



SEEC Magazine A KINGDOM PERSPECTI

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ON THE COVER:

"...Let us now reverently fear and worship the Lord our God, Who gives rain, both the autumn and the spring rain in its season, Who reserves and keeps for us the appointed weeks of the harvest." (Jer.5:24, Amp)



SEEC

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There are four stages that God's people always go through typologically and experientially as pictured by Jesus' life, pictured by the Israelites and pictured by New Testament saints. 1) Deliverance. Jesus of course did not have to be born again or delivered from sin but He was giving expression to walking before the Lord in water baptism and Spirit baptism. Deliverance in a larger context is salvation pictured in the Israelites experience when they got out of Egypt through the Red Sea. This pictures our salvation and deliverance. 2) The Desert. After His baptisms, Jesus was led by the Holy Ghost into the wilderness for forty days and nights of temptation by the devil. According to the verb tense, He was tempted non-stop for forty days rather than just the three times listed in Matthew 4. The Israelites after coming out of Egypt went into the desert. It was not God's will that they wander in the wilderness for forty years. It was because of their unbelief. However, even if they had not wandered, they would have still gone through some desert. It is God's pattern after a mighty God experience of new birth or baptism or deliverance to go through a wilderness and desert experience. We shouldn't think it strange. The Israelites stayed 40 years. Jesus stayed 40 days. How long we stay is up to us, but we will go through it. 3) The beginning of ministry. Jesus did not begin His ministry until after He came through the desert. He returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit and



His ministry began with His first miracle of turning water into wine, John 2:11. The Israelites ministry began really when they crossed the Jordan following the Levites bearing the ark and then circling Jericho's walls and seeing them fall. That corresponds to the New Testament believer, when God begins to use you perhaps in counseling or soul-winning or praying for the sick or casting out devils, remember it is the beginning and be careful not to think you are all that you ought to be. This is a subtle thing that can happen, but there is more ground to be gained in God. 4) Canaan, living in the land of God's destiny and purpose.

I believe the Body of Christ has come through the first three stages. We have come out of Egypt and we have experienced some desert. There, like Jesus, we have learned obedience by the things we suffered. The Father approved Jesus at His baptism, but in the wilderness He proved His son. God proves every son He has approved in stage two. And we walk in ministry with the God-given spiritual authority that God gives to people who have been proven. However, we are not yet living in stage four, in the land of God's full destiny and purpose for two basic reasons. Historically, there are two things that the people of God had to become involved in with a hundred percent commitment before they can get into the land. The first thing is warfare. Although God promised the land of Canaan to the Israelites and it was theirs legally, it was not theirs experiencially until they drove out the Jebusites and Hittites and Girgashites and Canaanites and all the other "ites" who were trespassing on God's property. The Body of Christ is getting the revelation that the Church is not only the Body, the Church is also the army of God that must rise up in spiritual aggression and kick out the adversary who is in the land. The second requirement is a change of lifestyle. When the Israelites moved from the wilderness into Canaan, their lifestyle changed. In Joshua, it tells us that when they arrived in the land, the manna stopped. That was drastic change from God providing everything they needed. The Elders were likely questioning if they were in the right place since the groceries stopped coming, but their lifestyle had to change from one of spiritual infancy in the wilderness to a lifestyle of sowing and reaping. In their new lifestyle, God would provide through them instead of for them. There was a generation then that had never seen a hoe or a plow and had never sown or reaped. God's higher and better way is that He's not going to do everything for us and neither are we going to do everything for ourselves, but He is going to do it through us. Before I was baptized in the Holy Ghost, I thought I was going to do it all for God. I was a promoter activist pastor. However, after the baptism, I went to the opposite extreme and I sat back and thought it was wonderful to watch God work. I

soon learned His way is to work through His people. When the Kingdom comes in us, it will come through us. Spiritual fighting and spiritual farming are both essential to get into the land.

Peter tells us how to go on beyond redemption into God's purposes: 2Pe 1:3-5 seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence. For by these He has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, so that by them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world by lust. Now for this very reason also, applying all diligence...

It's God's promises that give us direction and power, but then we supply the diligence. We do not fulfill God's purpose without determination and perseverance and diligence. Peter continues in verse 5 saying, add to your faith moral virtue. He begins with faith and ends with love. (Paul said in Gal. 5:6 that we have a faith that worketh by love). He begins with faith because Hebrews says that faith is a foundation. Many of us come out of background beliefs that made us think God is not doing much today. When I was filled with the Holy Ghost, the first thing I needed was a series of heavy injections of faith. Without faith you cannot please the Lord. We must have a strong faith to grow in the Lord. Faith is a foundation yet the building is not up when the foundation is poured. We must build on it, so scripture says add virtue. God wants His charismatic power and also His Divine character in our lives, and that is a building process that will take some time. The scripture shows us we shall be measured by our fruit (more than gifting), and it take times to grow fruit.

2 Pe 1:5-6 having fully supplied in your faith virtue, and with virtue knowledge, and in your knowledge, self-control, and in your self-control, perseverance, and in your perseverance, godliness, and in your godliness...Then Peter tells us to add knowledge to our virtue. If we live a highly respected moral life based on the law of Moses as did Peter, we have to be careful not to shut our minds off from the knowledge that God is moving outside our group. Peter was speaking out of experience because for the first several years he didn't believe the gentiles belonged in the Body of Christ, but God brought him to new knowledge with the vision on the rooftop and what he experienced at Cornelius' house. He went on to say, add to knowledge temperance or self-control. When I received the Holy Ghost and found out what God was doing, I was so excited that I would lay hands on anything that moved. I'd prophesy at the drop of a hat. In moving beyond the quiet order I had come from and now knowing a powerful flow, I needed to add self-control to my knowledge. Then the scripture says to also add patience. The truth is that self-control

will fade in your life unless it includes patience with yourself and others. Without patience, the Christian life can become a grit-your-teeth type attitude in life. Patience or perseverance is the ability to walk when others around you don't see what you see or know what you know. After I received the Holy Ghost, I preached the entire book of Acts on a Wednesday night and was frustrated that the church couldn't see in one sermon what I had finally seen after two years! That is being impatient with others and forgetting how patient God has been with us.

Then adding godliness means that more than effort on our part and struggling to get to the end, we need God working in us both to will and to do of His good pleasure. 2Pe 1:7-11 and add with the godliness brotherly love, and with brotherly love, love. For these things being in you, and abounding, they will make you not idle, not unfruitful in the full knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. For the one in whom these things are not present is blind, being shortsighted, taking on forgetfulness of the cleansing of his sins in time past. Therefore, brothers, rather be diligent to make sure of your calling and election; for doing these things, you will not ever fall. For so will be richly furnished to you the entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

(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: www.fmci.org or by calling the office 972-283-2262.)

