

SEEC Magazine

A KINGDOM PERSPECTIVE

VOLUME 25

ISSUE 5

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2021

OUR 25th YEAR OF PUBLICATION!

**The Process
of Covenant**
Jim Hodges

An Ear to Hear
Kathy Gabler

**The Thief of
Your Inheritance**
Larry Burden

Another Encounter
Melissa Gabler

**The Valley and
The Shadow**
Marty Gabler

**STRENGTHEN
ENCOURAGE
EQUIP
CHURCH
MINISTRIES**

1Co 14:3, Eph 4:12

Ps.100:4-"Give thanks to Him."

Kingdom Congress March 2-4, 2022

"God is my King from of old, Who works deeds of deliverance in the midst of the earth."Ps.74:12



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ON THE COVER:

Ps.100:4—"Enter his gates with a song of thanksgiving. Come into his courtyards with a song of praise. Give thanks to him; praise his name.



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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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As far as dreams and visions are concerned, developing an ear to hear is a matter of connecting the dots between their meaning and purpose and the essential follow through. I will give an example of connecting those dots by using a recent vision Melissa had. We have noticed a theme in Melissa's visions lately to be intercession for the nation and its leaders and the ongoing spiritual warfare. After her encounter with Sir Winston in a vision, (SEEC Magazine Feb. 2021 issue), she had the encounter with Abraham Lincoln in another vision, (SEEC Magazine, this issue.) I will break this second vision down to answer the WHAT? WHY? and HOW? but first, let's review a bit about visions: The Bible shows us that visions can be a revelation or message or an inspired sight or a God-granted view or an appearance of something or someone natural or spirit or the appearance of something remarkable or unexpected. The root word for vision means: 1) to see with the eyes, 2) to see with the mind, to perceive, to know, 3) to see or be aware because of an experience. Just the fact that God grants or enables a view, makes one thing notable: our logic and natural and normal boundaries do not limit nor dictate dreams and visions from the Holy Spirit.

The Bible defines "the veil" as that boundary that separates the natural realm from the spirit realm, or things visible from things invisible, Col.



1:16.

In God-dreams and visions it is possible to see beyond the veil and see what we could not naturally see, whether it's a panoramic display or a video or a real-time glimpse like Stephen had. In Acts 7:55, Stephen looked up and saw straight into heaven and saw Jesus standing at the right hand of the Father. There's no evidence that Stephen did that every day (probably never had any other day) but God granted him a view into the spirit realm beyond the veil. In God-dreams and visions we can also interact beyond the veil. It might be somewhat like Paul who, while in the natural realm, talked to the Lord who was beyond the veil in the spirit realm. Paul called that experience a vision in Acts 9. A God-view might also be a visitation from beyond the veil as in Matt 17. Moses and Elijah had been in the spirit realm for 100's of years, but Peter, James and John saw them in the natural realm talking with Jesus on the Mount of Transfiguration. Jesus called that whole experience a vision.

Before I go any further with vision being interaction with the spirit realm, let's put on the safety belt of wisdom and discernment: The Mount of Transfiguration experience was not (nor were Melissa's Churchill or Lincoln visions) about summoning dead people. There is an occult and sorcery practice called necromancy which is the practice of communication with the dead, either by summoning their spirits as apparitions or in visions or raising them bodily to use the dead as a weapon. A God-ordained experience will never be about summoning dead people to soothe or manipulate someone's soul or to carry out anyone's private agenda as Saul did with the witch of Endor. Melissa did not pursue a talk with Churchill or Lincoln. In fact, she never had any such ambition, and neither had she ever experienced such visions before. We don't initiate God-sent dreams or visions or prophecy, He does, and His purpose is to advance the Kingdom of God through our lives on earth. All we do is show up and participate by His appointments. The emphasis of the interaction with both Churchill and Lincoln was their position and purpose in history in a time of war. The God purpose for Melissa was to equip her for effectual intercessory perspective and action in these current times of our world at war.

As in the Churchill vision, the WHAT of the Lincoln vision was again insight from a historical political leader in time of war, but this time the war was the Civil War in the United States. That changed the focus to national, America in particular. Her question, "What do I need to know about the nation?" made the WHY of the vision obvious. It's purpose was to clarify her mission for the nation and give her details on interces-

sory strategies. Her mission and purpose became clear as details in the vision unfolded: 1) Lincoln's answer to her question tells her that it's time this nation moves away from "twisting & winding" paths that it has been on. That meant it is time to leave the confusion and chaos as the nation takes new roads. The fact that she saw four new roads represents new, foundationally sound directions. 2) Melissa is affirmed and confirmed as part of this mission assignment in the nation's history by the fact that her grandfather was among the witnesses. That generational detail points out destiny and God's intricate planning in her bloodline. 3) The timing for the mission is confirmed as immediate because the lid is literally coming off the oval office in crisis and the storm within is becoming public. 4) As she stood with President Lincoln watching the current administration from a Kingdom vantage point (represented by the high step looking down into the office), her training in strategies and weapons began.

