

SEEC Magazine

A PROPHETIC PERSPECTIVE

Volume 17

Issue 4

August/September 2013

**Extra Feature:
Book Excerpts**

The Corporate Anointing
Jim Hodges

Wait For It
Kathy Gabler

True And
False Apostles
Jim Becton

What We Have
Been Given
Marty Gabler

Forces That Motivate
Dr. Elwyn Lewis

Get Me Outta Here!
Melissa Gabler

**STRENGTHEN
ENCOURAGE
EQUIP
CHURCH**

MINISTRIES

1Co 14:3; Eph 4:12

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ON THE COVER:

Hab 2:14 For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of Jehovah, as the waters cover the sea.



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SEEC Magazine is published by SEEC Ministries International. SEEC stands for Strengthen, Encourage, Equip Church Ministries according to 1Co 14:3 and Eph 4:12 as taken from the New International Version. This is our mission statement and SEEC Ministries International is attempting to accomplish that mission through ministry in local churches, around the globe, in conferences, seminars, through publishing, audio and video. For a catalog listing of the CDs and books available by Marty and Kathy Gabler, send us an e-mail at: mail@seecministries.org or write us at our PO Box.

SEEC Magazine is a bi-monthly publication. It is for the purpose of presenting teaching on the subjects of the Kingdom of God, prophecy, five-fold ministry, dreams and visions, and intercession. Though each of these subjects may not be covered in each issue, they will be covered through the course of the year's publications.

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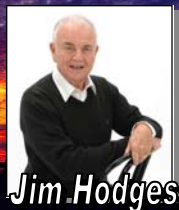
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Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness.

*

Thank you for sowing into SEEC Ministries International.

The Corporate Anointing



Jim Hodges

I want to deal with the ministries that are to flow forth from our worship and our intercession. The last book of the Bible, The Revelation, is not just prophetic unfoldings, the book is primarily about worship in the heavenlies and the result in earth because of what is going on in that worship. Heaven does govern earth, despite challenges and darkness in this hour. The Body of Christ has to tap into the realities at the throne-zone where there's no spin, the throne-zone where we get reality and then minister out of an alignment here on earth as those that say "Amen," to Father's will to bring the Kingdom increasingly in history. The Kingdom comes as we align our worship and intercession with what is going on there.

Rev 4:5, Out from the throne come flashes of lightning and sounds and peals of thunder. And there were seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God; The lamps of fire speak to us about the "seven-ness" of God. The Bible is filled with sevens with over 650 references to that number. Over forty of those are in the book of Revelation. One thing seven represents is the seven Spirits of God from Isaiah 11:2. Another fact is that the Bible is arranged in a seven-fold pattern, the sabbatical pattern. God made the world in six days and rested the seventh. God is into His people becoming a corporate entity in the earth that facili-

tates the execution of His will here as He decrees it in the heavenlies. We stand before the Lord as individual priests, but we also stand before Him as a corporate priesthood.

The challenge of the church is to get corporate. We live in a culture that focuses on individuality, and even though God loves us uniquely for who we are, this is about Him in the midst of us—that is beyond you and me. The church does not get encouraged by naval-gazing. Worship services cannot be all about “me”. The delay of seeing God’s will done in the earth is because we have not become corporate as we need to be. When we see the Jewish menorah and the seven flames from the front, it is seven individual flames yet, turn it 90 degrees, and we see one flame. That is a lovely picture of individuality and corporeality. The church has to get anointed corporately to release corporate ministries that really drive back darkness and usher in God’s kingdom increasingly in this hour.

Modern culture sadly has crept into the church and there is more emphasis on you and me than upon our being

The church has to release corporate ministries that usher in God’s kingdom increasingly in this hour.

together in God’s purpose. Some churches grow by focusing on just getting individuals blessed and that is not wrong, but it is incomplete. The focus is too much on getting blessed individually instead of becoming an

equipped people that release a corporate force to advance the cause of Christ in the culture. The concept of transformation is beyond yours and mine. It is about societal and cultural transformation. King Jesus rules over it all. We have to embrace His agenda of being Lord over all by becoming corporate as one body. We are dependent upon Him and we are interdependent upon each other. All may not come along up front, (God usually takes a remnant first) but all with the Light of Christ merging and joining have a forcible effect in the earth. One chasing a thousand and two chasing ten thousand shows exponential increase in the power of agreement.

Genesis and Revelation, the end books of the Bible are arranged sabbatically and the language is similar. There is a tree of life both in Genesis and Revelation. The tree of life in Revelation in the latter half of the book has healed the nations. Through this, God is showing us that what was lost through the fall of the first Adam was restored through the rising of the Second Adam, Christ. In fact, there is a more glorious restoration of His Kingdom at the end than at the beginning. God does not just restore Eden, which was perfect but undeveloped. Revelation talks about a full-blown, Kingdomized civilization of God manifest in the earth. And

the New Jerusalem, the heavenly city is increasingly coming here. As it comes, we take hope that this world will not be the same. The world begins in history in a garden with a tree and it ends with a garden-like civilization where the tree of life has healed the nations, and the nations won't need healing in heaven. They need healing here. They need to be disciplined here. Every nation needs to come up to the house of God (Isa.2) and learn of His ways.

I want to focus on the seven 7's in the Revelation:

1) The seven churches are called the seven lamp stands (1:4).

These were literal churches in Asia Minor that John addresses while exiled on Patmos. The church referred to as a lamp stand means a place on earth that received heavenly light. A lamp stand does not give off light except that it receives it. Christ, our light and life, lights those lamp stands, so that would indicate that local churches were receiving divine revelation. We live by every word that proceeds out of God's mouth, meaning we must hear what the Spirit is saying, present tense. God is still talking. Scripture is finalized, the canon is complete, but God did not lose His voice after the first century. He is an ongoing communicator. His name is Word.

2) The Seven Spirits of God, the seven-fold measure anointing prophesied about Messiah Jesus, Isa 11:2, *The Spirit of the LORD [1] will rest on Him, The spirit of wisdom [2] and understanding*

[3], The spirit of counsel [4] and strength [5], The spirit of knowledge [6] and the fear of the LORD [7]. In God's triune-ness, there is a seven-ness to the Spirit. This is not seven persons, but seven dimensions to the one Holy Ghost that is upon Messiah Jesus without measure. This seven-fold Spirit of God gives us a framework for presenting these corporate ministries that God wants to release through you and me as the Body of Christ to accomplish His mission in the earth.

**The church is
the gathering of
God's embassy.**

3) The seven stars of the churches refer cosmologically to angels.

Every church has an angel for a leader, a human angel. The word is messenger, *angelos*, and can mean human or divine messenger. Stars speak of governments. When Joseph saw the sun, moon and stars bow before him, that was a picture Joseph was being elevated in government beside the Pharaoh. The Bible uses cosmological language to speak of covenantal truths and government. Paul goes on to say that you and I are stars shining in this world. The Body of Christ does not need superstars, just everybody to be a star because our light is needed. The star here is the governmental leader, the visionary leader of the local house or a voice in a region

that gives expression to God's government. The church is more than a gathering for saints. The church is more than a worship and teaching service. The church is the gathering of God's embassy. That is ecclesia, called to govern on His behalf, an awesome responsibility. Therefore, we see seven stars speak of the Lord's government flowing through the church. Jesus is the Morning Star. It's the light from that star that precedes the sun coming up. This is all building a context to be launched as the most effective corporate ministry we have ever seen. I know the earth is waiting for it because there are still so many things not aligned with heaven and the Kingdom of God. The answer is our taking our place to be what God has called us to be.