Moving Mountains (by Kathy Gabler)

I saw the words scroll across the television screen: "SPEAK TO THE MOUNTAIN." I thought of all the times I had spoken to circumstances and problems to be removed or resolved but saw no change. Suddenly the Holy Spirit interrupted my musings and instructed me to speak to the MOUNTAIN "within," not "without." In that moment the emphasis switched from the trouble and pressure around me to the troubled soul within me. Ps 143:12 "And in your mercy and loving-kindness, cut off my enemies and destroy all those who afflict my inner self, for I am Your servant." (Amp) The primary mountain is the stress or anxiety or fear or anger or frustration or guilt or confusion that mounts up in us in reaction to circumstances. Those negative and destructive forces mount to such heights that they block out the light of truth and smother hope. They darken our emotions and obstruct God who is our Light, Truth and Hope, by raising a barrier between me and Him. So the "inner" MOUNTAIN is the first and critical challenge.



The meaning of communication is transferring information or passing along meaning. Communication is complete when that information or meaning is received and understood. One dictionary put it like this, "A line of communication connects people and places to purpose and function." The Holy Spirit has unlimited ways to communicate with us. When He is transferring God-glimpses or God-insights or God-moments or God-downloads or God-deposits or God-discoveries, He may use dreams or visions or prophecies or events or experiences or people, etc. It might be just a nuance, a momentary feeling or a passing thought that signals us to be God-aware because there's communication incoming. Or, we can be prompted from a memory or a conversation or the words of a song or an ad in a magazine or a number on a door! I'm talking about when unique details ping our radar and they are meant to get our attention so we'll look for incoming insight. For example, a couple of years ago, I kept seeing the number 1111. It got my attention so frequently that I could not help but wonder why. For months I noticed it everywhere, on TV, billboards, addresses, digital clocks, in a dream, on a license plate, etc. So I pursued an understanding of its significance. At first, I considered that it might be a time or date, but that never jelled. I asked the Lord for wisdom. His wisdom is defined in Strong's Concordance as sage advice, the act of interpreting dreams and the ability to discover the meaning of a mysterious number or vision. In answer to my request, a thought I'd not had came to me and sent me on a search of the eleventh chapter of every book of the Bible, and I found the answer in Luke 11:11, "Now sup-



pose one of you fathers is asked by his son for a fish; he will not give him a snake instead of a fish, will he?" Suddenly I understood the Lord was letting me know that particular scripture was a telegram for me. He was reminding me that He is my Father and He knows my heart's desire and petitions. Beyond that He was letting me know that He will answer my long-term petitions and His answers will not be a disappointment! So that 11:11 was an awesome communication from my Father that lifted my head and heart.

When He does get our attention and communicates, we can be confident that He wants us to pursue full understanding. The process I described of coming to see clearly concerning the number 1111, is just one example of how to search until you get to clarity. I honestly expected that particular search to lead to a symbolic insight, yet it turned out to be a literal number of a chapter and verse. Then that literal number became a symbol of encouragement for me, (and it still is every time I see it.) I'm emphasizing the difference between thinking literally and symbolically because one of the biggest reasons we misunderstand communications in dreams or visions is that we think details are literal when they are symbolic, or visa-versa. That kind of misunderstanding can then leave us totally confused and missing the point.

Literal means "real with no hidden meanings and nothing to be decoded". What you see is what you get. For example, if you dream birds are covering your house and the dream is a literal message, you need to find ways to keep birds off your roof before you have a mess. The dream would be a heads-up for your benefit in future. Symbolic means not real and a detail represents something other than itself. In that case, the birds aren't really birds but they represent something else in the air or atmosphere or surroundings. Landing on your roof top or your high place would be your head and/or mind. So the message would be to guard your mind and thinking from something in the atmosphere trying to land and have presence or influence in you.

A further search for possibilities of what birds could symbolize would be the next step, and then consideration of those options until a meaning clicks with you or bears witness and brings clarity to the dream. For example, when I think of birds being symbolic, my first thought is a bird can represent gossip, as in "a little bird told me." If your co-workers or neighbors or family are really into gossip, then perhaps the dream is a heads-up to be on guard so that gossip doesn't get into your thinking and opinions and cause you trouble. This is an illustration also of how a simple dream can be powerful equipping when we understand the information

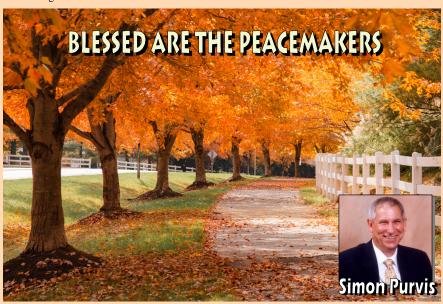
being passed on to us.

How do we know if a dream is symbolic? Sometimes, it is definitely obvious right up front that a dream is not literal, like if your cat is driving your car. (And no matter how smart your cat is, cats can't get a driver's license!) On a side note, symbols may be personal because of how they fit in your experiences and frame of reference. Case in point, if I dreamed a cat was driving my car, that would be a clear telegram for me that I am being soul-led rather than Spirit-led because a strong mindset is driving my thinking and behavior. I would know that because in my symbols discoveries through the years, cats represent strong *mindsets*, *preset opinions and intense attitudes*. However, a cat can represent something completely different to other people, like cats may represent companionship or home security because they kill mice, etc. So symbolism begs the question: 'How do you narrow down what a symbol means in a dream?' The answer is that you develop an ear to hear a Holy Spirit "click" that turns the light on in your understanding and confirms the correct thinking.

Symbols many times have a general or universal or common or typical meaning, and you can find such meanings in books, internet, etc. The Bible is a good starting place. Here's an example, in general, snakes are not a good thing and basically symbolize a threat against the future, as did the serpent in the garden of Eden. That being established, then we pursue the specifics to know if the snake represents a person, a particular plot or plan, a deception, a devil, etc. Often, when you discover the meaning of a symbol in your own dream, it will likely have that meaning if it shows up in another dream. This is one way we learn the language of our dreams. There is no closed list on symbols because people have unique experiences in life to pull from. A rainbow could represent a promise in general but mean something dark to people of certain cultures. When Joseph interpreted Pharaoh's dreams, God had spoken about the future in symbolic pictures. The skinny cows pointed to a famine that was coming and the seven cows in his dream indicated it was coming in seven years. However, if a farmer or rancher dreams of skinny cows, it may be a warning to re-vaccinate because Hoof and Mouth disease is in the area. The number "7" is not always going to be about years either. If you are on a search about meanings in numbers, one good resource is E.W. Bullinger's book Numbers in Scripture. The number "7" in his book indicates a God-completed thing. Since symbols can be specific to the setting or the message of a dream, you see why we need to develop an ear to hear the Holy Spirit's wisdom, so we learn that Holy Spirit "click" that confirms an insight.

Anytime it is not obvious that a dream is symbolic or literal, one thing to consider is the way you usually dream. If your dreams are usually literal, then first assume it is again . . . and start watching for birds.