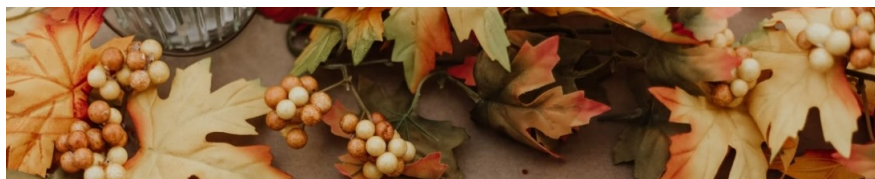
The HOW is how she handles the insights, confirmations and training of the vision, and what steps she takes to follow through and use the battle strategies, tactics and weapons she discovered. The 1st step was to position herself in an intercessory perspective, like the oval office balcony, to spy out the Enemy's camp. The 2nd tactic was to lob grenades, which were weapons of confusion, into the enemy's camp. The grenades causing people to cough up black gobs confirmed she was using Holy Spirit authorized weapons that will definitely bring deliverance. The 3rd step was to use the weapon of words. President Lincoln told her, "Your words can affect what's going on in there." She asked him, "What do I say?" And he said, "It will come." As she prayed in the vision, she knew praying in tongues until clarity comes was part of the follow through. Also, Melissa saw that boldly proclaiming as the Holy Spirit prompts is an intercessory strategy being emphasized because she started declaring blindness to the enemy in the vision and charged angels to blind the enemy so he couldn't operate properly. Beyond that, she realized that freedom could rise out of the confusion with her next words, "Turn now from your wicked ways or be trampled in the stampede!" The 4th step strategy was to stay confident of the outcome of her intercession. As everything started to settle, Mr. Lincoln (with a grin) said, "I'm conducting." That made it clear that a God outcome is certain and already destined, like a symphony already written with all the instruments and musicians in place! Melissa saw how the mission finished. She saw powers and principalities plucked and hung and she declared and continues to declare: "America, your freedom is at hand!"



There are three things expressed in every God/man covenant in history: 1. the glory of God, 2. the government of God and 3. the gifts of God. All three of these were evident in the first three covenants of the Old Testament beginning with the original covenant between God and Adam and Eve.

1st The Dominion/Cultural Mandate and Mission. (Gen 1:28, Gen 2:15).

1. GLORY - The glory of God was in creation, especially in the garden of Eden. The glory of God was of course in all God had created but it was also in unfallen mankind. Before the fall, Adam and Eve were clothed in the glory of God and made in His image to express who God is. (So shall His glorious Church show His glory and express who He is.) God is omnipresent, everywhere, but He really showed up in the garden of Eden and God and man walked together in the spirit (*ruach*) of the day. To see Divine pattern, we notice in this covenant there is a three-fold structure: the earth, the land of Eden and the garden. The earth is like the outer court, Eden like the Holy Place and the garden is like the Holy of Holies. This would also be the pattern in Moses' tabernacle that was yet to come. It reflects the whole original purpose of God which is to dwell with man, to tabernacle with man. John 1:14 tells us that Jesus came and dwelt among us or *tabernacled* among us. Jesus Himself was the ultimate



tabernacle on earth because He perfectly housed God and perfectly is God even though He was perfectly human. Out of the glory of God comes the government of God.

2. GOVERNMENT - God released His government (Kingdom) on earth through Adam and Eve and their descendants. The Kingdom of God is His rule and it is also His realm. Adam and Eve were to multiply and fill the earth which is the calling of a priest because a priest stewards relationships. Even though globalists are trying to depopulate the earth, God's mandate continues. God told Adam and Eve to govern and take dominion, to *radah and kabash*, to rule and subdue. God wants His government flowing through His created ones. It is our responsibility to be rulers and a kingdom of priests under our God. The three-fold calling is A> the priest (stewarding relationships), B> the prophet which fills the earth with the word of God, the ways of God and His cultures and values of the Kingdom, and C> the king calling is to take dominion and subdue the earth. This three-fold calling operates in a three-fold structure: God is Father, Son and Spirit and we are spirit, soul and body.

3. GIFTS - Out of His glory and government come the gifts of God. The first gift He gave Adam and Eve was Himself. His presence is the ultimate gift. He gave them the gift of fellowship as He walked in the cool of the day. Then He gave them the gift of stewardship and told them to guard the garden. Also Adam was to guard his spouse. Adam's fall was preceded by his failure and irresponsibility. Our responsibility is to guard God's interest, to guard His bride. God also gave the gift of development and cultivation of the earth. He wanted the earth developed. Although it was created perfectly, it was not fully mature or complete. God uses man to restructure creation, to make it more glorious in its expression.