4) The seven seals (5:1 & 6:1) are like wax seals for documents. The sealed scrolls are opened to release the actions of the Lord God in history to conquer all other kingdoms and, fittingly, Jesus is the first to ride out on a white horse to conquer. He is not just *going* to ride, He is riding right *now*. These seals speak of the King's righteous judgments in history, judgments that vindicate you and me as servants and release vengeance upon His enemies.

JESUS is not just *going* to ride, He is riding right *now*.

5) The seven angels (8:2) who are given seven trumpets. Their ministry is preceded by another angel. I believe that angel is the Lord Jesus Christ serving at the heavenly altar because it is He who adds incense to the prayers of the saints both in heaven and on earth. In the Old Covenant, the priest offered incense. In the heavenlies, Christ is our High Priest, intercessor. He is mixing the incense with the prayers that we pray and the prayers of saints praying in the heavenlies. In Revelation, the angel speaks to John and says he is a fellow servant to John and the prophets. Angels work with the five fold ministry. Angels guard us individually but they have other ministry. They ministered to Jesus through His whole ministry. Angels and prophets are trumpeters that declare and sound out the moves of God in history. I believe that the true Church in days to come is increasingly going to partner with angels in the unfolding plan of our Lord for His earth. Peter was glad to see an angel when he was locked up. I believe angel activity is going to increase. I believe the church is going to increase in its prophetic trumpet ministry and they will work together. We ain't seen nothin' yet!

6) The seven thunders (10:3). Here an angel (which I believe is the Lord Himself) stands with one foot on the land and one on the sea and utters His voice. The God of glory thunders.

7) The seven bowls or chalices (16:1) holding the wrath of God. The wrath poured out is in the form of plagues. In Egypt, it took ten plagues to defeat ten gods of Egypt. That Exodus story tells us that God has enemies and so do we. These seven chalices are poured out to defeat the demonic structures. In the New Testament, the Lamb of God lifted the chalice of the New Testament as New Covenant blood. As you and I lift the chalice of the New Covenant blood, the Lord is able to tip over the chalices in heaven and release righteous judgment in the earth. When we take the Lord's supper we judge ourselves that we might not be judged with the world. The Lord's supper is not a benign service. It is covenant renewal here that turns over some chalices there and God deals with His enemies.

It is covenant renewal here that turns over some chalices there and God deals with His enemies.

The sevens of the book of Revelation are shouting at us. They are calling us as followers of Christ to come into the corporate anointing to release the seven corporate ministries described in the last book of the Bible. There were many years that I didn't want to read the book of Revelation, even though there is a promise to reading it, because I just got confused. I'm still learning, like everybody, but what opened up to me was the book is more than prophecy. It is a worship and prayer manual for the church. And it is the only place in the pages of the New Testament where you find Tabernacle of David worship expressed. In Acts 15, where James quotes Amos about the restored tabernacle, you don't see that described in the worship of the early church, except fasting. However, in Revelation you see expression of it all going on as we are blended together in a corporate anointing releasing here what the throne is decreeing there. We are individuals but we cannot slide into individualism. That will keep us from properly connecting and weaken us for the cause of Christ in the earth. We are children of God who is a corporation, Father, Son and Holy Ghost, the perfect corporeality.

(Jim Hodges is the founder of the Federation of Ministers and Churches International, a relational, apostolic network of ministers, apostolic teams and local churches across the nation. Having ministered in over 40 nations, Apostle Hodges serves the Body of Christ internationally as a teaching apostle with a passion to see the Body of Christ fully established. Apostle Jim Hodges' new book *WHAT IN THE WORLD IS THE CHURCH TO DO?* This book and other materials may be found at his website: fmci.org or by calling the office 972-283-2262.)



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WAIT FOR IT



Kathy Gabler

"As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives". . . Job 19:25a (NASB)

A redeemer is one who delivers, avenges or ransoms as needed, one who buys back what was lost. Think about all that can be lost to us, like lost opportunities, lost resources, lost potential, lost strength, lost harvest and lost energy (to list a few). Our Redeemer can even buy back time, He said so in Joel 2:25, *And I will restore to you the years (I will make up to you for the years) the swarming locust has eaten, the locust larvae, and the stripping locust, and the cutting locust. . .* This scripture does not only say He can restore the years, it says He will. He will make up for those times that no matter how many bugs you killed, they kept coming. He will restore those years it took to fight and endure the swarming circumstances. He will make up for the months and years that opposition smothered you and circumstances robbed you through changelessness. He will make up for the time it took for circumstances to consistently strip away your strength and hope. He will make up for all those mornings when the sunrise woke up the dread in your soul again and circumstances continued to devour your day and



your future.

The last sentence in Joel 2:25 says, *My great army which I sent among you.* That tells us that God sent the army of locusts, the swarm of circumstance. Did He send them to ultimately rob, kill and destroy His people? No. Interestingly, through those times that it feels like we are helpless and chaos is king, our Redeemer is watching and working behind the scenes and at every intersection. Even during a siege there is a redemptive factor at work and, whether we realize it or not, the conflict is working something out of us and into us. Overcoming a locust season is an opportunity for sons to build muscle and maturity. Coming out with both is a redeeming result of difficulty. Outliving a siege positions us for redemption of our purpose. Matured and muscled, we are then equipped to embrace every opportunity restored, every resource restored, every potential restored, every strength restored, every harvest restored, every energy restored and the years lost in the difficult, building process. Perhaps we could paraphrase Joel 2:25 like this:

I will restore the years swallowed up because you did not realize the significance of MY purpose and destiny in your life. The circumstances were forces that I used to change you, to build character, to build strength, to complete a work within you and to bring about the right timing and conditions for My purpose in you.

Even during a siege there is a redemptive factor at work.

Of course, when you are eating locusts without the honey, pulling crispy, creepy locusts shells out of your hair and swatting them away from your nose, eyes and ears, you wonder if you will be naked and half eaten or even be able to see the Redeemer who is coming. If you dared open your mouth you would ask for His ETA. However, that is the time to let the last line of Job 19:25, echo through you, *And at the last He will take His stand on the earth.* He will have the last word and He will be the last one standing in our behalf. So, let's dare to trust Him to keep our accounts and wait for Him to show up as our Redeemer.

An excerpt from the book Visions, Dreams And Intercession by Kathy Gabler:

We prefer the normal dimensions of the natural world: height, length, width and time because that is where we feel comfortable and in control! The problem is that *preferences and being in control* are not faith. It takes faith to trust Father to speak whenever and however He chooses. It even takes faith afterwards to continue to believe He did! I have often seen people receive a powerful prophetic word, in faith; but the sameness of the following day and then the next, seemed to drain their confidence toward God until they could not even remember the word. We've all known people to get saved and then within days doubt their salvation experience, writing it off to the emotion of the moment. Many times I have heard of people receiving miraculous healings but then heard about their set-back or death months later. I think we would be wise to realize that faith is necessary to receive, but faith is also needed to retain the deposit of God. I believe the expression of faith concerning visions and dreams is to consider them important enough to pursue until we understand them.

