just go up and up and up. Finally they hit a positional plateau and people find out that they paid \$500,000 for a new house that is now worth \$325,000 and tomorrow it could be worth \$225,000. That is kind of an over inflated estimate, don't you think, and one of loss?

The problem is that we are no different in our relationship with God. We have so many other priorities. Jesus reiterated this when they came to Him in Matthew 22:35. He was walking there in the midst of their day and a lawyer came and tempted Him, saying, "We know that you come from God." A little flattery there. "Which is the first and great commandment?" I don't know what they expected Him to say but He said, "The first and foremost and absolutely essential commandment is that you love God" (Matthew 22:37).

You know something? I am finding out that I am incapable of loving anybody. I am incapable of loving anybody because you are so absolutely, totally unlovable. That is why God says that I have to love Him. Of course, you know the shoe fits on this foot also. I know how unlovable I really am and unless you love God, you cannot love me. You can't. There is no way that you can love me because you have to love God in order to love me. I have to love God in order to love you because there is something in you that is in opposition to me.

I have to have a revelation. I have to have an understanding of the word and there has been much word and much revelation that has been poured out upon the church. We must come back to square one and to the simplicity of the gospel. We must begin to examine our position of self motivation as to whether or not it is really self or God that we are in love with.

The first thing you are going to do when you start loving God is to start giving. I am not just talking about your pocketbook. I am talking about your heart, your soul. I am talking about your existence. You are going

to start to give. You may start out like the squeaky man, but you are going to start to give. Most of us squeak when we start to give because the joints are not oiled. It's not "give, give, give." It's "me first and then what I have left." Or, "maybe I'll have a tenth or a twentieth or a fourth or a thirtieth or something on the other end of the spectrum." John 3:16 says that Jesus Christ, because God loves us, gave all that He had to give, and He still gives. The first thing that is going to be demonstrated in the person that loves Him, is a nature that wants to give, give, give! Hallelujah!

One of the first things that Jesus said to the rich young ruler was, "I have a place prepared for you" (Luke 18:18). Oh yes, He did. That is my terminology but that is what He said. He said, "I have a place for you amongst My disciples. I have a place for you, but there is one thing that you have to do in order to obtain that position." Oh, he was a religious person. There was love that he wanted from God and that he had for God. I am not denigrating him in that position of love because there was something in him. He went through the rules. He said, "Love thy father and thy mother," and he said, "I've done all those things." He said, "Do this and that." He said, "I have done those things." He was commended. "Yes, you have done all of these things." But there was what? ***Yet lackest thou one thing*** (Luke 18:22).

I Corinthians 13:3 says ***and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing***. If you give all of your possessions, what does it profit you if you have not love? It is talking about *agape, agape, agape, agape* not *phileo, agape*. It wasn't that this man didn't have *phileo* love, because he did. It was a love and a respect that he had for God and that was bringing forth a level of maturity, a level of excellence. But he wanted to come higher. How many of you are here because there's something you heard that makes you want to be higher? He wanted to be higher so he came to the source. He came to the book. He came to the living Word and the *logos* and the *rhema* all mixed up together. He came asking, inquiring of Him whether or not there was availability for him and Jesus said, "Yes."

It is so much like us; it is so much like this church. It is so much like the word that we have heard. We're no different than in that day or that time with Jesus Christ and His disciples. You've got the Blood of Jesus Christ. You have experienced resurrection in a far greater way than they had the revelation or the understanding to at that time that He appeared to them. They

could not yet have the Holy Ghost because He had not yet ascended (John 20:17)

How many of you have the Holy Ghost? The Holy Ghost is to lead you into all truth (John 16:13). What is all truth? Is it not knowing the Father? What was the word of condemnation to the five foolish? ***I know you not*** (Matthew 25:12). It takes time and energy to know somebody. It takes tribulation and trouble to really know somebody. It takes turbulence, a situation that is uncomfortable and absolutely out of your control to really get to know somebody. Yet sometimes when we get to know each other it does more damage than good because we do not love God. We love ourselves. We pull back or we turn away, sad to say.