(Kathy's book "The Heart of Dreams" has over 100 symbols. It may be ordered at martygabler.com/books/)



Peacemakers shall be called the sons of God. They are not those who have peace, but those who make peace. One of the marks of the sons of God is that they are peacemakers. Vine's shows the Greek word for son of God is "uihos" (hwee-os), a mature son in his father's likeness. There is a clear distinction between being called a child of God and a son of God. A son of God always refers to some characteristic of the Father God. Being called a child of God refers to being an offspring. You can be called a child of God and not be a son of God. Not all those that have been born again are mature. That is a shocking thought, but not all children of God are uihos. Uihos that are mature are peacemakers. They have the ability to make peace.

In Romans 8 we see sons of God distinguished from children of God. Rom 8:14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. That means they have some level of maturity. It is very difficult for those that are children to be led by the Spirit. Most young and zealous people are lead by things that simply come out of their own heart and desires. Verse fourteen says that maturity is connected to being led by the Spirit. In verse sixteen, it does not say the Spirit leads the children, rather the Spirit bears witness they are the offspring of God. Rom 8:16 The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of



God:

Down in verse 19, the word tells us that all creation is waiting for something. Creation, unlike most Christians, is not waiting for the rapture. Creation is waiting for the uihos, the revealing and manifestation of the sons of God. Rom 8:19 For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God. You can be born again and be a child of God and still be a trouble-maker. That's not a shocker to most people. However, mature sons of God are peacemakers. Children, because of their immaturity, can bring trouble and confusion. In Matt 12, it says that a house divided cannot stand and one of the great tools of the enemy in the Body of Christ is immature children dividing the house.

In 1Corinthians, Paul was talking to the church of born-again believers when he said he could not call them spiritual because they were still babes. He emphasized the difference between feeding on milk and meat and their inability to receive mature meat. 1Co. 3:1 And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, [even] as unto babes in Christ. 2 I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto ye were not able [to bear it], neither yet now are ye able. The congregation themselves determine the level of Word that can be ministered. There are congregations that cannot take anything beyond the milk of the Word. Paul went on to say the mark of babes is strife, envy and division. 1Co 3:3 For ye are yet carnal: for whereas [there is] among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men? So just because we are born-again does not mean we cannot be a troublemaker and bring trouble to a congregation and to our own household. We have to mature. We have to grow. A sign of immaturity is division. A sign of maturity is peacemaking.

Because of immaturity, strife and confusion in this particular church, Paul acted as a spiritual father to bring peace to this congregation. Paul was a peacemaker. So, with all the confusion going on, Paul was bringing peace so the house would not be divided and unable to stand. The way Satan creates division is through immature Christians that do not have spiritual fathers.

It is interesting that back in the second chapter Paul said that he came to Corinth determined to emphasize only "Jesus Christ, and him crucified." (1Co.2:2) From these scriptures dealing with the milk of the Word, it is evident that milk is the objective truth of something Christ has done for us, His crucifixion and forgiving our sins. The milk of the Word does not require anything from us. Children, babes (Gk.- nepios) are fed milk. No response is required out of them. Young Christians, as newborn babes, Peter said, desire the sincere milk of the Word. So, there is a season that we preach the finished work of Christ to young Christians, but you do not expect a response from them. However, solid food is the subjective work of the Holy Spirit working within us that demands obedience.

There are young people, babies that have to be taken care of. However, there comes a season of growth and they need solid food. Solid food belongs to those more trained in obedience to God. Notice in verse 6, Paul said he preached a deeper wisdom to the more mature. There are some congregations where you

cannot preach a life of obedience. They cannot hear, understand or receive anything beyond the finished work of Christ.

In Hebrews 5, they are told the same thing that was said to the church at Corinth. It says there are many things I would like to tell you beyond the crucifixion of Christ, like the Melchisedec order, but you have become dull of hearing and have need of milk and not meat. The Melchisedec order was a higher order for the more mature. He goes on to say that solid food belongs to those who, through practicing a life of obedience, have their senses discerned. You can only develop senses to revelation being of God or not, through a life of obedience. You cannot understand the Word just by reading scriptures. There has to be an ongoing development of discernment through a life of obedience. There are some things in the Word of God that if you don't experience it, you don't understand it. There are scriptures that through life experience become clear.

Hebrews goes on to say milk belongs to children and solid food belongs to those skillful in the Word of righteousness. Babes hit by circumstances are unskilled in the Word of righteousness. In verse nine, it is made clear that we are talking about righteous obedience. People must know how to use the Word of righteousness in obedience. Heb 5:9 And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him; 10 Called of God an high priest after the order of Melchisedec. 11 Of whom we have many things to say, and hard to be uttered, seeing ye are dull of hearing.

In a congregation where the people are being fed and the season comes for higher development, something sets in to make people dull of hearing. A sense has to be developed in obedience to the Word of God. Hearers only that have not practiced obedience are self-deceived. Many folks are not Satan-deceived but self-deceived. Heb 5:12 For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which [be] the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat. Everyone in the Body of Christ comes to a time when they need to be able to communicate the truth themselves, not in a pulpit or a service, but teaching a Timothy in their life. That is discipling. You ought to be discipling somebody. When the season comes and you do not disciple, you go dumb. Smith Wigglesworth was a plumber. He went into a house of a wealthy lady and she asked him why he seemed excited. He explained that morning that his wife and child had been sick and both were healed when he laid hands on them. She wanted that excitement and joy and gave her life to Christ. Then she asked, "How do I keep, this?" He answered her that she had better go give it away. You cannot simply go to church on Sunday morning and just sit there.

Heb 5:13 For every one that useth milk [is] unskilful in the word of right-eousness: for he is a babe. If people cannot get beyond the first principles, they stay babes. We must be skilled enough in scripture to overcome whatever comes into our lives. If we have developed in righteousness, during a crisis we should be skilled enough in the word to prevail.

We do not develop muscle and skill without doing something. We do not develop discernment without doing something. We must hear and practice the Word to be able to discern what is of God and what is not. In John 17:17 Jesus said that if we will to do His word, then you'll know what is the doctrine of God or not. People are confused about the doctrines of God because they do not live a life of obedience. The reason God gave apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers was to equip the saints for the work of the ministry until they mature unto the stature of Christ so that we be no more tossed to and fro with every little wind of doctrine that comes along. There are little winds of doctrine right now that are taking people over. That is a sign of immaturity.

I was with Ern Baxter before he died. He said the thing that is frightening about the Charismatic movement is that we are losing the solid foundation of the Word of God and we are moving to emotionalism. People do not know how to discern what is solid Word and what is unhealthy. Heb 5:14 But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, [even] those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil. There is solid Word in a foundation of truth. It is strong enough to build upon. You cannot grow up on the wrong doctrine.

In maturing, we come into the Father's likeness. The uihos (son) gets the Father's inheritance and stands in His place. When they wanted to see the Father, Jesus told them to look at Him. What is Christ-likeness? It is being like the Father. It is being a peacemaker. Somebody in the home has to be a peacemaker. Strife and division in the home is a sign of immaturity even when family members are born-again.

In Luke 15, the prodigal and the older brother were upset, but the father tried to make peace with the older son's immaturity. The Pharisees were immature and insane upon their own oral doctrines. They no longer knew how to discern the Word of God. They, the doctors of the law, because of their life of disobedience could not even recognize the Messiah.