FORCES THAT MOTIVATE



Dr. Elwyn Lewis

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, Because He has anointed Me.
Luke 4:18 NKJV

Jesus was quick and direct in declaring the source of His motivation. The source of our motivation determines the life we live and fruit we produce. My question in this article is, What is the source of your motivation in life?

All of us are driven by some motivational force, which controls our life. Jesus began His ministry by being driven (motivated) into the wilderness by the Holy Spirit to be tested and prepared for His life's work (Mark 1:12).

I begin by identifying some basic sources or forces driving the motivation of Christians. First is the force of the human flesh, which works through emotions, the intellect or mind, the will, ambition, desire, fulfillment, and experience. The second force is the influence of the world system: pleasure, competition, ideologies, religion, accomplishment, pursuit of knowledge, recognition, fame, and so on. Demonic strongholds are the third force. There are sixteen of these strongholds listed in the Bible. They include divination, dishonesty, perversion, bondage, fear, and seduction. The fourth force, but not least, is the Spirit of the Lord, which

Jesus committed to in forming the structure of His life and calling.

What a person is driven by will determine his or her destiny. Jesus came to help humankind choose the motivating force that would bring eternal life and fellowship with His heavenly Father, the Creator of the universe. In Christ we witness a complete and fulfilled purpose for life that is driven by the power of the Holy Spirit. All other forces of motivation end in death and judgment. Jesus, as our perfect example, did not allow a mixture with the other forces. Even in the Christian church and body of Christ, there is a mixture of motivating forces.

Many Christians, local church congregations, and denominations are motivated by a mixture of these motivating forces. They may live moral and godly lives, be mature in physical dimensions, and even be born again by grace. But they may not have the power to accomplish kingdom maturity and be recognized by the authority of God in supernatural manifestations of signs, wonders, miracles, and His glory presence.

Some allow the influence of the world to infiltrate their motivation. Others who identify with Christian traditions have opened their motivation to demonic strongholds and not realized it. A strong force working on God's people today is the spirit of Baal, which influenced Israel to walk in the ways of the world, idolatry, and religion.

God is looking for a people who will be totally motivated by His Holy Spirit. Jesus' life is our example, and He was totally motivated by Holy Spirit. It is important we take inventory of our life and identify the forces motivating us. Many Christians are motivated by the human flesh, yet they proclaim dedication to God. They are driven by their emotions, self-centeredness, possessiveness, and ambitions that only recognize their selfish goals and desires. Pleasure, accomplishment, recognition, fame, and popularity motivate the lives of many Christians. Some deny they have strongholds driving them to live with double standards.

God is looking for a people who will be totally motivated by His Holy Spirit.

When a person fully dedicates his or her life to the power of the Holy Spirit, as Jesus did, the Spirit will cause all other motivating forces to be revealed as unimportant to the process of accomplishing a strong, vibrant, fulfilled, and overcoming power-filled life.

The church of Laodicea in Revelation chapter 3 is the example of the church today that is motivated by the forces apart from the presence of the Holy Spirit. Beginning with verse 15, we read the concern Jesus has about this church.

“I know all the things you do [all the things that motivate you], that you are neither hot nor cold. I wish that you were one or the other! But since you are like lukewarm water, neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of my mouth! You say [you judge yourself], I am rich. I have everything I want. I don’t need a thing [in other words, I have all I need to motivate me]! And you don’t realize that you are wretched and miserable and poor and blind and naked. So I advise you to buy gold from me—gold that has been purified by fire [gold here represents the Holy Spirit and the presence of Jesus Christ]. Then you will be rich. Also buy white garments from me so you will not be shamed by your nakedness and ointment for your eyes so you will be able to see. [White garments represent righteousness and holiness and the ability to stand in the presence of God. Ointment represents revelation.] I correct and discipline everyone I love.

So be diligent and turn from your indifference. Look! I stand at the door and knock. If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in, and we will share a meal together as friends. Those who are victorious will sit with Me on My throne, just as I was victorious and sat with my Father on His throne. Anyone with ears to hear must listen to the Spirit and understand what He is saying to the churches.”

The power of God released enables the people of God to bring the kingdom into full blossom and fruit bearing.

These words of Jesus are self-explanatory. They tell us without a doubt what the motivating force of a true born-again believer should be. The people of God in this generation are not motivated by the Holy Spirit to the extent that releases the power of God to enable them to bring the kingdom into full

blossom and fruit bearing.

There is a remnant that reflects this, but this generation of believers need a hunger for God that will make them a glorious church without spot or wrinkle (Ephesians 5:27). Only the manifested presence of the Holy Spirit can produce that kind of motivation. Let’s go back to Luke 4:18, where Jesus declared His source of motivation. “The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me.” That statement gives me a burning desire to jump into the river of the Holy Spirit, flowing with the motivating force of heaven. It turns me on and demands my attention. It gives me every reason to keep moving forward in the joy and hope of my future. It makes all other motivating forces look weak and unnecessary.

There are legitimate results when the motivating force of the human flesh or soul is under the influence of the Holy Spirit. Ambition, desire, emotional response, the will, accomplishment, recognition, fame, and so

on can be constructive for the kingdom of God when driven by the Spirit of the Lord. Jesus said in Matthew 6:33 (NKJV), “But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.”

He is saying in this passage not to worry about the material needs that motivate us in the development of our human living. God, in directing us by His Spirit, will make sure we are provided with everything we need emotionally and mentally for the development of our quest for fulfillment. Seeking to do this apart from the work of the Holy Spirit leads to the motivating control of sinful flesh, the world, and demonic influence.

As we add the next phrase of Christ’s statement in Luke 4:18, we see a completion of what He wanted us to know: “The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me.” The Greek word for anointing as used in this sentence is *chrio*. There are other Greek words in the New Testament that describe anointing in spiritual and material terms. These include the well-known word *charisma*. But *chrio* has a deeper sacred and symbolic meaning. It is only used five times in the New Testament and refers to Jesus Christ each time. The other four references are Acts 4:27, Acts 10:38, Hebrews 1:9, and 2 Corinthians 1:21, in which all believers are tied into His anointing.

That same Spirit rests on us to anoint us (motivate us) for the work of the kingdom.

Chrio anointing carries with it the strong motivational force of the Holy Spirit. The word *chrio* carries with it a meaning that requires a special responsibility, unique unction, uncommon setting apart, a noteworthy recognition, extra approval, and favor. In Acts 13:2, 3, Paul and Barnabas were separated to the Lord with *chrio* kind of anointing to do the work to which God had called them. They returned from this Spirit-filled motivated mission with a testimony of God’s power and faithfulness to fulfill His Word and purpose. In 1 John 2:27 (NKJV), John wrote, “But the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you . . .”