I am convinced of one thing. The church is in a place that the church has never been in before. The calling and election and the selection that is going on is determined by the response of the individual in their position of loving God. It is not going to be on how much you know. It is not going to be on how much you have done. It is not going to be on how much money you have invested in the kingdom of God. It is going to be on the basis of how much you loved God when you did what you did. And how much you loved God because you did it and it didn't turn out the way you thought it should go. You know, loving you and doing something for you requires from your to me. And if you respond in a manner that is adverse and out of sync with what my expectations are, I still have the requirement to love you, and I can love you if I love God. You have to love Him. You have to love God. I can't love my children. I can't love my wife. I can't love my grandchildren. I can't love the church. I can't love the people if I can't love God. I love Him. I have to love Him and love Him and love Him. Not questioning. Not "why-ing" Him to death but loving Him and knowing that He loves me in the relationship that I have with Him. There is something that will come back to me in that relationship that builds something inside of me that is eternal and qualifies me for the position that He has for me.

You know, James is a hard book. James is a very hard book for me. James is not a book that is written to the heathen. James is a book that is written to the church. Not only is it written to the church, it is written to the overcomer church. It is written for those who desire to be sons. You know what the desire of the son's heart is? It is to serve the Father. You know, the Lord put me in a very difficult situation concerning my own father. For ten years I had to maintain my

equilibrium in God in that position. Hallelujah! I had to learn how to love my father, an unlovable man. I had to learn how to love him and, in loving him, I had to learn to love God. If I did not love God in a measure that would give me comfort in an unlovable situation, there would have been no way that I could love him. So God put me at my father's disposal for ten years.

Abraham was destined for Canaan but he had to go down to Egypt. When the children of Israel came out of Egypt, they had to wander around in the wilderness for 40 years, yet they were destined for Canaan. Why? Because God wanted to demonstrate His ability to take care of them. Why? Just so He could flaunt the fact that He was a good God and could give them all benefits that He was giving them? Can you imagine? Absolutely not. He wanted them to understand the relationship that a father should have with his son.

There is something about Isaac that is unspoken, but is present in the context of the story. I wish we had an Isaac here to teach us this hidden principle. Can you imagine what it must have been like when he finally came to understand that he had been taken up on the mountain for the purpose of being presented as a sacrifice to the Lord? (Genesis 22). He asked his father, *where is the lamb for a burnt offering?* (Genesis 22:7) not aware that he was indeed the sacrifice. Yet upon finding out, he submitted himself to his father and allowed himself to be bound. We say a lot about Abraham. What about Isaac? My goodness. Can you imagine the training? Can you imagine the fortification of strength that the mother gave to the child? I mean, there is more behind this thing than you think. There was something being produced in Isaac with regard to his relationship with his mother and his relationship to his father. Do you know that the child is under the tutor of a mother until he is thirteen years old? And there was something the mother was producing in that child that was relevant to the position of sacrifice. The Bible says that Sarah revered Abraham and called him Lord (I Peter 3:6) and we see that in her teaching of Isaac and bringing him to a place of submission. I am not saying that she wasn't human. I am not saying that she didn't make mistakes, but there was something in her. There was something in her. There was a revelation, an understanding of the relationship she had with her husband and there was something about it that she was ministering to her child that built within him a character of trust and obedience and love. So there they go marching off to the hill. I suppose they could have said, "God, this is too much. This

is too big." I suppose Isaac could have said, "God, You don't really expect me to commit to this." We are not told any of that because there isn't any of that. Abraham did not have to wrestle Isaac down. You know what it would be for me to wrestle my sons down? Forget it. We passed that point a long time ago. Isaac was a young man. He was strong, in the vigor of his youth. He was packing the wood up the hill. I don't know what they had to traverse to get up there, but by the time he got up there, I don't believe that he was worn out that he could no longer fight. What do you think he did when his father said, "Cross your arms and let me begin to bind you"? Do you think he squirmed and wrestled and fought and said, "No, no, no"? No, no, no. That wasn't it at all. There was submission in his heart because he loved his father. There was something in him that had been instilled. There was a character of God that had been created within him that made him the right subject.

Do you understand what I am saying? The sacrifice had to be without spot. It had to be without blemish. Am I taking things out of context? The man was examined. Do you know that for three days the priest would examine the lamb? They would examine the lamb from top to bottom to make sure that there was no spot, no blemish. Do you think that that was all thrown out the window? Where do you think that rule came from? It came from the place, the position, the lifestyle that Isaac had led and the position of obedience that he was subjected to. Not because he had to but because he loved his father. He loved him. And when his dad said, "Put out your arms," out they went and the rope went around. Maybe it hadn't yet dawned on Isaac what was going on, but I tell you what, when he was lifted up by his father and put upon the altar, he knew beyond a shadow of a doubt what was going to happen. I wonder where the child protection people were? Well, the Holy Ghost was there and God was there because it was God's business. An acceptable lamb. He was found to be an acceptable offering. Isaac was found to be an acceptable offering. And the acceptance of that offering was demonstrated in the restraint that God restrained Abraham with as he was plunging the knife. Why? Why did Abraham do it? He did it because he loved God. He was crazy, wasn't he? He was crazy with the love of God. Crazy.