Matt 5:43 Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy. [That, by the way, was not from scripture but from the oral teachings of the Pharisees.] 44 But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; 45 That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: [A uihos has a father's likeness. Sons of God are not about gender but character.] for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust. 46 For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? do not even the publicans the same? 47 And if ye salute your brethren only, what do ye more [than others]? do not even the publicans so? 48 Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.

Jesus, our mediator, is a peacemaker, reconciling us back to God. Salvation is about coming to peace with God. Salvation is about Jesus changing us

from enemies to children of God. This peace is like resetting a broken bone, a broken relationship restored. The relationship is always stronger like a reset bone calcifies and is stronger than before.

When people are opposing you, two things are happening: 1) God is trying to refine your life and 2) He is preparing them for judgment. He is either going to save or deal with them. Someone pursuing you in persecution is a clear sign of purifying and training for you while preparing them for judgment. When someone brings evil against you personally, you overcome that evil by doing good, by making peace. The person is either going to be touched and changed or be judged.

Rom 16:20 tells us that God wars for peace. We have to know how to war for peace. Part of our armor is peace. Isa 9:6-7 tells us there will be no end to the increase of His government and peace. One of His names is Prince of Peace. In Luke 2, the angelic host declared peace on earth. Here's the paradox: Mat 10:34 Do not think that I have come to bring peace on earth. I did not come to send peace, but a sword. There can be no peace without Christ. He did not come to bring peace to those that are against Christ. He brought them a sword. The enemies to God and His ways are not our enemies to pray for. Light and darkness cannot mix. There are evil systems that we do not make peace with. Evil systems are trying to get the church to go to bed with evil, but it cannot and shall not be so. We should be troubling to those ungodly systems. We do not make peace and embrace those who love other gods and hate Jehovah.

We bring a gospel that brings peace to a man who is troubled or a gospel that troubles a man who is against God. A peacemaker does not always have to be right and justify themselves. The fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who work for and make peace. (James 3:13-18) You cannot make peace unless you have peace, so your mind must be free of fear. God's peace must be the guard on our minds, (Phil. 4:7), to keep us from fear and agitating drives.

Js 3:17 But the wisdom from above is first of all pure (undefiled); then it is peace-loving, courteous (considerate, gentle). [It is willing to] yield to reason, full of compassion and good fruits; it is wholehearted and straightforward, impartial and unfeigned (free from doubts, wavering, and insincerity). 18 And the harvest of righteousness (of conformity to God's will in thought and deed) is [the fruit of the seed] sown in peace by those who work for and make peace [in themselves and in others, that peace which means concord, agreement, and harmony between individuals, with undisturbedness, in a peaceful mind free from fears and agitating passions and moral conflicts]. AMP

(This article was taken from a teaching given by Simon Purvis. He is the lead teacher at the Word of Life Teaching Center in Luflin,TX. Training is at 10:00am each Sunday. To contact him about speaking engagements or to purchase his 160 page study manual on the Kingdom of God, call Word of Life Teaching Center at 936-639-2000; Email: wolluf@consolidated.net)



The Book of Acts is one of my favorite books of the Bible. Not only does it document the history of the early church, but it also reveals the Father's intent for the influence of His church in the earth. It is a training manual for the body of believers to demonstrate how we are to cooperate with the Holy Spirit to govern the earth as representatives of Jesus.

Christ established the foundation of leadership in the early church as a model for us to follow today. He set in the five-fold leadership team to provide a full expression of Himself through the ascension gifts described in Ephesians 4:11-12. Such leadership is essential today for maturing the body of Christ so that, as His followers, we might become enabled to assume our specific functions of command as His church.

The command structure given to us as Christ's followers (His church) is clearly demonstrated throughout the New Testament. Jesus first models it to the twelve, then the seventy, and ultimately to the one hundred and twenty on the Day of Pentecost. The purpose of the command structure is to facilitate the original Dominion Mandate of Genesis 1:28. As Commander-in-Chief, Jesus simply follows what the Father is commanding (John 12:49). As His commanders in the earth, we follow the same precedent by hearing what Jesus is saying to us through the voice of the Holy Spirit. We exercise His full authority by remaining under His authority.

Apostle Paul demonstrates the magnitude of command authority in Acts 16:16-18 while on his mission assignment in Macedonia. In the



course of his mission in Philippi, a slave girl follows his team and shouts out, *These men are the servants of the most high God, which show unto us the way of salvation*. The spirit fueling this oracle annoys Paul for many days until he COMMANDS the spirit to come out of the slave girl. The evil spirit bows to the command of the Lord through Paul, and immediately the girl is liberated from its influence.

Command in this passage is translated, **to charge**, **enjoin**, or **order**. It speaks of a proclamation or an injunction to anyone or entity from a superior that must be obeyed. So, when we receive a command from Jesus through the Holy Spirit, we must obey it. That said, if we receive a command of Jesus, we must also obediently release it. His command carries the full weight of his authority and accomplishes His desired intent through us.

Commanding is implemented by releasing the direct word of the Spirit in His proper timing. Remember, Paul is annoyed for many days by the announcements of this demonized slave-girl. He no doubt recognizes early on that she is "off" in her proclamations. While the words are true, the spirit behind those words is evil. That said, he waits for the word of the Lord and proper timing to release the COMMAND for the spirit to depart from the girl. In command, it is important to exercise restraint of the flesh and soul and to remain in the perfect timing of the Holy Spirit to release the commands that carry the authority of God. I don't know about you, but I want to make sure that the commands I release are from the heart and timing of God and not from my annoyed flesh or timing of its attitude.

We are in a time of command. Many of you might be stuck in the rut of pleading and begging God to come through for you in your life situations. I have on more than one occasion spent hours before the Lord begging and pleading for His divine intervention, to no avail. It is as if I am trying to convince God that I am weak, and He is strong; therefore, I need Him to intervene in His might for me. After all, I am His son. If he loves me, then He should help me. However, this approach has rarely been successful.

The truth is, we are well able to exercise command in our life situations. Paul says it like this in Ephesians 6:10-12 (NASB): Finally, be STRONG in the Lord, and in the STRENGTH of His might. Put on the full armor of God that YOU may be ABLE to STAND FIRM AGAINST the schemes (methods) of the devil. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against spiritual forces of wickedness in

the heavenly places (heavenlies).

To be strong is to be empowered, enabled, and made strong through our union in Christ. We are empowered by Christ to rule as His earth-representative through His Holy Spirit, who is the administrator in the earth of His dominion-ruling forcefulness. This apostolic command through Paul is given to each one of us as an admonishment that we must obey.

A friend of mine recently shared a story of calling out to God for a divine intervention. In response to his prayers, the Lord said to him, *Do not ask me to do what I have given <u>you</u> the authority to do*. In response to this COMMAND, my friend immediately speaks to the situation and issues the Lord's command. As a result, the situation shifts and comes into divine order.