The Spirit of the Lord rested on Jesus. That same Spirit rests on us to anoint us (motivate us) for the work of the kingdom. Romans 8:9-11 (NKJV) speaks to this. “But you are not in the flesh [stimulated by other motivating forces], but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit dwells in you . . . But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life [motivating force] to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.”

At this time in our history, I am convinced if we are to overcome, we

must be filled with the Spirit, as Jesus was, so we can be motivated and anointed by God's Spirit. He holds the future in His hands. He knows the circumstances ahead. Even as the Spirit was the motivating force in the life of Jesus to accomplish His calling, so the Spirit will help us complete our calling in this hour of uncertainty. Paul said in Galatians 5:16, 24, 25 (NKJV), "Walk in the Spirit and you shall not fulfill the lust [motivations] of the flesh. And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires [human forces of motivations]. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit."

Many claim to be born of the Spirit, but their hearts are not motivated and driven by the Spirit in the everyday course of life. Check your heart daily to see if you are motivated by the Holy Spirit. Repeat this statement of Jesus regularly: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me" (Luke 4:18, NKJV). Is He truly your motivational force for life?

(This article was taken from Dr. Lewis' new book The Essence Of God's Kingdom. See information below to order.)

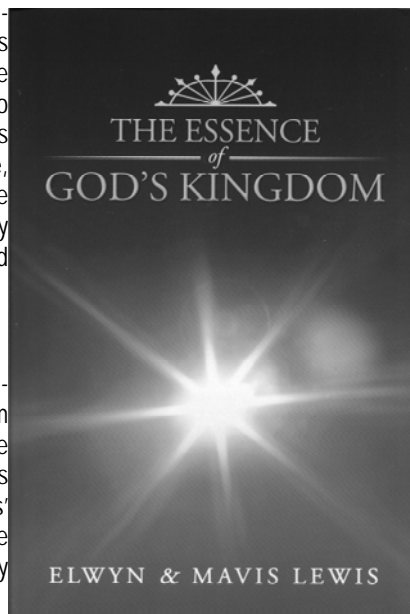
(Dr. Elwyn Lewis and his wife, Mavis, are overseers of Kingdom Living Church Ministries International. KLCMI is Five Fold teaching and mentoring ministry. Contact: [New Address] 3003 S. Peach Hollow Circle, Pearland, TX 77584 * 713-436-3394: elwynlewis1@sbcglobal.net)

NEW BOOK: The Essence Of God's Kingdom by Dr. Elwyn Lewis

Many today are searching for answers to the weary life and present-day pressures. The purpose of Jesus' coming was to give every believer a rich and satisfying life (Jn.10:10). Learning to live in God's kingdom, while continuing to deal with the corruption of an evil world, is a miracle that comes only by the abundant grace of God, His divine influence being applied to one's spirit, soul and body. Here, Dr. Lewis seeks to introduce you to God's fundamental nature, qualities, attributes and characteristics, and the ability of the believer, under the power of the Holy Spirit, to live by the precepts of His kingdom and overcome the works of darkness.

How to get your copy of Dr. Lewis' book:

The book is published by WestBow Press, a division of Thomas Nelson. Go to westbowpress.com and click on Bookstore. At the top right of the page put in the name of the book. The book is also available on Amazon or Barnes & Nobles' website. Other than attending a meeting where the Lewis' are ministering, these are the only three sources for the book.



GET ME OUTTA HERE!



Melissa Gabler

In recent pondering over John 10:10 something jumped off the page. John 10:10 *"The thief comes only in order to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have and enjoy life, and have it in abundance (to the full, till it overflows)."* The term "may" means possibility, permission, or opportunity. It is not an automatic. Therefore, abundant life is an opportunity, not a given. This might explain the lack of abundant-lifers running around, and the abundance of wanna-be evacuees!

An abundant-lifer is one who made it to John 10:10 through perseverance. By perseverance I mean they have embraced and survived the skill-building and gift-honing it takes to acquire the abundant life, and they are anointed to make a difference because of it. Look at it this way, a child would never be granted a CEO position in a major fortune 500 corporation on the simple fact that that child does not have the understanding, ability, or fortitude to handle such a position. That's a rather obvious example, but the elements here ring true in every life. We all have to build skill, understanding, and fortitude to live, much less to live an abundant life. Skill, understanding, honing, and character are not givens, they are all acquired through learning. So, we have to take a moment to realize we really are OK. God created us to learn so we

could develop skills. And why? So that we could master these uniquely individual skills and perform them to make a difference for the glory of His name. That God of ours, He really does have an amazing plan! We really are "fearfully and wonderfully made" (Ps. 139:14).

The wanna-be evacuee motto of "get me outta here" is actually an unfortunate byproduct of religious ignorance, manipulation, or down right stubbornness. Somewhere in our history the doomsday picture was painted that things will get worse and worse and then we get to get out of here. This whole mentality has completely misrepresented an amazing, all-powerful God, and has given society an illegal hall pass to hell so we can evacuate. But, you know what, that is changing because a generation is tired of living the miserably dreadful life that misrepresents the Almighty King of Kings.

If you are reading this you are obviously still alive, and if you are still alive you are still able to partake in John 10:10. Why? Because you have

You have God-given skills and abilities that you alone posses.

God-given skills and abilities that you alone possess. It's true, and we can believe this because, "We are assured *and* know that [God being a partner in their labor] all things work together *and* are [fitting into a plan] for good to *and* for those who

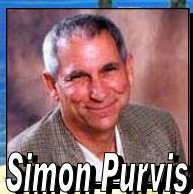
love God and are called according to [His] design *and* purpose." (Rom. 8:28 AMP)

Your biggest enemy at this point is your own mind, but you have the grace to change even that. Jesus said *you will know the truth and it will set you free* (Jn. 8:32) so that's how we know even our own mind can be set free because the truth is you have an opportunity to live an abundant life that satisfies you to your core, and brings glory to His name. It is possible! A great example is in Luke, "And listen! Your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is now the sixth month with her who was called barren. For with God nothing is ever impossible *and* no word from God shall be without power *or* impossible of fulfillment." (Lk. 1:36-37) God fulfilled His promise out of complete barrenness. If He did it once He will certainly do it again! Whatever your barrenness is, it's no challenge for God. You still have the ability to be an abundant-lifer!

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Heart Soil



FOUR TYPES OF SOIL

In Mark 4, Jesus talked about the Kingdom of God and used the illustration of four types of soil. He used the analogy of seed falling on different types of soil to represent hearts of people. To the extent that the heart receives and is open to the Word of God, is the extent in direct proportion to how much or how little the heart is submitted to the rule of God.

A brief synopsis of the parable of the four types of soil (hearts) follows:

Heart #1- Mark 4:15

The hardened soil represents a heart that willfully rejects the kingdom after knowing the truth. This heart totally refuses to submit to God. In this type of heart, Satan can come and cause resistance. He immediately steals the word of the kingdom from this heart. *"Seeing they can't see and hearing they can't hear."* (Verse 12) Jesus called them a child of the devil. He also called them blind guides. These hearts crucified the Lord.