How much more expectation is there with regard to God in us? How much more is there a position, a desire that is in the heart of God with regard to us? God is not vindictive. God is not someone that has

malice or hate or revenge in His heart. All He wants is to see you and me excel to a certain position and He already knows that many of us aren't going to make it. Praise God.

I want to know Him. Paul says if you want to know Him then you have to know the fellowship of His sufferings (Philippians 3:10). I can't suffer if I am first. I won't suffer if I am first. I am going to be doing everything I possibly can to hold on to what is mine. You know, some of us have certain reservations. We say, "Oh God, I will serve You. I will do this and this and this. But don't do that. I'll go all this way but let me have this." And you know, God is so gracious and so good that He knows that having that will not necessarily eliminate your position of eternity and He will give it to you, but it is to your own detriment.

Hezekiah was a fool that wanted to live more than he wanted to die. He wanted something more than he wanted God. He wanted something that God could give him. He didn't want to know the reality of who God was. I suppose you could excuse him for his position of ignorance because of where he was born and the time frame he was born in. But there have been many men born under that same set of circumstances who were willing to die and not live.

Paul said it this way. He called the church "fools." He said, **Thou fool, that which thou sowest is not quickened, except it die:** ³⁷**And that which thou sowest, thou sowest not that body that shall be, but bare grain, it may chance of wheat, or of some other grain** (I Corinthians 15:36-37). Paul said that anyone that did not understand this principle was a fool.

There is one thing I have thought and it is that there are echelons of authority in God. I am convinced of it. In His love, He has delegated, made realms of glory and there are glories that go above the glory of the realm that is below it. Paul states that we can be changed from glory to glory (II Corinthians 3:18). It is all called heaven. Paul said that he was *caught up to the third heaven* (II Corinthians 12:2). If I want to be in the highest realm, if I want to be in that place of authority,

then I must be willing to die.

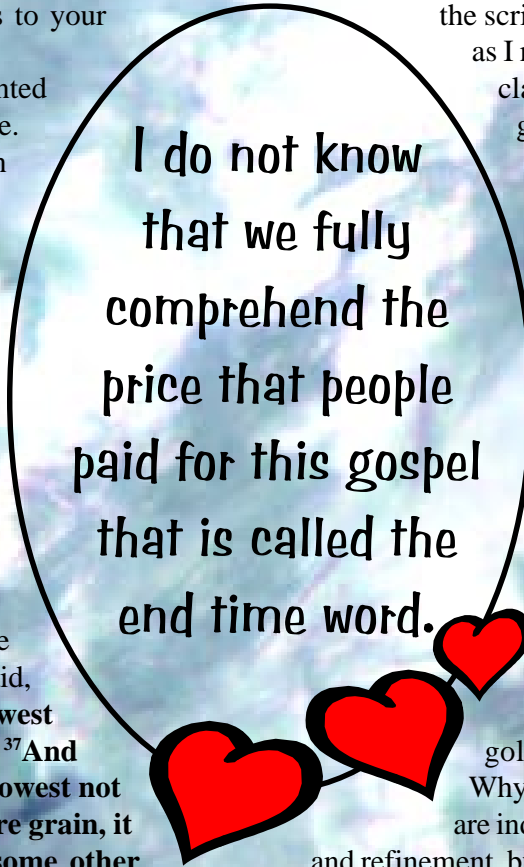
You know, I like James and John. I really do. Because I think, not only were they just natural people, but there was a spiritual desire that they had and there was also something within their mother. Do you understand? There is a spirit of a mother that is in the church, or should be in the church, that desires the sons of the church to rise up and take that place of excellence that God is offering.

I know that there is gold. I know that there is silver. I know that there is brass. I know that there is iron, and I know that there is clay. All of them denote a place, a position, a realm, a level of attainment. What is the position? What is the place? How do I know that? Because He uses it again and again in the scripture. I don't want clay. As happy as I might be that I get clay, I don't want clay because I want something that's greater than clay. I don't want iron.

I might be happy with iron in the end time, in the place of being moved in and getting into that place. I might be happy with iron. But iron is not what I want. And you know, it is kind of funny. Iron, clay, all of those things, even brass is a mixture of things put together to make the things that we call clay, iron, brass. It is a mixture. But the only thing in the scripture that it talks about when it talks about the refining processes is silver and gold. Now, I could be happy with silver, but if I am being offered gold, why would I settle for silver? Why would I want silver? Silver or gold are indicative of the process of refinement

and refinement, by definition, will not allow any kind of contaminant within the object that is being refined. There is a necessity for fire! My goodness.