2nd Covenant - The preservation of the created order and mankind.

The second covenant was between God and Noah (Gen 6:11-22, Gen 9:6-7).

1. GLORY - The glory of God was being assaulted in Noah's day. The ultimate glory of God, created in His image was mankind, and man was being assaulted. Covenantal man, the two seed lines of Cain and Abel were under assault. There was a mixture coming forth between the sons of God and the daughters of men. There are two views on this. The traditional view is that the sons of God were angels because Job refers to angels as sons of God three times, and the daughters of men would repre-

sent mankind, and their cohabitation produced giants. The other view is that the daughters of men were the descendants of Cain and the sons of God were the descendents of Seth because Seth is injected into the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah. The sons of God could just be the line of righteous covenant keepers that intermarried with the unrighteous. In either view, God opposed the mixture because it weakens and compromises the line of the righteous. The glory was also being assaulted by widespread violence and corruption in mankind to the point that God had to deal with it in universal judgment, but as with all God's covenants, the covenant with Noah was redemptive: God started over with eight people. As Jack Hayford said, "Redemption glorifies God more than creation."

2. GOVERNMENT - The covenant with Noah released then a mechanism to guard against evil maturing to the level of universal judgment again. In (Gen 9), God ordained the civil ruler, and this is the root of civil government covered in Romans 13. God ordained the civil ruler so that mankind would learn to deal with the enemy of God that is trying to wipe out human life via murder. The enemy wanted to wipe out human life because God would bring the Messiah and Redeemer who would be fully God and fully human. Even today we are having to overcome a philosophy that is anti-life, anti-gender reality, anti-nuclear family, anti-Church and anti-nation. Globalism opposes nationhood. In Genesis Chapter 10 there were 70 nations. However, in chapter 11, there is Babel (globalism), which was about building a centralized government to rule everything. In chapter 12, there is an answer to the conflict between chapters 10 and 11, between nations and globalism. We are where we are as America because we had too many political leaders for generations who were globalists. Globalization is just economics, free and fair trade, but globalism is demonic like we see in Babel. That tower was not going to reach heaven architecturally. They attempted to reach heaven metaphysically and used divination and witchcraft, etc. That spirit is still with us today. (It is disappointing when civil rulers that are supposed to avenge us are evil themselves. That irresponsibility leads to a fall. In some ways, our nation is in a free fall, but there is a remnant that's pushing back that is not just on the defense. The civil ruler has the sword of the Lord to avenge evil but the Ekklesia Church has the sword of a rhema word in their mouth. Your mouth is a sword when you are sharing, not just memorized scripture, but rhema, revelatory, breakthrough, prophetic words.)

3. GIFTS - Of the gifts given in the Noahic covenant, one was architecture on how to build an arc. Another gift was the gift of seasons. A third gift was a rainbow with the promise that God would not allow the world to get so wicked again to bring a universal judgment. God also

gave Noah and his family the gift of starting over with the same mandate, same mission. In Gen 9, God gave the command to Noah to populate the earth as He had commanded Adam, but He used a different word saying *swarm* the earth. (One interesting note also is that Noah was a Gentile priest. That tells us the plans of God have not been about ethnic Israel but about covenantal Israel, which is both Jews and Gentiles.)

3rd Covenant - The Redemption Plan of God was activated in history (Gen 12:1-5). The third covenant was between God and Abraham. Redemption happened for Adam and Eve. Redemption was pictured with Noah when they offered animals after coming off the ark, and God was pleased with the sacrifices. But redemption came to fullness with Abraham. That's why there is more reference to him in the New Testament than other Old Testament characters. The calling of Abraham was to come out of his land Chaldea and go to the Promised Land.

1. GLORY - The glory of God was released in the call and promises to Abraham because his seed blesses all ethnicities and nations. The glory of God was revealed in calling Abraham who was in the genealogical line of Shem (Noah's son) who was carrying the covenant. Joshua 24:2 says that Abram was home in Chaldea living with his father Terah and grandfather Nahor who worshiped idols. This shows us that Abraham had the right genealogy but he was being discipled in idolatry. Covenant always trumps ethnicity. (We can be proud of our ethnicity and culture as God made us, but we do not believe in ethnic superiority.) The glory of God is in calling, and we are like Abram in that we did not call ourselves but were called by God.