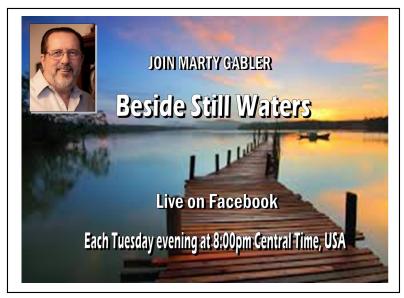
The same type of incident occurs when Moses faces the Red Sea before him and the Egyptian army behind. He cries out to God for help only to be admonished by the Lord to stop crying out for help and instead use what God has placed in his hand – the rod of God's authority. As Moses obeys the command of the Lord, he issues the command over the Red Sea. The sea obeys and parts for Israel to cross on a dry seabed. A nation is delivered from destruction by a COMMAND.

We are currently engaging in high level of contending as the church for the earth. The intensity of the conflict between God and Evil is unprecedented. We have no option today but to become *strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might*. We must exercise our command authority to thrive and grow in the dominion mandate. We must walk hand in hand with God, meaning that we must use in our hands what God has placed there from His.

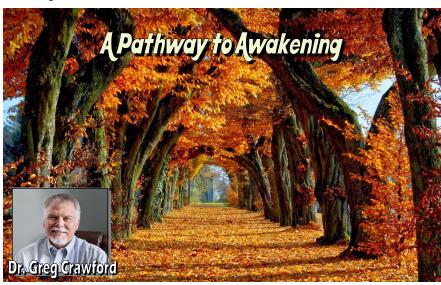
I encourage each of you today to exercise your command authority. Speak to your health, family, finances, relationships, and those issues that are seeking to compromise your life. Speak to those generational curses, covenant-breaking spirits, and other destructive forces that are attacking your health, shutting down your peace, and deafening your ability to clearly hear the voice of the Spirit.

Begin to issue the COMMANDS of God that are given to you to release in His authority, and watch as things divinely reverse. Use in your hand what Father has placed there from His own hand. Watch as the curses are reversed, the lack gives way to abundance, covenant relationships are restored, health issues resolved, and evil assignments against you are broken. Watch your peace level rise and your faith take a quantum leap. Watch your heart beat again with the rhythm of joy and the favor of God's righteousness. Dare to command in this era and see the salvation of your God manifest before you.

(Larry and Kathy Burden are the founders of KingdomLife in Frisco,TX. Larry's latest book is titled *The Orphan Heart* and has impacted many lives. A number of churches have used the book as a study guide for weekly classes. He is also the author of *Kingdom Life—Finding Life Beyond Church*. In that 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. Contact info: www.kingdomlife.org) (They can also give information for International Fellowship of Chaplains training.)







I recently completed a mission of delivering a series of messages throughout the state of Kentucky. I was sent by God, based on a prophetic word, to give answers and a pathway to the future. I want to share the details here as I know it's a "now word" for the Body of Christ.

The Lord has spoken several things to me over the last year about awakening and the early Church. The first thing He told me was, "You will not see awakening until you heal the brokenness in people's hearts caused by disappointments, unfulfilled dreams and a host of other things causing hope to be deferred. People are full of disappointments, but they are hiding it well." Hope deferred means it has been put off to a future time. When hope gets deferred, it stops true faith from working and brings a halt to our forward advance. In short, it causes a barrenness in our lives.

The Lord took me to Hannah and showed me her barrenness. She had a great desire to have a child that would serve the Lord, but the dream she carried did not come to pass and brokenness settled in. When you study the depths of the word "broken," it comes from a word meaning to be caught in a rut, to replay the sounds of a detrimental event. Hannah had to put up with the mocking and ridicule of everyone around her year after year. She was going to the temple regularly and doing the right things. She was paying her tithes, praying, seeking God and living right, but was still barren. In other words, she was fulfilling her obligations, but deep in her heart she was bitter, grieved, afflicted and sorrowful (read 1 Samuel).



Her confession was right, but her state of being did not align with it. She had gotten into a rut playing the sounds of unfulfilled promise over and over. Sounds very familiar doesn't it? An unfulfilled promise is not God's disapproval of you. The dream or promise in your heart exists to keep hope alive.

I agree we have good solid meetings and God is doing things, but I see a real barrenness that has settled in. This barrenness has stopped the Samuels sitting in the womb of the Ecclesia from coming forth to point to the Davids who will truly build the dwelling of the Lord. Like Hannah, we must change the frequency we are speaking and realign with the frequency of heaven. She promised God that she would return her male child to Him if He would bless her womb. This is the struggle we are having right now; we want an awakening, but we want to own it. It seems we are trying to find a pathway that we can have some form of ownership in. We need to heal brokenheartedness and break barrenness off people like I did with my own people and those in Kentucky.

The second thing the Lord showed me was the early Church had a given message. The message became so much a part of their lives, it compelled them to go on mission. The mission turned to momentum and the momentum turned into a movement. I told the people in Kentucky I did not come to do some meetings, but to build and lay a foundation to come back and build upon. Today, most of our traveling and speaking is not building and our messages are more random. The early Church was very intentional in building upon a set message. They were so consumed with the message that it became who they were — they then took themselves on a mission as the living epistle. Once people valued the message, the momentum started and eventually a movement was formed. I released this Biblical pattern in detail in Kentucky.

The Lord showed me a third thing. Where did they get the message from? We can easily just say heaven, the Holy Spirit, etc., but there is more to it than that. They fellowshipped with the mysteries of Christ. The Lord told me that awakening comes by one way — fellowshipping with the mysteries of Christ. In Ephesians 3, Paul said part of his role as an apostle was to show all men how to fellowship with the mysteries. That is challenging. How do we do that? Looking at Paul's life, he spells out that he fellowshipped with seven specific mysteries. They are the mystery of iniquity, the Church as a bride, regeneration, Israel's blindness, the indwelling Christ, the translation of the saints, and the Church. Fellowshipping means to have intimate knowledge. We can easily see these seven mysteries made up Paul's message.

The fourth thing the Lord showed me was how Hannah's frequency changed as she fellowshipped with the mysteries to resonate with them until it broke the barrenness and released the destiny of the nation. There is a big difference between producing and resonating. Something reproduced is a cheap copy and holds no real value. Hence, like most of the meetings we do. We have learned how to produce a good sound, preach a great message, copy mannerisms, and appear "un-barren" or fruitful. We have stopped being an original, a masterpiece, a one-of-a-kind, wonderfully made and unique in every fashion. Something produced is based on the skill set and gifting of a person. Something resonating is a conductor of a frequency, the frequency of heaven, the mystery of Christ. See, the difference between reproducing and resonating is the source of the sound. Either we are the source and only reproduce with barrenness or we resonate and bring forth fruitfulness.

Now what I am doing is putting these things into reality. How you may ask? In a very simple way by having all my people build relationship with the person of Holy Spirit. You see, we have built relationship with anointings, gifts of the Spirit, revelations and functions and have left Holy Spirit, the person, out. Holy Spirit knows all things — leads us into everything, guides us, etc. These functions are really extensions of His personality. Holy Spirit knows how to bring forth what is needed in this hour and how to form it within us. Holy Spirit sees the hidden brokenness and barrenness and has a way to remove it. He, as the Spirit of Truth, will reveal the mysteries in us until we resonate with the frequency of it. He will lead us into mission, and He will be the movement we all are contending for.