You know, when I want to get warm, I have got to start a fire. I can sit in my kitchen and say that I want to be warm. "I want to be warm, I want to be warm, I am getting warmer, warmer, warmer," but the fact is that unless I get up and go into the other room and turn up the thermostat that starts the fire that brings the warmth, I am going to remain cold. That's why the church needs tribulation. That's why the church needs to be in a place of fire. Hallelujah.



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end time word.

Go back into the Word and tell me which saints of God that ever excelled to a position of excellence in God, that God put His stamp of approval on, that were without fire. I do not know that we fully comprehend the price that people paid for this gospel that is called the end time word.

You know, Moses paid a price. Let me tell you, he paid a big whopping price. We have no comprehension of who he was, what he was and what he had in the very beginning until God began to invade his life. If you don't think that God didn't strip him of everything, go back and read the account. He stripped him of everything - his pride, his arrogance, his position of expertise. He thought that when he should be right, he was always wrong, until the day Moses got reduced to such a position that God could talk to him. Can you imagine his position of arrogance? What must it have been like tending sheep after being in the household of pharaoh? I don't know that we can really comprehend sleeping in a bed with sheets that are made of silk, servants running around dressing you and waiting to indulge your every whim. When the authority walked down through the street, the people had to bow. Yet God created a set of circumstances that Moses had to run for his life because there was something in his heart that he did not understand. I do not understand what it was, but God saved him.

I did not understand or comprehend the magnitude of God when He touched my heart with the Blood. All I knew is that I had a desire to be different. I wanted something to change as far as my environment was concerned.

Moses had no idea what it meant when he met God. All he knew was that there was something going on that was in opposition to his soul after the encounter. And that is not the half of it. It doesn't say that he came out with anything. I don't know. I think he could have been like a vagabond wandering around with all these people who did not want to be governed by him and it wasn't until the foot hit the bank of the far shore and the enemy had been swept over that they rose up to rebel. Can you imagine that? How long was it after their salvation? Yet how many times do you now find yourself in a place of rebellion, resisting the move of God, resisting the word of God, resisting the people of God? How many times do you rise up and say, "We shall not have this man rule over us," and we go out and make affiliations with the world. Why? Because we don't love God. The fact is that we don't know God well enough to love Him. We don't spend enough

time with Him. We don't relate to Him. We don't begin to inquire of Him in the things that pertain to life and liberty. In the spirit, we want to go fishing.

They saw an apparition come into the room and He said, "I am not a spirit. Touch Me. Put your fingers in the holes of My hand. Put your fingers, Thomas, here in My side. I am not an apparition. I am flesh and bone" (Luke 24:39). Yet it wasn't long before Peter said, ***I go a fishing*** (John 21:3). And they toiled all night and caught nothing.

Do you know what the purpose of the church is? What is the purpose of the moon? Is it not to give light to the earth and, in the time of darkness, in the night season isn't that what the church is supposed to be doing with the world? They toiled and they got nothing. Can you imagine? Then here comes Jesus walking on the shore. They didn't recognize Him. How many times has Jesus walked into your set of circumstances and you didn't recognize Him? Worse than that, maybe you were a little aggravated or irritated. "Children, cast on the other side of the boat." One guy said, "Well, we have been here all night. We have caught nothing. Who are you to tell me to cast on the other side of the boat? Who knows, we might have cast over there and still caught nothing." One of them, the man that loved the Lord, told Peter, "It's the Lord." Can you imagine Peter's consternation? Again, open mouth, insert foot. We are so much like Peter. It was Peter that Jesus singled out. Come on. A Peter church. It was Peter that said, "Let's go fishing." Oh no. He didn't say it that way. He said, "I don't know what the rest of you boys are going to do, but I am going fishing." And everybody fell right in line with Peter. "It's the Lord." It said that the moment they recognized Him, the moment they obeyed, they cast their net down and what happened? It was full and the net was breaking. Peter couldn't wait. Impulsive, brash Peter ripped off his coat and jumped into the water running! I wonder how much of "me-ism" was in him. He wanted to be the first one to Jesus and yet Jesus had to deal with the issue of his heart. How many of us still have an issue of our heart to be dealt with so that we are a vessel acceptable for the Master's use?