Heart #2 - Mark 4:16



The type of soil described in verse 16 is rocky soil or stony ground. This soil is self-centered, completely selfish and unsundered. They are excited to hear the message of the Kingdom, but it is contrary to self and they can't establish any root to hold on to, so they fall away.

Heart #3 - Mark 4: 18

This soil is described as being thorny soil. This third heart is double-minded because the soil has so much mixture. There is an absence of singleness of heart. The desires of the flesh are opposed to the Holy Spirit. This heart would say, "I'll fast, but what do I get out of it?" "I'll give, but how much will I get in return?" "I'll pray, but will God really hear?" This "soil" is a mixture of God and mammon. They know the love and sacrifice of Jesus. At the same time, they know the devil and attribute evil to him ... even beyond the power of God. They hear the message and receive it, but can't hold on to it because of unsundered areas of the heart. The attractions of the world, the delights of wealth, the search for success, and the lure of nice things come and choke out the Word, making it unfruitful.

These hearts receive the message of the Kingdom and produce much fruit.

It leads to: (1) Principles of works Religion; (2) The heart says it does good things in the name of the Lord, but God calls them workers of iniquity.

Heart #4 - Mark 4:20

In this verse, the seed (the Word) falls on good soil. This soil represents a heart completely surrendered to the Lordship of Christ. These hearts receive the message of the Kingdom and produce much fruit.

This is evidenced through:

- (1) The love of God, Faith of God, Peace of God, Wisdom of God, Joy of the Lord
- (2) The Kingdom of God is established in these hearts and righteousness is produced.

WITHOUT THE MESSAGE OF THE KINGDOM IN THE HEARTS OF PEOPLE, SATAN'S DESTRUCTIVE INFLUENCE IS UNIVERSAL:

In the physical realm, we see it in sickness and infirmities.

In the spiritual realm, it is sin, temptation to do evil, and death.

In the intellectual realm it is distorting, deceiving and blinding.

In the political realm, it is corrupt power, lawlessness, and allowing evil influences to dictate political views.

In the entertainment realm, it is perversion and lewdness.

In the social realm, it is violence and persecution.

In the family realm, it is divorce, lack of parental guidance and promiscuous behavior.

In the religious realm, it is independence, lack of unity, self-serving and legalism.

HOW DOES SATAN EXERCISE HIS INFLUENCE?

He exercises influence by controlling the heart and mind of man. Under the control of Satan, "The heart is deceitful and desperately wicked" (Jeremiah 17: 9) As children of God, if we become perplexed and confused in our mind, will, emotions, or conscience, we cut ourselves off from the life of God and permit an inroad for Satan into our hearts. The Life of God is in us and must flow through our heart. When we were born again - born from above, He placed His Spirit within us. We now have a new Spirit. The Holy Spirit resides within us. If we do not keep our heart surrendered to the will and ways of God, we cut ourselves off from any issues of the life of God flowing to us.

**The Life of God is
in us and must
flow through our
heart.**

He knows that man will act according to the dictates of his heart. "Out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks" (Matthew 12: 34). "Where your treasure is, there will be your heart also". (Matthew 6:21) He who controls the heart, controls everything else. "Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life." (Proverbs 4:23)

Satan understands that he must keep man's heart far from God because "The pure in heart shall see God". (Matthew 5: 8)

Darkness of Ephesians 4:17-18

17 This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind,

18 Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart:

Satan comes into our hearts, darkens our mind and through deception,

gets us to believe a lie. Satan wants to create misunderstanding in our minds about the Word of God. He creates doubt in our hearts about the Kingdom of God. In the midst of that confusion, secondary things become the primary issues of life. As an example, instead of seeking the Kingdom of God and allowing Him to provide the necessary things for living, we become entangled in seeking the essentials of life for ourselves. Satan has darkened our understanding, blinded our eyes, and the Kingdom of God has been relegated to a future time when Christ returns to earth.

JESUS AS A KING

When Jesus came as a King, He came as a serving King. He came offering a Kingdom that would rule in the heart and manifest itself in the natural. He was not offering a kingdom that was of this world. He was offering a spiritual Kingdom that would reside in the heart of man.

Jesus came offering a Kingdom that would rule in the heart and manifest itself in the natural.

THY KINGDOM COME — THY WILL BE DONE

Man has had difficulty understanding that from the very beginning of time, that it was and is God's desire, will, and purpose that the Kingdom of God come upon the earth just as it is in heaven.

Man has wanted to go to heaven, while all the time, God has desired and did come to earth to set up His Kingdom in our hearts. So, instead of living NOW in heavenly places with all the abundant living that heaven affords ... righteousness, peace, and joy, in the Holy Spirit, man has been blinded and content to believe in his heart that these things cannot be until a future time, a belief that Christ returns and sets up His Kingdom at that time.

WHAT ABOUT US IN OUR GENERATION?

The enemy is after our heart. Who controls our heart? That is the seminal (most important, key) question! We must check our hearts and ask ourselves, which kind of soil best represents my heart ?

(This article was taken from *The Kingdom of God: A Present Reality* by Simon Purvis. For CDs of Pastor Purvis' messages or to contact him about speaking engagements or to purchase his 160 page study manual on the Kingdom of God, call Word of Life Church at 936-639-2000; Email: wol-luf@consolidated.net)

I will not allow any person nor any adverse circumstance to determine the lifespan of the hope God originally put in me.

True and False Apostles

(Apostolic Confrontation)



Jim Becton

Gal. 1:6-10- *I am amazed that you are so quickly deserting Him who called you by the grace of Christ, for a different gospel; which is really not another; only there are some who are disturbing you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. But even if we, or an angel from heaven, should preach to you a gospel contrary to what we have preached to you, he is to be accursed! As we have said before, so I say again now, if any man is preaching to you a gospel contrary to what you received, he is to be accursed! (NASB)*

Rev. 2:1,2- *"To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: The One who holds the seven stars in His right hand, the One who walks among the seven golden lampstands, says this: 'I know your deeds and your toil and perseverance, and that you cannot tolerate evil men, and you put to test those who call themselves apostles, and they are not, and you found them to be false;'"*

Paul, in writing to the "churches in Galatia" said this: *"Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for our sins so that he might rescue us from this present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father..."* Today this is a fine line between good and evil, not because a line is being drawn in the sand by our Father to

distinguish between, but because men are calling "evil, good" and "good, evil." We are, as the church, being called to come back to a righteous judgment, to discern between good and evil and true and false. John, in writing to the seven churches of Asia, wrote to Ephesus commending them on their works, how they could not tolerate evil men, and to test those who say they are apostles and are not.

What are we to do in this day? Are we to sit back and just smile, not just at evil in the world, but evil in the church? Anyone with any sense of discernment and morality, can see what is wrong in the world system. But it takes real discernment and wisdom to tell the things that are different, even though they look similar. This is where it involves true apostles coming together and confronting that which is not biblical and righteous. You may ask, "But how can we know the difference between the 'true and the false?'" Well, that is what I want to look at with this article. The primary difference between true and false apostles is 1) who will confront when it is obvious that things are wrong, and 2) who is willing to receive correction?