How will awakening come? When brokenness is healed and barrenness removed. When we take time, and I mean real time, to fellowship with the many mysteries of Christ until we resonate with those mysteries, then everywhere we go people will be feeling the Presence we are carrying. So, build relationship with Holy Spirit!

(Greg Crawford has been in ministry for more than 30 years and has birthed several ministries, including the Base, Jubilee Kingdom Gathering and Jubilee International School of Ministry. He is an overseeing apostle to numerous ministries and is a sought-after conference speaker. Greg has written over 550 hours of ministry training classes and authored 17 books. He holds a Ph.D. of Ministry. He is ordained with Jim Hodges' Federation of Ministries and Churches International. This article is from the FMCI September 2019 Blog.)



Remember the old test patterns we used to get on our TVs in the 50's and 60's? Ok, don't laugh if you weren't born then. Well, let us compare Kingdom parallels to the Beatitudes in the Sermon on the Mount. As simple as it is, remember Jesus is teaching the Kingdom of God everywhere He goes and as soon as this great multitude was settled, Jesus opened His mouth and His first reference was "Kingdom of God!"

I'M SERIOUS AS I CAN BE ABOUT A TEST.

You will know more about yourself and others at the end. Please grade yourself on a scale from one to ten. A singular idea dominated every parable and this should be our focus as well. Is a King without a Kingdom really a King and is a Kingdom without a King really a Kingdom? The Kingdom of God requires both a King and a Kingdom. As you read and "test yourself" examine His Words, the guidelines and the cost of it. This is a "working" definition of the Master Himself for what Kingdom people should be.

Blessed are those... get ready—GO!

- 1. *Blessed are the poor in Spirit:* (GRK. Amp.) Aware of your dependence on God; total surrender; not a one time event. (1-10) grade
- 2. *Those who mourn:* (GRK. Amp.) To enter another person's suffering and loss; when someone else's problem took precedence over yours.



(1-10) grade

- 3. *The meek:* (GRK. Amp.) People with little recognition or the need for it; someone whose praise is always on another person's lips; someone who chooses the lower place; or defers to someone less skilled or less deserving. (1-10) grade
- 4. *Those who hunger and thirst for righteousness:* (GRK. Amp.) Righteousness that comes from obedience; the last time you gave into a sin that ensnares you. (1-10) grade
- 5. *The merciful:* (GRK. Amp.) Forgiveness on display; kindness on display, even an enemy; seeing through God's eyes. (1-10) grade
- 6. *The pure in heart:* (GRK. Amp.) A sincere heart doing something without a self-serving inclination. Can you still blush? Have you found joy in anyone else's pain? (1-10) grade
- 7. *The peace makers:* (GRK. Amp.) Quick to reconcile; willing to risk interceding to bring peace; non violent and non judgmental; served your enemies lately? Do you bring division or unity to the Body of Christ? (1-10) grade
- 8. *Those who are persecuted:* (GRK. Amp.) Insulted; lied about. Can you be still in the midst of persecution and know He is the Lord and follow His lead? (1-10) grade
- **P.S.** The Beatitudes are NOT considered gifts. None! We tend to look for gifted people rather than people reflecting what Jesus is referring to in the Beatitudes. I'm convinced Jesus is talking about *real authenticity* here. How did you score? I believe this is one of the most profound messages (if not *the* most profound message) Jesus preached on the Kingdom. Each of these blessings are available today. This is not a "set of rules" or "condition" but a description of what life looks like in the Kingdom of God! This was a test and these are proofs, character traits visible in the life of a person that is manifesting living in this Heavenly Kingdom.

(*GRK. AMP—collection of Greek words amplified as to the meanings.) (Lynn Burling pastors Christian Faith Church in Bellville, TX. He is Texas Bishop for the Association of Evangelical Gospel Assemblies and President of From The Heart Ministries. His teaching CDs are available at CFC Church phone: 979-865-5464. Kathy and I have enjoyed staying at their lovely bed and breakfast: www.somewhereintimebb.com. Lynn & Linda are gracious hosts.)

Prov.3:5 Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.
6 In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.



In a conversation with a dear friend today, regarding why some things have still not happened, this hit me: We want fast answers (basically bandaids). The long lasting, deep, most satisfying things take longer because we have to have the understanding and character to not only attain them but to sustain them. This kept coming back to me all day. It has been one of those kind of days where I have been hearing about the sovereignty of God unfolding in friends' lives (that which God has been doing all along coming to the point where we can see it). It's been that kind of day where one quietly sits back and realizes your mouth is hanging open in awe.

Here we are at the end of 2019 and the above mentioned unfolding is happening on a more and more steady basis. I believe we need to get ready for it to increase even more! I already know that next year is going to be something else. It's not going to be a stroll in the park, but hear me out. What is opening up at the end of this year is going to be fuel for not only next year but the decade ahead! There's no need to be afraid or worry about being ready. You are already ready. The sovereign plan of God is unfolding in our lives right now and His plan is far more powerful than any dark agenda in high places.

What God has intended, been building, releasing, putting in place, and establishing is about to be revealed over the next decade. It's far, FAR greater than what we have been seeing unleashed over our nation. It's also far greater than the waves we've seen in the past! His Kingdom is going to be seen at a measure we have not seen to this point. This. Is. Exciting.

He has been putting the pieces together all along, and you have a role in which to stand. Don't give up now. Don't believe that you've missed it. Let me say this again, the long lasting, deep, most satisfying things take longer because we have to have the understanding and character to not only attain them but to sustain them. How do you know that you have not been trained all along for the role you are about to receive? Is He not that sovereign? Is He not the Redeemer

of time?

How do we navigate the rest of this year? With a perspective shift. It's time to realize that our Holy Father has been doing what He intended to do all along and we can be a part of it if we stop believing lies that say otherwise. That's literally all it is. It's time to shift from an American Christian view of what's happening to His view. This happens by seeking Him daily. Now, this does not mean get up at 4:30 in the morning and spend an hour reading a devotional and praying. However, that's not a wrong thing, but seeking Him is an all day thing. It's about being aware that the Holy Spirit is here in this moment and will teach you and guide all day, "Howbeit when He, the Spirit of truth, is come, He will guide you into all truth: for He shall not speak of Himself; but whatsoever He shall hear, that shall He speak: and He will show you things to come. He shall glorify me: for He shall receive of mine, and shall show it unto you." (John 16:13-14) This perspective shift is really a lifestyle shift. The Holy Spirit is leading us away from living as victims to a life of victory. Leave the past right here and be transformed into your next role as you seek Him.

This is big. This is going to be phenomenal. It's showtime! Are you in?