I have also been in the book of Joshua, along with the book of James. Recently I've gone into the first, second, third, fourth, and fifth chapters of Joshua because they are chapters that deal with the position of where they were in the time frame of God. I very much believe that it is the position and time frame that you and I find ourselves in. The first requirement on the

other side of Jordan was that they first sanctify themselves. It was self-sanctification and self-examination.

The only thing that self should be doing is examining self in comparison to its relationship God. It's amazing how little I am when I am in the presence of Almighty God.

The promise, the word to them in the beginning, was that they were to sanctify themselves and then when the priest mounted up with the ark to go in and they drove back the waters and came over on the other side, I can just imagine all the position of faith and virility that was moving in the men of war (Joshua 3). "Oh, we are going to stop them. We are going to make mincemeat out of them. We are going to kick them out of our site. We are going to be victorious. Oh, yes we are. Sharpen up your swords. Get out your spear. Let's kill them! Let's make mud out of the enemy! Let's stomp on them! Let's kick them!" God said, "No." He said to Joshua, "Circumcise" (Joshua 5). Why didn't he do it before they crossed to the other side? Why did He wait until they were in enemy territory and then tell them to be circumcised? Because God knew that they were unfit and untrained. When the New Testament refers to circumcision, it is talking about the circumcision of our heart. Our self, our position of preeminence has to be cut away so that we begin to understand or realize the position of His excellence and the desire that He has in Him for us to love Him.

"Peter, do you love Me? **Feed My sheep**" (John 21:16).

"Oh God, You know that I love You. Oh yes. You know that I love You."

I wonder if he was thinking back a few days. It was just a few days prior to this encounter that he had said those same words. "I will never leave You. I will never forsake You. I will die for You" (Matthew 26:35). He couldn't. He wouldn't. He didn't. Why? It was because he didn't love Him.

"Peter, do you love Me more than these?" (John 21:15). "Do you love Me more than this that you are involved in? Do you love Me more than your own life? Do you love Me more than anything else in the whole world?"

"God, You know that I love You." He said, "I *phileo* You."

He said, "No, no, Peter. Do you *agape* Me?" He said, "Peter, I pray for you. The devil has desired to sift you like wheat" (Luke 22:31).

You know, He didn't say that the devil wasn't going to sift him. He said, "When thou cometh through or when thou get to the end, strengthen thy brethren" (Luke 22:32). When you are converted, strengthen. When you are converted, Peter; out of Peter and into Me. When I am the focus, when I am the central position, when I have preeminence, when you *agape* Me, Peter. Comfort. Feed My sheep. Feed My sheep."

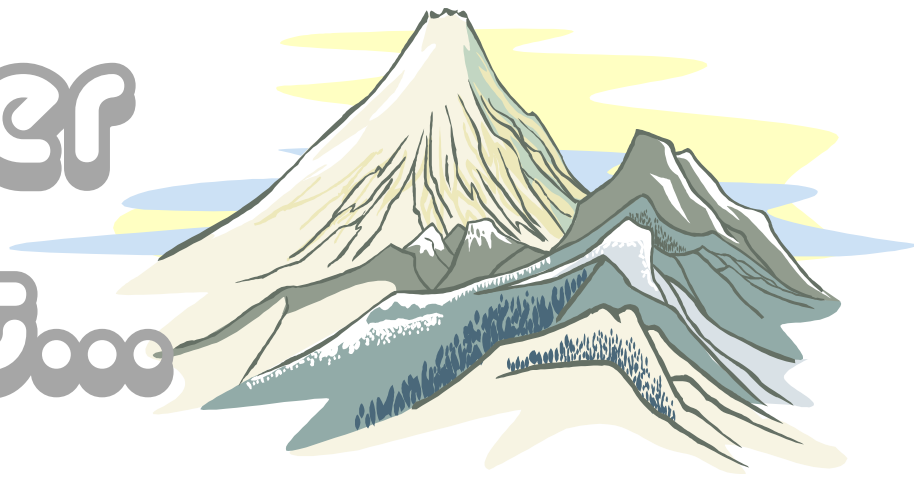
Do you know what He was saying? He broke it. **This is my body** (Matthew 26:26). "This bread is My body that is," what? **Broken**. "Feed My sheep, Peter."