2. GOVERNMENT - Abram gives us the first clue of what Ekklesia is. The called, the called out ones are called from the world system, the power of sin and the dominion of darkness. And we are called out to worship the Father and Son by Holy Spirit. We are called to govern on the earth in behalf of our exalted King. The government is released in a joint venture between Father and Son in the earth. In Gen 17, God didn't just call Abram, He brought him into covenant with Himself. The man who was raised in idolatry believed God when he said to look up into the stars of the heavens to see how numerous his descendants would be. The man had a rush of faith which Paul talks about as justification by faith. Faith opened the door and then covenant was sealed through circumcision. This process was more than a physical act. It was basically the initiation of adoption. God had to adopt Abraham as a son because this Father of the Faith could not be a father without being a son.

3. GIFT - This covenantal relationship, like every covenant, was sealed with blood. We are in relational covenant with Father because of the blood of Jesus. The gift God gave Abraham and Sarah was a son and all the future that included.

(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 is *BATTLE FOR EARTH: GLOBALISM VS. NATIONHOOD*. This book and other materials may be found at his website: fmci.org or by calling the office 972-283-2262.)



In 1 Kings 21, the Bible records the incident of Naboth and his vineyard that lay adjacent to the palace of King Ahab. Ahab was a morally weak and narcissistic king who was married to Jezebel, a wicked, seductive, prophet-persecuting witch. Ahab coveted this vineyard and offered to purchase the land from Naboth in order that he might convert it into his personal vegetable garden.

Ahab approached Naboth to make a deal for the land. He offered Naboth money or a better vineyard than the one he currently owned. After all, it was a perfect location for the king's vegetable garden. It seemed like a good deal for both, except for one thing. Naboth had inherited this land from his family. Naboth said to Ahab, *The Lord forbid that I should give you the inheritance of my fathers* (1 Kings 21:3).

Ahab returned to his house and moped over this. He lay down on his bed, hid his face, and refused to eat. When Jezebel saw this, she became infuriated that Naboth would dare deny the king have his way by virtue of his position and entitlement. *Do you not reign over Israel? Arise, eat bread, and let your heart be joyful; I will give you the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite* (1 Kings 21:7).

Jezebel proceeded to write letters in the name and seal of King Ahab to the elders and nobles who lived in Naboth's city. In the letters she in-



structed the elders and nobles to proclaim a fast and place Naboth at the head of the people. She further instructed that two evil, wicked men be seated before Naboth who would bring accusation against Naboth. They were to testify that Naboth cursed and renounced God and the king, and then they were to carry Naboth out of the gathering place and stone him to death.

Those elders and nobles followed the instructions of Jezebel to the letter. The fast was called, Naboth was seated at the head of the people with the two evil accusers seated as instructed, and the two brought the accusation against Naboth. Naboth was then taken outside the city and stoned to death. Word was then sent to Jezebel that the deed was done.

The Bible records, *And it came about when Jezebel heard that Naboth had been stoned and was dead, that Jezebel said to Ahab, Arise, take possession of the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite, which he refused to give you for money; for Naboth is not alive, but dead* (1 Kings 21:15). When Ahab heard this news, he got up from his pity party, headed to the vineyard, and proceeded to take possession of that which was not his, another man's inheritance.

While Ahab was taking possession of this vineyard, the Lord directed Elijah to confront him. Elijah found Ahab in the vineyard and said these words: *Have you murdered, and also taken possession? Thus says the Lord, In the place where the dogs licked up the blood of Naboth the dogs shall lick up your blood, even yours . . . I have found you because you have sold yourself to do evil in the sight of the Lord. Behold, I will bring evil upon you, and will utterly sweep you away and will cut off from Ahab every male, both bond and free in Israel; and I will make your house like the house of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, and like the house of Baasha the son of Ahijah, because of the provocation with which you have provoked Me to anger, and because you have made Israel sin. And of Jezebel also has the Lord spoken, saying, The dogs shall eat Jezebel in the district of Jezreel. The one belonging to Ahab, who dies in the city, the dogs shall eat, and the one who dies in the field the birds of heaven shall eat. Surely there was no one like Ahab who sold himself to do evil in the sight of the Lord, because Jezebel his wife incited him. And he acted very abominably in following idols, according to all that the Amorites had done when the Lord cast out before the sons of Israel* (1 Kings 21:19-26).

I have read this account of Naboth many times. He was an upright man who loved God and was unwilling to sell his birthright inheritance to anyone, even to the king of Israel. While the king recognized the importance of this, his evil wife had no such conviction. She determined that, as the king of Israel, Ahab had the right to take whatever he wanted, even that which rightly belonged to another man by rights of inheritance. In her conniving, elitist way, she orchestrated a plot to take what she wanted for her husband, even if it meant destroying another and stealing his inheritance. Truth is, this was not as much about getting something for her beloved husband as it was satisfying her own jealous envy and lust of

power in the name of her rights. The innocent was sacrificed to satisfy her jealous narcissism and prove her ability to wield destructive power and have her way.