The book of Mark chapter 5 is jam packed with Jesus being confronted with the madman of Gaderene, demon possessed pigs, a dying daughter of a desperate man, a woman with an issue of blood, and the resurrection of a child. That's an awful lot to do in just one chapter. Even though there are a number of things to talk about, I would like to focus on the story of Jairus and his daughter.

Jesus gets off the boat after a miraculous deliverance of a demon possessed man, as well as ruining the local bacon industry, which I don't think was kosher. Just goes to show that a miracle without cultural transformation may not bring revival, but I digress. As soon as Jesus gets off the boat, a desperate man comes and pleads for his daughter who was dying. The man's name is Jairus which means "Whom God enlightens." He was a ruler in the local synagogue. He was part of the local leadership and his love for his daughter drove him to find a solu-

tion to her need. Jesus agrees to go with him and lay hands on his daughter. Along the way, another need arises. A woman with an issue of blood, who spent all of her money on physicians had a revelation. She said in her heart, "If I could touch the hem of His garment, I shall be whole." She presses through the crowd and receives her miracle. "Virtue" leaves Jesus and her issue is dealt with that very moment. Isn't it amazing that Jesus can take care of your issue while on the way to another. There are many times in a meeting when a prophetic word may go forth for somebody, and you say, "Lord, if you do it for them, you can do it for me." In that moment of faith, you can receive what you need as Jesus passes by even if He's on another assignment. There is power in the proximity of His presence.

As Jesus arrives at the house, there is a tumult and commotion going on. People where wailing and crying for the tragic loss of this little girl. Back in that day, people would hire professional mourners to come and make a big expression of emotion. The idea was to make sure that the event had the proper sorrowful effect worthy of the loss. Jesus walks into the middle of this chaos and tells them that the child is just sleeping, and the Bible says that they laughed Him to scorn. To the Eternal Lord, death is just a late afternoon nap, but the people didn't know who was in their midst. Make sure to recognize when Jesus shows up. I was walking through my living room several weeks ago, and I felt His presence. So, what did I do? I sat down with Him right there. When He comes, don't ignore Him. Continuing on in Mark 5:40, "But when He had put them all out," Jesus takes the child's closest authority, her parents, along with His disciples, came to the child, told her to arise, and she did. What an awesome and miraculous encounter with the living God.

The Lord pricked my heart with this story. And what I heard the Lord saying was, "Put out the professional mourners!" There are some people in all of our lives that are so compassion oriented that they can't help but ooze sympathy all the time. They constantly feel the great pain of personal situations to the point of suffering and they make sure you know how much they suffer. They just feel so badly for you, your family, church, and anyone else who is involved to the point that now you have to spend time comforting them. I thought I was the one going through this, not you. There is also a place in us that wants to feel sorry for ourselves. Nobody knows or understands all that I'm going through. Nobody cares about me or how much I'm hurting right now. There is a professional mourner in each one of us that taps into the mindset of pity that justifies our dysfunction. That is the real key to this enemy from within. The professional mourner strategy inside of each of us is to heighten the level of emotional trauma to the place of justifying why I can or can't do something. It lets me off the hook or allows the indulgences of soulish actions. The professional mourner is a warning shot across the bow of any person who would dare bring a word of change, responsibility, or positive action. This is why Jesus had to "put them out." The Greek "put out" - Ekballo - means to eject, thrust, expel, to cast out, throw out and drive out with a notion violence. This doesn't mean to nicely ask it to leave, walk to the door together, give it a hug, and say, "Lets do coffee." What I'm talking about is the spirit that has to be driven out of lives because it enables a crippling mentality of being a victim. You cannot keep the "wail of the mourner" in the

same room when you are trying to hear the "word from the Master."

This is why people struggle with maturing emotionally or relationally. This issue delays the resolve of situations. As long as I can keep a certain level of pity or sorrow going on in my life, I can skirt the responsibility that comes with being conformed into the image of Jesus. I guarantee you that you and I never went through the trauma of Jesus. You know, being rejected of men, scourged, beaten to a pulp, betrayed, abandoned by His closest friends, hung on a cross, dying, and bearing the weight of the sins of the world. You can list many more things that Jesus went through, but Jesus is not a victim, He is the Victor! He bears the scars of his trials in his body and remembers them, but Jesus is not defined by the event itself. Jesus is defined by how He traversed through each event and came out victorious. He is the Great Conqueror and so are you. Put out the professional mourners that distract and limit your ability to hear the Master. Then, the time of your resurrection will be at hand.

(Joe Bogue is senior pastor at Grace International Church in Willis,TX. He is a pastor, teacher, counselor and spiritual father. He has written a manual for parents and teens on courtship and marriage. He has also headed up missions trips and annual EYC Youth Camp. His email is: pastor-joe@graceic.org * Website: graceic.org * Services at Grace are live each week on Grace's Face-book page.)



"God is coming and boy is He mad!" I saw that statement on a bumper sticker and the expletive that was in the place where I put the word "mad" communicated to me an attempt at humor. Many evangelicals who have been raised on a steady diet of eschatology (study of last things) take the coming of the Lord in a negative sense. End-times and the coming of the Lord should have no negative connotation whatsoever for believers.

In many cases when a typical fundamentalist is confronted with end-time prophecies or all the terrible current events which seem to indicate an any-moment cataclysmic conclusion, heart rates pick up appreciably. A subtle "Oh, no" begins to fill the belly and future hopes, visions and dreams begin to dissipate



like morning fog on the Gulf of Mexico.

Dread and an identifiable thread of defeat mix in the scenario to make the doctrinal dialogue something we wish could be relegated to the "back shelf" indefinitely. The central message of such a theme becomes escape from everything and everyone we dislike. A cool breeze crosses our brow when we consider escape from the scrutiny of special interest groups and liberal Washington lobbyists. Implication leaves many with the understanding that immediate escape from the present is the only "hope" remaining for the "church".

When we leave this earth, it will not be as a whipped pup. It will not be as a people who have clawed their fingers bloody raw trying to climb up and out of a dry well which no one has bothered to rescue us from. But it will be as a spotless, wrinkle-free Body whose adornment is the righteous garments of the Lamb. **Departure will not be premature and certainly not prepurpose.**

"And He made known to us the mystery of His will according to His good pleasure, which He purposed in Christ, to be put into effect when the times will have reached their fulfillment - to bring all things in heaven and on earth together under One Head, even Christ (Eph.1:9-10)."

I prefer to refer to this portion of scripture as "Essential Eschatology" for that One Head and bringing all things under that Glorious Head obligates every believer to singular focus and total obedience **until** that goal is undeniably accomplished.

Cf."But when this priest had offered for all time one sacrifice for sins, He sat down at the right hand of God. Since that time He waits for His enemies to be made His footstool (Heb.10:12-13)."

There are two places where it is impossible to live: the past and the future. We must live out now what we were born to be. We have not become the mature sons of God (Cf.Gal.4:4-5) and a proper representation of Him to this present age and world system **until** we stand the ground He has ordained us to stand, having won the victories His glorious Word and Baptism have been given us to win (cf.Eph.1:12 "predestined... in order that we might be for the praise of His glory; also Gen.1:26; Prov.21:22; Mt.10:8; Jn.14: 12). Notice: We are for the praise of His glory, not the shame of His embarrassment.