I think there is a need for us to examine our relationship with God. You know, I am working on my relationship. I really am. I am working. I tell you, there was such a time of repentance for me while I was in the Czech Republic. And I am trying. I am trying very hard. It's hard. I am telling you that it is hard. It is hard not to look an irritated and vexed look. It is hard not to say a word that does not need to be spoken. It is hard not to do something that doesn't need to be done. But I am telling you that if I love God and want Him and I want to please Him, I won't look, I won't speak and I won't do what I am not supposed to do. But I have to love Him. I have to love Him. I have to love Him more than I love myself. That is a hard thing to do and if it were not for Christ, it would be impossible. Paul said, "I thank God that I can be delivered from this body of death through His Blood and by His Spirit" (Romans 7:24). Move into a realm that is appropriate and will manifest the likeness of Him whom I love.

You know, I am going to tell you that you are going to manifest it. You are not going to manifest it any other way. If you want to manifest something other than what you are, you have to love something more than yourself. And the only way that you can love something more than your self is if you love God. God bless you.✚



Consider the Ant...



by Dan Waddick

Here is a true story that I heard on the radio the other day. Now, I may not have it verbatim, but you should be able to get the message just the same.

There was a young woman who went out to climb a mountain with her father and a friend. She and her friend decided to climb the mountain by themselves in the morning, and had almost gotten to the top when some of her rigging swung over and hit her in the face. This in turn caused one of her contact lenses to pop out, which really diminished her vision. Once they got to the top, she tried to look around but could not fully see the beautiful view that was laid out before her. So the young woman prayed, "Father, You made all the grass of the fields, You made all the stars in heaven, You even know when a sparrow falls to the ground: please help me find my contact lens."

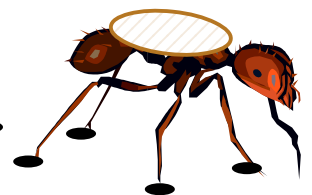
After this, the young woman and her friend decided it was time to climb back down to the base camp where her father was waiting. As they approached the camp, someone asked the

two girls if either one of them had lost a contact lens. Startled, the young woman asked, "Why?" The man replied, "Because as I was starting up the base of the mountain a little bit ago, I saw something glimmering in the sun, so I took a closer look. It was the strangest thing, but I saw this little ant carrying a contact lens along!"

Now the young woman's father was a cartoonist by trade, and when he got back to his office, he drew up a cartoon for his daughter with this little ant carrying a big contact lens along, and the caption said:

"GOD, why are You having me carry this big shiney thing around? It's very heavy, You know, and it doesn't even taste good, but if You want me to, LORD, I will!"

I just thought this was a nice little reminder for us all, that sometimes serving the LORD is really not about us at all. There may not even be one benefit in it for us to reap. We may never understand this side of glory, what in the world this or that has to do with anything of godly use, but at times like that, maybe we can learn a lesson from the little ant that just simply obeyed his Master's voice. 🐜



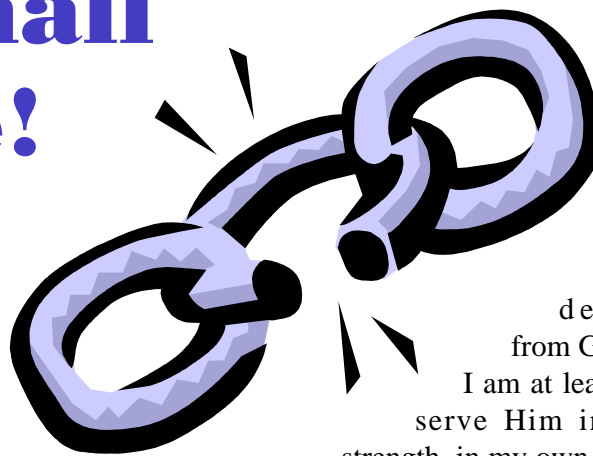
The Truth Shall Set You Free!

by Nathaniel Chattie

I was talking to a brother one day about certain aspects and components of the Christian walk and faith, and there was one thing in particular that struck me in the midst of our conversation. That thought was brought forth when our talk turned to the issue of perspective and truth. Concerning perspective, we got on the subject of what causes an individual to think a certain way about a certain person, place, thing or idea, based on a specific circumstance that that individual came out of. From there, the tendency to form individual truths or generalizations is there, and with that comes potential danger for moving in something other than the will of God. I am saying all of this to set up a statement that my brother made concerning the issue of what is true. He shared that despite what we may consider as true to us, based on our own perspective or set of circumstances that we are in or had in the past, we must know and compare what we think is true to THE truth in Jesus Christ, in all things.