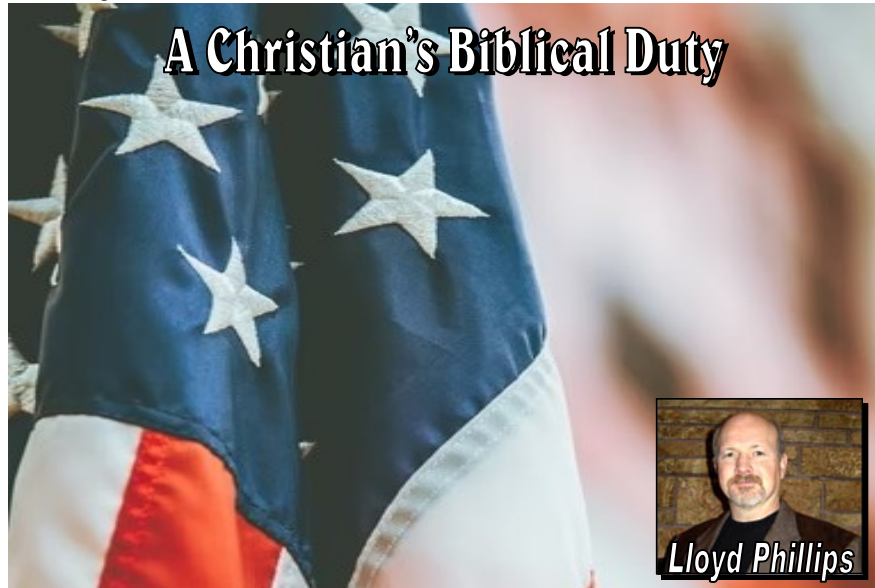
This destructive spirit has operated in the earth from the beginning. We have witnessed this deception turn government leaders from adhering to that which is constitutional and healthy for our country into a corrupt, narcissistic system of rulers that satisfies the insatiable lust for possessions, influence, and power. Such are those who wickedly steal a nation's inheritance of freedom to establish a socialist state where the elite few can exercise their *rights* to take whatever they please from whomever they please without retribution. The result is chaos, confusion, and every evil work (the byproducts of envy, jealousy, and elitism) toward the rightful heirs of freedom.

Sadly, the same occurs in the Lord's church. Many Naboth vineyards are being routed in the name of sonship rights through those who deem their assignments and benefits to be of higher-level importance than those who are the rightful heirs of the vineyards. They seduce, connive, and convince the innocent ones that they are more worthy to be followed than those who faithfully tend the inheritance of the Lord's body. Such are the thieves of the vineyards. As it went with Ahab and Jezebel, so it shall be with them, unless they repent.

Father's judgments are always primarily redemptive. Ahab tore his clothes, put on sackcloth and ashes, and fasted in repentance for his sin. God acknowledged his humility and declared. *Do you see how Ahab has humbled himself before Me, I will not bring the evil in his days, but I will bring the evil upon his house in his son's days.* Soon after this, Ahab was shot with an arrow in battle. He died in his chariot and was taken back to Samaria for burial. When his servants washed his blood out of the chariot, the dogs licked up his blood according to the word of Elijah. Jezebel's day was not far behind.

Let us learn the high value that Father places upon the inheritance of a nation and His body. Let us honor one another and not assume we have the right to take for ourselves that which is another person's because we think we have the right to do so. He is a covenant-honoring God who places high value upon inheritance. Let us be mindful not to assume that as sons and daughters of God that we can do what we please with another's inheritance. And when we see that tendency in others, let us make it a matter of concern and prayer so that the body of Christ may remain intact and effectively functioning (Js.5:16). Let us learn the lesson of Ahab and Jezebel. May we honor one another and respect each one's vineyard.

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As you know, if we can change a person's mind, we will change their actions. One of the most powerful tools a Christian has is the power to pull down strongholds or change beliefs and thereby change actions of people.

I have found that the interpretation of Romans 13 repeated at the OAK Initiative and in many Christian circles is not helpful to the cause in America currently. In fact, it doesn't differ much at all from the interpretations used in Germany under Hitler. Hitler considered the following his favorite verse.

Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God (Romans 13:1).

He was able to use this belief to influence and eventually control the church. I have also found this belief to be a hindrance when endeavoring to mobilize church leaders against ungodly immoral or unconstitutional acts or laws of the government. Some interpret the following verse as the limits to obedience.

For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil. Do you want to be unafraid of the authority? Do what is good, and you will have praise from the same (Romans 13:3).