Faithful sons do not forfeit their assignments which they have been given authority (power being inclusive) to accomplish in order to gain a ready relief. We are not, therefore, whining after and looking for an escape route from the highway of warfare. When we are finished with our rightful duties as faithful sons, we will not have to whine our way out of this present evil age.

In order to crown Him with many crowns (Rev.4:10;19:12) we must have crowns of victory to present to Him. **His blood bought us to raise us up in power** (Rom.1:16;1Co.6:14), to **walk in power** (Lk. 9:1-2;10:19), and to be **taken up in power** (Lk.21:27). Jesus won't be saying, "Father, please let me go

and get them. I must because they are so beaten down and abused by the devil and liberal politics as well as a biased banking system." But He will come because His bride is desirable (Rev.19:7-8)! The feminine term "bride" used to refer to those whom Christ will claim never implies "frail."

DOOMSDAY?

Doomsday for who? The doomsday people and their doomsday message need to be on public television, public radio, in secular publications and on street corners so that they can reach those upon whom is the doom. Believers are not those who are without hope. We do not look to the future with dread.

The perceived ability to interpret end-time prophecies is not the answer to the pressing needs of this world. Jesus always has been and still is the only answer.

"Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved (Acts4:12)."

Is the best teaching we can give people the one which tells them they can escape their problems or is it the one that shows them God and His Word is their ability to overcome them?

"The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work (1Jn.3:8)."

"For everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith (1Jn.5:4)."

"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full (Jn.10:10)."

"They overcame him [the devil] by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony (Rev.12:11)."

Escaping problems isn't the answer. The resolve of problems by the power of Almighty God is the answer. The greatest testimony to the name of God is not that He can snatch His puny people out of a menacing mess that is too much for them. The greatest testimony is that His power in their lives has brought them victory over every stronghold and principality in this present earth.

The unbelieving world says, "Get drunk, get high, make money and spend money to escape your problems." Precious few can be found who actually believe something might can be done about your problems. Even fewer believe you are supposed to *do* something about your problems. It is believed by looking at society throughout the world that escaping problems is the acceptable posture.

Religion says, "Hide in a bunker (Forgetting that we are a city on a hill!) and whine and pray for escape. That's when resolve will come." Are you planning on leaving here defeated? What kind of god are you praying to? Is he telling you that he can't help you in your mess or that the only way he can help you is to snatch you completely out of this world?

Where did the view ever come from that assumes the devil is some colossal celestial cat batting us around like a battered ball of string? John 10:10 says that the thief has come to steal, kill and destroy. **It doesn't say it is inevitable** that he steal, kill and destroy. 1Pe.5:8 talks about the devil walking around *like* a lion looking for someone to eat. BUT it doesn't say that it is inevitable that everyone is going to be eaten. Why don't we listen to what GOD says?:

"How you have fallen from heaven, O morning star, son of the dawn! You have been cast down to the earth, you who once laid low the nations!...Those who see you stare at you, they ponder your fate: 'Is this the man who shook the earth and made kingdoms tremble, the man who made the world a desert, who over threw its cities and would not let his captives go home'? (Isa.14:12,16-17)"

"The seventy-two returned with joy and said, 'Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name.' He replied, 'I saw satan fall like lightning from heaven. I have given YOU authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you (Lk.10:17-19)."

"The God of peace will soon crush satan under your feet (Rom.16:20)."

So many people have their ear open to hear of disaster and predictions made by experts who make "educated guesses" about everything from ozone layers to the biodegradability of baby diapers. The Word requires believers to "hear what **the Spirit** is saying (Rev.2-3)."

Faith comes by hearing and hearing comes by the Word of God. "Will He find faith when He returns?" is the question posed in Lk.18:8. I wonder if all the people who say they want Jesus to come back to get them out of their mess *truly* want Him to come back. Will He find faith when He returns or will He find escapist desperation, spiritual impotence and weakly beings not formed in His image?

Some want Him to come because they desire escape from a world that they do not have faith to function in. They desire escape from failure, from ineffectiveness and from the insufficiency of religion.

"For I tell you the truth, many prophets and righteous men longed to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it (Mt.13:17)."

What did they long to see? The victorious Christ dwelling in a victorious people working His works by His Word and His Spirit. They longed to see men and women, boys and girls (cf.Joel2:28-29) who are formed in His Image and matured, trustworthy servants, authoritative sons facing down the enemies of God while never batting an eye!

for us. \$ praying.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Dates are subject to change. Call before traveling.

Check Marty's FaceBook page for updates or our blog page: martygabler.com

PLEASE PRAY FOR US

We have been putting dates on the Calendar after the magazine goes out. Please Check Marty's Facebook page and martygabler.com for dates. We also serve on presbyteries, councils and prayer groups during the week that we don't post. Thank you for your prayers and support as we travel.—Marty & Kathy

Oct.1—Beside Still Waters 8pm About 20 minutes in the Word and prayer live streamed on Facebook weekly with Marty Gabler

Oct.2-3 * Lowmansville, KY
Grace Pointe Church
Pastors Jimmy & Nicole Horn
7:00pm
On Facebook: GracePointe Church
-Oct.5 * Louisa, KY
10:00-Meeting with leadership
6:00pm—Apostle Hodges teaching at
The Table and Marty prophetic ministry
-Oct.6 * Louisa, KY

The Table 11:00am Pastor Matt interviews Marty on 5Fold and prophecy -5:30p—Meeting with leadership

-Oct.7 * Louisa, KY

10:00am—Apostle Jim Hodges and Marty ministering to Corporate Staff of Addiction Recovery Care

-1:30p—Tour three care centers and minister to clients

Oct.8—Beside Still Waters 8pm

Oct.10 * Coldspring, TX
Terrace Bible Study

Oct. 12-13 * Grove, OK
Prophetic Training with Pastors Marty
and Karen Dyer

Oct.15 * Beside Still Waters 8pm

Oct.20 * Cedar Park, TX
Dickinson House Church 5:30pm

Info: Don Dickinson 512-775-2105

Oct.22 * Beside Still Waters 8pm Oct.24 * Terrace Bible Study

Oct.26 * Brenham,TX Cornerstone Brenham Prophetic Training with Pastor Pat Beaty and Bishop Bob Beaty cornerstonebrenham.org

Oct. 28-30 * Frisco, TX
FMCI Fall Conference
Kingdom Life Christian Center
Melissa is one of the worship leaders
Marty, Kathy and Melissa are on the
Prophet Team
Speakers include Jim Hodges, Dutch
Sheets, Dr. Patti Amsden
Info: fmci.org
No registration necessary for evening

Nov.5—Beside Still Waters 8pm Nov.12—Beside Still Waters 8pm Nov.14—Terrace Bible Study Nov.19—Beside Still Waters 8pm Nov.26—Beside Still Waters 8pm This BSW will be a Special Thanksgiving Family Communion



KINGDOM CONGRESS 2020 March 4-6, 2020

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