In thinking about what he said that day, it provoked some thoughts on our perception on how to live versus reality in Christ. Or, how many times will I look at a situation or at an individual with my personal set of truths based on my past experiences, instead of looking at it from God's perspective? I can see how many times I have fallen short because I perceived something or someone incorrectly, in turn moving under the auspices of that assumption or presumptuous thought, much to my chagrin! Now I can look back and see how that mentality has led to many misfires, but I am also aware of the necessity to have the vision and mind of Christ ever-working and directing my every move, my every thought, action, or verbal communication.

So, what is it that causes us to be so quick to follow after an idea or a truth that is based on our personal perspective rather than go to God and find out what He has to say about a particular person or circumstance? Well, I believe our flesh has a lot to do with it. God said that His ways are not like our ways, and His thoughts are not like our thoughts (Isaiah 55:8-9). The Word also states that the carnal mind is enmity against the Lord (Romans 8:7). So, despite every good intention that I have to serve God, and despite my personal opinion that I may carry concerning my goodness, or how I should not receive too much, if



any, condemnation from God because I am at least trying to serve Him in my own strength, in my own accord, our flesh will fail us every time. And to our flesh, that is very frustrating! Why? Because before we are aware of there being anything or way different other than Christ, we were living in a perpetual state of carnality, where the carnal mind (under the hand of the devil) had dominion and authority on everything. After being under the law of sin, and coming from a state where there was major compatibility with Satan, there must come a certain amount of strength in resisting those former fleshly tendencies once Christ comes into your life. And if you are somewhat perplexed or struggling with identifying certain causes or sources of problems or character traits that are not of God, you have an advocate with the Father. Go forth to Him with your issue, and He will be faithful to show you what the problem is, as well as give you a solution.

The problem is that, coupled with our flesh, there is a certain amount of comfort that enters in, especially when it comes to making certain decisions based on certain truths or assessments we have made because it is most comfortable for us to deal with. I think we are seeing and experiencing the Lord moving us out of our "comfort zones," placing us in situations that are less and less conducive to our flesh or old man, in order for His nature to continue to be refined and shaped in us, to form us into the new man. And with the warfare in the spiritual arena constantly intensifying in strength, we absolutely need to be aware of the need to continually die to our flesh, relinquish our place of personal comfort, and find the truth in Christ instead of following after personal truths or traditions.

Now, as I am writing this, I do not want to give anyone the wrong impression, or unintentionally offend anyone reading this concerning the issue of personal truths versus the Truth (God). I understand that each of us comes from a different background, environment, and has come to certain understandings concerning how things work, how to behave both in an individual and collective setting, and so forth. I understand that my set of circumstances and how I grew up differ from others that I know. However, the potential danger is putting all of your faith into certain truths

based on self-made assumptions or generalizations that we have about something or someone, instead of going to God with the information that you have received and checking with the source of genuine truth.

That is why it is so important to have the Holy Ghost, to receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit. The Word tells us that the Holy Spirit will lead us into all truth (John 16:13). Now, without His Spirit to lead and direct us, it is essentially equivalent to being a ship floating atop of the ocean without a captain to steer it into its intended direction. This is one of the defining differences between following after our personal set of truths and heeding to the truth that comes from the Lord, and from His Word. In following after what we believe or perceive to be right, functioning under that lower realm of law, or under our carnal mind, there is nothing that is everlasting in quality about it. There is nothing of a real substance that is imparted to you that is eternal.

On the contrary, we can create a bevy of temporary solutions to problems, “quick fixes” to things that for the moment seem to be in total control, as far as our flesh perceives it to be. But again, we run into a problem, because what works for you may not be necessarily what works for me, and vice versa. Your truth may not be in alignment with mine considering how I approach you, or a particular situation. So what could potentially happen if something that you believe to be right does not fall in line with what I believe to be right? I think division can easily enter in and wreak havoc if we are not careful.

Consider this scenario: three people are walking along on a street block, and they each come to a place where they have to stop at one intersection. While they are waiting for the vehicles to pass, a driver that has been waiting to make his turn decides to go, unaware that another car is coming on one side of him, and as he goes out to turn, CRASH, immediate impact is made between the two cars. Now, all three people have witnessed this accident take place. However, all three of them are on different sides of the block, and because of that, each one has a piece of the entire puzzle that they relay to an officer that arrives at the scene. Think about it. Each of them saw the same absolute truth in the form of a car accident, but they each had a different perspective of what they saw, because they were looking at the scene from different points of view. We can each view God’s absolute truth in multiple ways depending on our perspective, on our point of view, or where we are spiritually. But there needs to be discernment exercised in our assessments. Just because we see something or someone in a particular light does not necessarily mean that is the end all, be all of the matter. We need to be able to look at things from the perspective of God, to have eyes to see like He sees, to speak in accordance to what He gives us to say, and so on, in each and every thing we put

our hand to, or are involved with.