In other words, once a governing power has ceased to terrorize evil



works and reward good works, it has become illegitimate and has ceased to require biblical obedience to such governments or laws. This may have been the dominant view of our founders. However, today you will hear this countered with I Peter 2:13, “Therefore submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord’s sake, whether to the king as supreme.” However, one will never hear the following verse, which also echoes the second verse of Romans 13, and tends to strengthen that view.

Or to governors, as to those who are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and for the praise of those who do good (I Peter 2:14).

Likewise, almost never do we hear one of the most clearly exhibited verses in the New Testament, the apostolic declaration of Acts 5:29: “But Peter and the other apostles answered and said: ‘We ought to obey God rather than men.’”

Once again we find the church in need of the apostolic direction that the early church had on this issue. Today it is predominantly absent. The section I referred to earlier in I Peter 2:13-14 ends with the exhortation in verse 17, “Honor all people. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king.” This puts the honor of the king on the same level of honoring all people, although it is specifically singled out. This does not say to obey the king that you are honoring any more than it says to obey the people that you are honoring. This is significant because when this was written, the person was the law since they had no constitution. Much more than now, they had rulers, not governors. This is a significant difference and is the main stronghold that we must take aim upon to set people free from the bondage of incorrect interpretation and application.

Among the nations, and unlike any nation existing at the time the Bible was written, we have a nation with a unique constitution and a legally binding set of documents presenting what our founders said was the line of authority for legitimate governments. Primary to these, and all of our laws, is what the Supreme Court has called “the organic law of the United States”, known as the Declaration of Independence. It states:

“... to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed...”

This clarifies the interpretation of Romans 13:1, which our Founders held and was different than that of the Europeans. They believed the higher powers receive their God-ordained authority from the Creator (earlier in the same sentence) through the consent of the people! This is an important distinction and echoes Acts 5:29. The Declaration continues, “That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these

ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government . . .” thus showing that their interpretation of Scripture is the less heard, but very legitimate interpretation that when a Government ceases to punish the evildoer, but instead punishes the good, it forfeits its right to the authority granted by God.

Of course, they did not agree with simply disregarding laws or governments just because they weren’t perfect. This was also clarified in the document, “Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses....”

However, their gift to us did not end with clearly placing before mankind the common sense of the subject in terms so plain and clear as to command our agreement, but they also passed onto us a form of government which is very different than any other on the face of the earth until the time of our Constitution. They presented to us a constitutional republic—a form of government not of men but of laws. In fact, the Constitution even outlaws nobility granted by the government, the root of all man-rule in Europe.

This constitution, with its flexibility to be amended, is still, when applied, the greatest terror to evil and encouragement to good the governments of the world has seen since the Law was given to Moses on Mount Sinai.

Yet our strongholds keep us from interpreting Scripture in light of the government which we have been given. When Scripture says “submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord’s sake, whether to the king as supreme” (see I Peter 2:13), we most often think of a man. Yet in our case no man is supreme; the supreme law of the land is the Constitution.

This is significant since no man, in our form of government, is ever above the law, and no law is above the Constitution. I have heard it said that we have a paper king. Our king—or highest earthly governor—is not a person, but a document. Hence, in order to submit to our sovereign, we must judge all laws and all politicians according to our “higher authority,” which is the Constitution, not a man, platform, or a party. All our oaths of office are to “...support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same....” This is because the Constitution is supreme.

At Lexington Green, Massachusetts, April 19, 1775 was set aside as a day of prayer and public fasting, Rev. Jonas Clarke, a local pastor and militia leader replied to the British officer's demand that the Minutemen lay down their arms, "We recognize no Sovereign but God and no King but Jesus." Then followed the shot that would change history and change the course of nations.

Ours is the first nation that effectively recognizes the Creator as sovereign and the people as the wellspring of His authority on earth (see Genesis 1:26, 28). All those who govern in our nation must submit their governance to the supreme law of the land, the Constitution. In our case, clearly, when applying Romans 13:1, the governing authority is that of the Constitution and not a man or men. For Christians to obey the Romans 13 mandate, we must realize that to allow or follow unconstitutional laws is to disobey God by disobeying the supreme law of the land.

We cannot be obedient to submit ourselves to "every ordinance" if we do not submit to the supreme ordinance, which is the Constitution. As Christians, we have a duty to "use our liberty as a bondservant for God" (see I Peter 2:16). In the American Christian context, this means that Christians must get involved in the process of government and insist that our laws and lawmakers are submitted to the Constitution. If we will not do this, then we are obeying man rather than God, which will, and arguably has, brought us under the judgment of God.

The Scriptures tell us that we must honor our fathers and mothers or our land will come under a curse (see Deuteronomy 27:16). Perhaps this is what Charles Finney was thinking when he wrote, "The Church must take right ground in regard to politics . . . The time has come that Christians must vote for honest men, and take consistent ground in politics or the Lord will curse them . . . God cannot sustain this free and blessed country, which we love and pray for, unless the Church will take the right ground. Politics are a part of religion, in such a country as this, and Christians must do their duty to their country as a part of their duty to God."