This will probably take more than one article, but I want to use what is the safest way to interpret scripture: That is, to compare scripture with scripture. We will see that false apostles do not do this, they compare

**Who will confront
when it is obvious
that things are
wrong?**

"themselves among themselves", which is not wise. They not only compare themselves, they "measure themselves by themselves." (2Co. 10:12) To be "false" doesn't mean that one doesn't know God or has not been called with a "true" calling! To be false means to try to "counterfeit"

or take a shortcut to that which is true. In fact, how could one be an apostle and not start out right? False apostles have been given over to "iniquity" or lawlessness, that is, that which directly opposes God and is in rebellion to His governmental authority.

That brings us to the subject of the "mystery of godliness" vs. the mystery of iniquity or lawlessness. 1Tim. 3:15-16 (NKJV)- *but if I am delayed, I write so that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the house(hold) of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth. And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifested in the flesh, Justified in the Spirit, Seen by angels, Preached among the Gentiles, Believed on in the world, Received up in glory.* 2Thess. 2:7- *For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only He who now restrains will do so until He is taken out of the way. Who is this man of sin, this son of perdition? It is more than just a*

man, but it is the "spirit of antichrist", that denies that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh. (1John 4:3) 1John 2:22-23- Who is a liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist who denies the Father and the Son. Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father either; he who acknowledges the Son has the Father also. The spirit of antichrist, or the lawless one, is the one who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God. (2Thess. 2:4) It sounds strangely like Lucifer, who exalted himself above God and kept referring to "I".

One of the signs of a false apostle is that they will try to draw attention to themselves. True apostles are 1) servants of Christ, and 2) stewards of the mysteries of God. (1Co. 4:1-2) He went on to say that "it is required in stewards that one be found faithful." True apostles will be willing to suffer for Christ and endure hardships, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. False apostles will look for an 'easy' way out, instead of being faithful to the vision, they will give in and begin to compromise their calling with greed, manipulation, and control. Paul also said in 1Co. 4:9- *For I think that God has set us, the apostles, last, as men condemned to death; for we have been made a spectacle to the world, both to angels and to men.* Because the order of God is "first things first", false apostles will try to take advantage of the scripture found in 1Cor. 12:28- *And God has set these in the church; first apostles, second prophets, third teachers...* First just simply means that which is in the beginning, that which is first in function and in order of importance. This does not imply a "hierarchy" which makes apostles more important than prophets or teachers, but only in the order of laying foundation and functioning in first things. With the Corinthians we see that Paul is dealing with many false apostles, as well as those who are questioning his integrity and authority because of the false apostles. We will now take a look at a list of scriptures concerning these very things in the book of 2 Corinthians.

True apostles will be willing to suffer for Christ and endure hardships.

2Co. 1:21,24- *Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us is God, who has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee... Not that we lord it over your faith, but are workers with you for your joy; for in your faith you are standing firm. (NASB)*

2Co. 2:17- *For we are not, as so many, peddling the word of God; but as of sincerity, but as from God, we speak in the sight of God in Christ.*

2Co. 3:5,6- *Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think of anything as*

being from ourselves, but our sufficiency is from God, who also made us sufficient as ministers of the new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.

2Co. 4:1,2,5- Therefore, since we have this ministry (the ministry of the Spirit), as we have received mercy, we do not lose heart. But we have renounced the hidden things of shame, not walking in craftiness nor handling the word of God deceitfully, but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God. For we do not preach ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord, and ourselves your bondservants for Jesus' sake.

2Co. 6:1-4- We then, as workers together with Him also plead with you not to receive the grace of God in vain. For he says: "In an acceptable time I have heard you, and in the day of salvation I have helped you." Behold, now is the acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. We give no offense in anything, that our ministry be not blamed. But in all things we commend ourselves as ministers of God; in much patience, in tribulations, in needs, in distresses...

***For we do not
preach ourselves,
but Christ Jesus
the Lord...***

Then, in 2Corinthians 10, Paul begins to target in on the persons of those who oppose his apostleship: 2Co. 10:1,2,10,11- *Now, I, Paul, myself am pleading with you by the meekness and gentleness of Christ--who in presence am lowly among you, but being absent am bold toward you. But I beg you that when I am present I may not be bold with that confidence by which I intend to be bold against some, who think of us as if we walked according to the flesh..."For his letters," they say, "are weighty and powerful, but his bodily presence is weak, and his speech contemptible." Let such a person consider this, that what are in word by letters when we are absent, such we will also be in deed when we are present."*

Paul wrote in Gal. 1:8: *"For if he (spirit of antichrist, lawlessness, false apostle) who comes preaches another Jesus, who we have not preached, of if you receive a different spirit which you have not received, or a different gospel which you have not yet accepted--you may well put up with it!"* (The Message says, "you put up with him quite nicely. But if you put up with these big-shot "apostles," why can't you put up with simple me? I'm as good as they are. It's true I don't have their voice, haven't mastered that smooth eloquence that impresses you so much. But when I do open my mouth, I at least know what I'm talking about. We haven't kept anything back. We let you in on everything.")

2Co. 11:12-15- *But what I do, I will also continue to do, that I may cut off the opportunity from those who desire an opportunity to be regarded just as we are in the things of which they boast. For such are 'false apostles', deceitful workers, transforming (disguising) themselves into apostles of Christ. No wonder! For satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works.*

Paul finishes up His letter on a positive note in 2 Co. 12:12 and 13:9: *"Truly the signs of an apostle (true apostle) were accomplished among you with all perseverance, in signs and wonders and mighty deeds."*

"For we are glad when we are weak and you are strong. And this also we pray, that you may be made complete."

We pray that same thing for you today. 2Co. 13:14- *The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen!*

(Jim Becton currently serves as Overseeing Apostle of "FATHERS HEART HOUSTON", an apostolic-based ministry to encourage and equip pastors and leaders with the "heart of the Father." Jim and His wife Pam pastored for 20 years before being separated into their apostolic/prophetic call to help develop local church leadership. Their vision is to see "generational leaders" trained and raised up with the "sound of the Lord" to connect churches and cities with the Kingdom of God. Contact Jim for teaching and training at eaglesvision@att.net)

An excerpt from the book Prophetic Characteristics by Marty Gabler:

Prophecy can also be manifested while a person is preaching. There are times when an entire sermon is a prophetic word. I received a phone call a couple of years ago from a family I hadn't seen since high school. The mother called and asked if I would preach her mother's funeral. Although I spent some time praying about the message for the funeral, I couldn't seem to get a hold on anything. While they were playing a song from a tape recorder the Lord gave me the message. After the funeral I was attempting to minister to the lady whose mother had died. I was praying for her and ministering prophecy. Her brother, who had spent as much of his life in prison as he had out of prison walked up and, grabbing my arm, spun me around to face him. The marks of a very rough life were evident on his face. Angrily, he insisted on my telling him which family member had revealed the secrets of his life to me which had been the subject for my sermon. He asked, 'How do you know me? The things you said... you must know me.' As I began attempting to explain to this distraught individual about the ministry of the Holy Spirit in such situations, several male family members managed to get him under control and remove him, under protest, from the funeral home. The Holy Spirit is able to bring THE message at the right time and in the right place, though the results may not be our brand of "ideal."