Christ said that He would send the Comforter, or the Holy Ghost, to us in order to bring all of His words and teachings back to our remembrance (John 14:26) and to testify of Him (John 15:26). Let us look at that latter passage of scripture. John 15:26, ***But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me:*** It appears that the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, is being described here as the ***Spirit of truth***. We understand that the Holy Ghost is also to lead us into all truth. Proverbs tells us that we are to buy the truth, and to hold on to it (Proverbs 23:23). So then what is the truth? Pilate asked the same question, too. John 18:37-38, ***Pilate therefore said unto him, Art thou a king then? Jesus answered, Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice.***³⁸ ***Pilate saith unto him, What is truth? And when he had said this, he went out again unto the Jews, and saith unto them, I find in him no fault at all.*** Take a look at what Christ said here. ***To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice.*** Let us go back to John 14, for I think it will describe to us clearly what this truth represents. Jesus is talking to His disciples here, and in verse 5, He is posed with a question. ***Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way? Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.*** So then, what is the truth? Christ represents the truth, He said it Himself. ***I am the way, the truth, and the life:***

Now if Christ represents the truth, how is it that we can come into a place of receiving the truth for ourselves, so we are not governed solely by our own set of truths any longer? We need to receive Christ. He said ***no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.*** He said ***for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice.*** That tells me that if I have not received THE truth, which is Christ, for myself, I will not be able to recognize the truth when it is presented to me, when it is right there in front of me, beckoning for me to listen and respond. I am not able to hear His voice if I do not recognize it, and for that recognition of Christ moving in my life and speaking to me and instructing me, I need to receive Him. But it takes more than just asking Christ to enter into our hearts.

Going back to Proverbs 23:23, that verse is describing a cost that is being paid in order to obtain the truth. I believe that this is the place where the church has lost some of the vision, in understanding that there is a reciprocal



cost that we must pay when we receive Christ as our Lord and Savior. But you have to be willing to pay the price, and that price is your soul, all that is of you, down to those truths that we had obtained from our own experiences. They must be relinquished in order for Christ to lead us into all truth, His truth. If we continue to hold onto our personal way of thinking because it has “worked” for us, or we are more comfortable in moving in our own



accord as opposed to hearkening to the voice of God, then we are digging a deeper hole for ourselves to climb out of. Christ told us, and continues to reveal to us, that He is THE way, and THE truth. If we heed to His direction, and not exchange what He has given us for something of our humanity or that is in the world that is of lesser value, we will receive more of THE life that is in God.

In order to enter in to that fullness of the truth and reality that is God, we need to receive Christ in our hearts. But to stop there would be to our own hurt, for there is a maturation process that God wants us to go through in order that we would obtain a greater awareness of what He wants to accomplish in us, and that we would obtain the power to do that. That is why we cannot diminish the function of baptism, both of the water and of the Holy Ghost. These are further declarations that are working more than just on the natural level of our understanding. We are covenanting with God, and expressing our desire to be led fully into that place where we ought to be in Him, fully immersed and functioning in Him. When we receive the Holy Ghost, we are receiving the Comforter, the Spirit of Christ, who represents the truth. In order to move into that place where we can and need to be in God, we must be willing to pay the price in order to obtain more of the truth in Christ. Your price may be different from mine, but the intent for God to fully possess our soul is the end goal for each of us. There in lies the question, how much of the truth do we want? And if we want it, to what degree will we be willing to pay for it in order to receive more of it?

John 14:16, And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; ¹⁷Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. ¹⁸I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you. God has not left us without a means to grow and mature in Him. But in order to come into the fullness of His intent for us, we need to continually go before Him and ask Him to help us put away the old man and his deeds. We need to understand that the battle we are fighting is a spiritual battle, and we need to retain the stamina in the spirit to endure

and resist the enemy. We need to have the Spirit of truth leading and directing our every action, thought, and step in this hour. If we are willing to be led, to hear the voice of God, and to obey His instruction, He will surely point us in the right direction, speak to us, and give us those keys to help us on our walk. God bless you.✚



Keeping In Touch Bulletin

Living Word Omega Message

PO Box 409
 Mahomet IL 61853
 2272 County Road 350 E
 Directions: Take Hwy 47 North from Mahomet. We are the first right after Briar Cliff Subdivision.

All Are Welcome!

Meeting Schedule

Sunday Morning
 10:00am Fellowship

Wednesday Evening
 7:30pm Bible Study