Finney seemed to recognize that "such a country as this" demanded things of the church that were different than in the days of the early church when men were rulers. Today, we have a supreme law of the land that recognizes the Creator and the source of His authority in the government and through the people exercised through the Constitution and constitutional laws. Obeying the Constitution and requiring our leaders to do the same is the biblical duty of all American Christians.

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Another Encounter



The following experience happened over multiple days. Back in June, I felt a drawing to take time and just sit to hear from the Lord. The next thing I knew I was standing in a field of flowers that the Lord took me to back in 2016. Jesus was standing beside me and the great cloud of witnesses were in a circle all around us. Someone stepped out of the circle of witnesses and my jaw dropped. I knew exactly who it was and his iconic attire confirmed it. It was Abraham Lincoln. Ok, I thought, let's do this!

I walked over to him and clearly saw the left side of his face. His cheek was full, not gaunt, and there were no wrinkles around his eyes. His eyes were brilliant blue and he had the most genuine smile. We started walking and all I could think to ask him was, "What do I need to know about the nation?" He said, "The road has been twisting and winding." His words stopped there but I saw a two lane road that was twisting and winding when all of a sudden it ended and there were four freshly paved roads where that one stopped. We were walking along the line of witnesses and I glanced over to see if I recognized anyone and I saw a man, in his late 20's with dark hair. He had a smile like "You have no idea what's ahead." Though I didn't know him, suddenly a question flashed through my head, "Was that my Pawpaw?" (As a side note: the next day when I was moving a box of old pictures for Mom, I came across



a sepia toned photo with that same man in it. I was stunned to find out that was indeed my grandfather and how he looked in his 20's! That moment brought an assuring confirmation of the reality and accuracy of the vision unfolding before me.)

As I walked on with Abraham Lincoln, the scene changed. It was pitch dark except for narrow cement staircases that were lit up all over the place. President Lincoln and I started walking up the stairs in front of us. When we got to the top there was a door, he opened it and light flooded in. We stepped through the door onto a balcony and in front of us is what looked like 2-way glass. On the other side of the glass was the modern day Oval Office, and Biden was standing there along with some others. This is where the first encounter ended.

The next day I realized I was standing there with Abraham Lincoln watching the current administration from a Kingdom vantage point, and they had no idea we were there. Why Abraham Lincoln? He is one that was taken out by the evil agenda we see being exposed that has been at work a very long time! Three days later, I was back with Mr. Lincoln on the balcony looking into the Oval Office and watching the people in there. Lincoln pulled out grenades and began to toss them into the Oval Office. The grenades were causing confusion out of nowhere, after all, they had no idea they were surrounded! I was watching this happen when Lincoln told me, "Your words can affect what's going on in there." That certainly shook me and all I could think is, 'I want to do my part!' I asked him, "What do I say?" And he said, "It will come." He steadily tossed more hand grenades. I saw the looks on some of the faces in the room and they looked very stressed. The grenades were not typical. They were not causing an explosion that they could hear or see; rather they caused people to cough, and they were coughing up black gobs. I prayed in tongues and started calling more confusion in that room, the kind of confusion that would bring freedom!

A couple of days later, I sat down again because I wanted to do my part in this new place of spiritual warfare and intercession. I was back on that balcony looking into the Oval Office and it was full of smoke. Mr. Lincoln had stopped throwing grenades and was just watching. I used my words and started declaring blindness to the enemy and charged angels to blind the enemy so he couldn't operate properly. This encounter ended here in the moments of intercession.

A couple of days later, still on the balcony, I saw the Oval Office was full of dark swirling clouds. There was lightning and wind and the sound of an elephant stampede!

President Lincoln said, “It’s getting wild!” I suddenly yelled into the chaos, “Turn now from your wicked ways or be trampled in the stampede!” Standing in this moment I looked over at Mr. Lincoln and was in awe of what he stands for in the middle of what is unfolding. A dark agenda took President Lincoln out and dared to touch God’s plan, and now that same agenda has no idea it’s surrounded by God’s retribution!

A couple of days later, the storm was still raging in the Oval Office when all of a sudden the roof was peeled back like a lid on a tin can. The storm was sucked out as if by a vacuum. As everything started to settle, with a grin, Mr. Lincoln said, “I’m conducting.” My thought was, with Lincoln at the helm of this national spiritual warfare, he must have been one of the very few presidents that was not a part of this darkness! This is where the Oval Office visit ended.