Shifts Of Identity



Larry Burden

1 Chronicles 12:32 *“And the children of Issachar, which were men that had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do...”*

The life story of King David is one of the most fascinating studies in the Bible. He began life in the house of Jesse, was the youngest of his brothers, and served his father by tending the family sheep. It was in the remote places of the fields where he was trained by the Lord in worship and warfare. At an appointed time he was summoned by the prophet Samuel and anointed to replace Saul as king over all Israel.

Even though David was newly anointed as the king of Israel, his ascension to the throne required a process of maturing. At each level of his growth and development he had to shift in his understanding of God AND himself in the light of his assignment. This began in the battlefield with Goliath when David was stirred in his spirit at the “nerve” of this giant who defied God and threatened the nation that David, as king, was bound by covenant to protect. David could no longer see himself simply as the defender of the family sheep from the lion and the bear. He had to shift with the “*understanding of the times*” and see himself as the defender of his heavenly Father’s nation. It was in this understanding that his anointing “kicked in” allowing him, without hesitation, to face the threat and remove it from the nation of which he was appointed to

rule.

RESISTANCE FROM WITHIN

You will remember in *1 Samuel 17* that David viewed the scene at Shochoh and declared that he would fight Goliath. In *verse 28* his elder brother Eliab rebuked and mocked him. Eliab could not see David as a warrior and defender of the nation. He could only see him as his little brother whose identity and function was to tend the sheep. David's greatest resistance came from within his own family. He had to rise above his own brother's rebuke and mocking to lay hold of his new identity and engage his God-ordained assignment. It was a tipping point moment in David's growth. He had to "*understand the time*" and STEP IN to his new identity or remain a shepherd boy in heart and miss his destiny and life purpose. He had to take that STEP or remain in the box of confinement and containment.

SHIFTS OF IDENTITY FOR DIVINE PURPOSE

Scripture is filled with shifts of identity for divine purpose. Moses had to make that shift to become the great deliverer of Israel. Joshua had to make that shift to lead Israel into the Promised Land. Gideon had to see himself as a "mighty man of valor" rather than a terrified "wheat thresher" (Judges 6:11). Samuel had to "*understand*" that he was a prophet to the nations. Esther had to "*understand*" that her destiny was MORE than simply being a queen of the Persian Empire. Saul of Tarsus had to "*understand*" that his destiny was not to be a persecutor of the church but rather a builder of God's kingdom. Not only did his destiny shift, so did his NAME! Jesus could not remain the "son of Joseph". His destiny was to become "King of Glory". Each of these had an "*understanding of the times*" and knew how they were to respond in light of that understanding.

STEP INTO YOUR GOD-ORDAINED IDENTITY

So it is with YOU! You can remain confined and contained by what others say about you, or you can STEP IN to your God-ordained identity and assignment to engage HIS greater purpose and destiny for your life. Turn a deaf ear to the voice of your soul that constantly says, "You cannot do this. You can never do this!" Retrain your spirit to recognize the voice of "*understanding the times*" that says, "You can do this through Christ! Dare to believe and make the shift!" Your God-ordained destiny has already been established in heaven. It is up to YOU to shift it on earth. And the good news is ... YOU CAN!

(Larry and Kathy Burden are the founders of KingdomLife. Larry has just released his book entitled *Kingdom Life Finding—Life Beyond Church*. In his book you will discover why current church models are failing in America, why your church experience often leaves you empty inside, the true freedom and blessing that is found in the kingdom of God. www.kingdomlife.org)

What We Have Been Given



Marty Gabler

God's plan is not to rule in the earth by sitting on a big, gold throne and sending out orders and messages through satellite and email and texting on super-smart, smart phones. His plan is to be upon His throne in the heaven of heavens, for He has given the earth to the children of men. *The heavens are the Lord's heavens, but the earth has He given to the children of men.* (Ps. 115:16, Amp) But He did not give it to us so we could grow corn and cows and spend our energies and giftings on the pursuit of happiness. It is so we may be His representatives, redemptively living out His culture in an environment that is adverse to that culture, in order to save that culture from the consequences of its adversity. (Now that is beginning to sound something like "mercy" and we get to participate in dispatching it.) We are His representatives so that we might legislate His intents and purposes in the earth while enabled by His Spirit sent out of His throne. Jehovah's throne is realized in the earth, i.e., His throne comes into the earth, i.e., His "Kingdom comes" (Matt.6:10) as we redemptively act in the authority extended out of that ruling throne (Matt.28:18; Lk.10:9; Jn.20:21). As it was in the beginning, so is it now that the Last Adam has won back everything the first Adam lost, i.e., dominion in the garden. But there must be application of what has been won back.

I have heard the question several times which demands to know that if the Kingdom is indeed advancing, why we don't see more definitive evidence of the Kingdom's increasing. As I have heard Apostle Hodges say on occasion, "The Kingdom of God is imperfectly advancing in an imperfect world, yet it is advancing." It should be obvious that the



“imperfect” portion of that advancing is not an indictment against the Kingdom because of some supposed, diminished aspect of the Kingdom nor is it because it is not yet time, but rather any indictment is upon the agency, i.e., the people through which the Kingdom must advance. If the water is not getting to the thirsty, it is not because the water is not available; it is because there is no pipe or the pipe is resisting the flow because it is clogged.

Any increase, advancement or dominion must come through those to whom the responsibility of the earth has been given (Ps.115:16). Advancement and increase can, therefore, only come as the Enabler is given opportunity to work in and through them (consider Lk.24:49; Acts 1:8). It also depends on how you look and where you are looking if you are going to see the Kingdom advancing in the face of present opposition. We receive regular reports from around the world, as well as our own nation, that are definitely the Kingdom, i.e., the government of God, advancing through miracles and governmental interventions in nations. Just because one’s comforts have not increased does not mean the Kingdom is not advancing against the powers of darkness across the globe.

All satan has to do to thwart or defeat any advancing of the Kingdom of God is to drive a wedge between the Enabler/Communicator of the throne of heaven and mandated sons. (Jn.14:26; 16:13) We know numerous people who were raised on the Word of God, who have walked with the Lord and edified the body of Christ. But hurts and disillusionment served to drive a wedge between them and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit. Satan did not have to kill them. Many people realized the hand of God was on those people for great things in His will. It was obvious that God would use them, not just in a pulpit, but in the marketplace and in education. Just as satan did not have to worry about killing Adam and Eve, so he is only concerned about breaking down communication between them and the throne of God. It would seem that the enemy’s oldest and most effective ploy is to plant doubts in those who have authority to take dominion. (“Did God say?”—Gen.3:1).

Just because your environment is not perfect does not mean that God does not love you, nor does it mean that the Kingdom of God is not advancing. I remember a body-builder by the name of Arnold Schwarzenegger who became governor of California. He was not a big, muscular individual because he came out of his mother’s womb that way. He became a big, powerful, muscled individual because of something called “resistance.” As he lifted much weight, as he resisted that weight, his muscles began to build. The Kingdom will always be advancing against resistance and that resistance must be withstood AND advanced against. While the many things that resist us may cause us to think our environment is not perfect and not blessed, we might want to consider that it is actually perfect for the “building of muscle” so that we are continually growing stronger and becoming better able to function in purpose. The absence of resistance does not equal blessing. Dealing properly with resistance, and using it to his advantage, enabled Mr. Schwarzenegger to defeat all comers. Blessing might best be interpreted as that enablement (“to provide someone with adequate power, means, opportunity or authority to do something”) to “push against” the resistance until our

“muscles” have developed to the point that we overcome it. Such a principle would be advisable to consider, especially since we are mandated to deal with resistance (Eph.6:12). The presence of resistance does not mean that there is no advancement—but actually opportunity for the opposite. (Jn.16:13; Rom.12:21; Js.4:7; 1Pe.5:8-11; 1Jn.4:4)

The Kingdom of God is the dynamic, sovereign action of God. The Kingdom of God is not a nation with borders, it is not heaven, it is not the church, it is not a political entity. It is the rule of God. That is why it is called “The Kingdom of God” because God is ruling in this earth through His appointed agency, i.e., His sons. It is the authority of God undoing what the powers of darkness have done. When Jesus sent out the 70 two by two, His instructions were to preach the Kingdom and heal the sick and then tell them, “God’s Kingdom is right on your doorstep!” (Lk.9:2; 10:9, Msg) They were not told that they needed to get saved so they could go to heaven but they were told that a Higher Government had come to them and that government was higher than the government of sickness. Healing is the government of God in action.

The government of God is in action in this nation and this world today through sons of God. His government is in action through the Holy Spirit who indwells sons (compare Lk.11:20). Every son of God carries the same authority Jesus carried while He was on earth (Mt.28:18; Lk.10:19). That is what has been given to us: authority. *Do not fear, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.* (Lk.12:32, MKJV) In Luke 19:12 Jesus said: *a certain nobleman went into a far country to receive a kingdom.* That word for “kingdom” in this context actually means “kingly authority,” i.e., the enablement to act as a king, not the obtaining of lots of stuff. It is not His pleasure to give us a “thing” such as James’ and John’s mother wanted for her sons (Mt.20:21). Rather, it has been His pleasure to give His sons the authority to redemptively act in His behalf in the sphere of rule that He has given them.

When our Lord said, “All power is given to me in heaven and earth. Go ye therefore...” it should be evident from the context that we are to go in that same authority and do the same redemptive acts. The Word of God plainly declares that He has given the earth to mankind. What a responsibility and what a privilege—to redeem it from the powers of darkness through continual acts of mercy and redemption. Luke 4:14 shows us that Jesus Himself went out in the power of the Spirit and there certainly is no way, other than that, that we can go out.

“Salvation does not mean flight and escape from the lower material world to a higher spiritual world; it means the redemption of the realm of human history by the invasion of the spiritual realm of God, so that the historical realm is lifted to a new and higher level of existence.” (G.E. Ladd, *The Theology of the New Testament*, p.489) The Kingdom of God is the manifestation of all that Jesus is, right in the face of all that hell is. Satan may truly have come to steal, kill and destroy (Jn.10:10) BUT never forget and take hope because God’s government is higher. God’s government came in JESUS to give, bring to life and build *that [we] may have and enjoy life, and have it in abundance (to the full, till it overflows).* (Jn.10:10, Amp)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Dates are subject to change. Call before traveling.

Check website for updates: seecministries.org—click on “Events”

PLEASE PRAY FOR US

Please keep us in your prayers. We serve on several ministry presbyteries and are participating in meetings throughout the month that don't make it on the public calendar.

Dates also get added to the calendar after the magazine goes out. To get updates on SEEC Ministries Events go to seecministries.org/events or you can go to our blog page:

martygabler.com and click on the Calendar Tab at the top of the page.

Aug 2 * Coldspring, TX

Victory Gospel Church

Melissa & Kathy

“Why You Are Wired The Way”

Aug. 11 * Noble, OK

Covenant Church

Pastor: Gary Hayes

Marty & Kathy 10a.m.

Aug. 18 * Cedar Park, TX

Near Austin, TX

Northshore Life

Development Center

Info: Don Dickinson

512-775-2105

6 p.m.

Aug. 25 * Tomball, TX

The 4:12 Center

Leaders Shawn & Charlotte O'Hearn

Marty & Kathy * 9:30a.m.

281-351-6364

Map & info: the412center.org

Sept. 8-15 * Kentucky

Jim Hodges & Marty Gabler

With Kevin West

Info: fmci.org

Sept. 22 * Tomball, TX

The 4:12 Center

Leaders Shawn & Charlotte O'Hearn

Marty & Kathy * 9:30a.m.

281-351-6364

Map & info: the412center.org

Sept. 27-28 * Frisco, TX

Kingdom Life Center

Pastors: Larry & Kathy Burden

Kathy & Melissa

Women's Retreat

Sept. 29 * Tomball, TX

The 4:12 Center

Leaders Shawn & Charlotte O'Hearn

Marty & Kathy * 9:30a.m.

281-351-6364

Map & info: the412center.org

SEEC KINGDOM CONFERENCE

MARCH 5-7, 2014

Grace Int. Church * Willis, TX

PODCASTS AVAILABLE FOR LISTENING AND DOWNLOAD

1. Soaking and Worship Music sung by Melissa Gabler

2. Watching Our Words So We Can Declare His—Marty Gabler

3. 2012 Declarations—Marty Gabler

4. CTK2011—Jim Hodges

Go to: martygabler.com and click on PODCASTS at the top of the home page

Check us out on Facebook—Just type in Marty Gabler

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Thank you for praying. After each issue is mailed, more dates get added to the calendar. Bless you for praying for us.

Don't forget anniversaries, especially wedding ones! *At FMCI, we don't want to forget that it was 25 years ago when we began our history as an apostolic network.* At our first conference, we had six pastors attend. Now we relate to more than 100 pastors, churches, and ministries scattered across America and six foreign nations. It is our joy to connect with pastors (and all the five-fold ministries), local churches, intercessors, chief musicians, marketplace ministers, and civil government leaders. Two FMCI pastors have become mayors of their



Jim Hodges

cities. In 2005, we launched the International Leadership Embassy in our nation's capital. Led by Dr. Hope Taylor, ILE has become a force to connect spiritual government with civil government and activate the Body of Christ in the Cultural Mandate (Genesis 1:28). We continually pursue the agenda of Awakening, Reformation and Transformation. We continue to build on the revelation of an increasing and victorious Kingdom of God in history. We continue to synergize the generations in relationship and ministry assignments so that the Gospel progresses exponentially in the future. We continue to be a part of the New Apostolic Reformation which has become a global movement (several of our leaders and I are members of the ICA --- International Coalition of Apostles which is led by John Kelly). I also continue to be a member of EVAT --- the Eagles Vision Apostolic Team convened by Dr. C. Peter Wagner.

At our October conference, we will celebrate and we will look ahead so we can move ahead. I have no interest in maintaining; we must advance and take new ground in Him! We have reached the silver level (after 25 years); now we go for the gold (50 years).

25th Anniversary



MARTY & KATHY GABLER



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