A couple of days later, I was back in a room that I saw in the fall of last year. This place was like a realm surrounding the world we are familiar with on a daily basis. It has some tables and chairs in it and windows looking out onto life as we know it. I was just standing there when President Lincoln walked up and sat in a chair, so I sat across from him. Again I asked what I needed to do or know. He leaned in rather intensely. I felt his intensity and decided to just be quiet and still and see what happened. He looked over on the desk between us and there was a black and white feather sitting there. He picked it up and rubbed it between his fingers and all of a sudden I see these bird-like creatures completely plucked, be-headed and hanging upside down on a wire. Then the door of this room opened and a wind blew through the room and out the door. Lincoln let the feather go and it blew out. I knew this represented freedom! So as the wind continued to blow, I declared out loud, “Your freedom is at hand!” I believe these were powers and principalities plucked and hung! This is where this equipping, intercessory encounter ended.

(Melissa is Communications Director and worship leader at Grace Church Willis. She also owns Sterling Regard Photography. sterlingregardphotography.com)

Melissa — I will boil down prophetic lifestyle to this: The key is awareness. We must remember, at all times that the Kingdom of God is invading this nation. Each one of us has a piece of the Kingdom that penetrates and affects the region around us. We are going to WIN this fight. Hey, it’s not pretty right now, but no matter what you see, hear, or face it has no effect on what God has set in motion. After all, He has the last word!



Many times I like to fall sleep at night with the TV on. Just having the noise in the background, for some reason, puts me asleep very quickly. Many nights I go to YouTube and put on Bible reading. It's just a video of some far off beach with quiet waters lapping on the shore while a voice is quoting scriptures. I was awakened at 2am with the TV saying, "He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches." This caught my attention immediately because we were wrapping up our Dreams, Visions, and Prophecy Seminar with Marty and Kathy Gabler. The theme of the seminar was "An Ear To Hear". I perked up and listened intently to what was next. Well, it was speaking to the church in Pergamos, Revelation 2:12-17.

I jumped up and went to my chair and read the passages again. As I did, I believe the Spirit of God began to identify some of the prevailing spirits and giants that we, the Ekklesia, have to address, push back against, and pray for Kingdom solutions. I'm not building a doctrine out of these insights, but I do believe that there are prevailing spirits that have been around since the beginning that have risen again to be confronted and dealt with in our day. These are my observations: Pergamum was in the northwest of Turkey. It is at an elevation of 1000ft near the Aegean Sea. It had a large library second only to Alexandria, Egypt. It was a great center of knowledge. It had a temple to Zeus and Athena. It also had the Great Altar which was dedicated to both Zeus and Athena. It also



had temples to Trajan and Hadrian. It was the center of Emperor Worship. They also had a Centre of Healing with a Temple of Asclepius, the God of medicine. The myth says that Zeus kills him with a lightning bolt because he was healing too many people with his powers and not enough people were crossing over to Hades. There is also a magnificent amphitheater. It is in this context that the Lord speaks to the believers in Pergamum.

I'm going to use an outline form for my insights:

- Rev 2:12 - "And to the angel of the church in Pergamos write; These things saith He which hath the sharp sword with two edges." Adam Clark puts it this way: "The sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God, cuts every way; it convinces of sin, righteousness and judgment; pierces between the joints and the marrow, divides between the soul and spirit, deserts the whole mind, and exhibits a regular anatomy of the soul. It not only reports and exposes sin, but it slays the ungodly, pointing out and determining the punishment they shall endure. Jesus has the sword with the two edges, because He is the Savior of sinners, and the Judge of the quick and dead."

- Rev 2:13 - "I know thy works, and where thou dwellest, even where Satan's seat is: and thou holdest fast my name, and hast not denied my faith, even in those days wherein Antipas was my faithful martyr who was slain among you where Satan dwelleth." You would think that Satan's seat would be Rome, but it appears that he has more chairs in the world than we thought, or that the center of power is not where we think it is. Either way, the people in this city made a place for him.

- Here are the first 2 prevailing giants we need to address in our time:

- 1) WORSHIP OF STATE GODS - The hopes of people are set on a party or personality instead of the principles of governance. People are looking for charismatic leadership to provide and save us, instead of allowing the Constitution to provide guidelines of self government, family government, church government, civil government and ultimately Kingdom government.

- 2) EXPLOITATION OF MEDICINE FOR MANIPULATION - Rarely have we seen such manipulation of the medical field and science as we are seeing now. The use of political manipulation to control population behavior is extraordinary in our country. This is common practice in other nations that are communistic and socialistic in nature and intent, but the blatant use of the medical field to conjure a desired end stands out like a sore thumb in the land of liberty and freedom. Remember, it was

for freedom that Christ set us free. (Gal 3:1)

• Rev 2:14 - “But I have a few things against thee, because thou hast there them that hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balac to cast a stumblingblock before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed unto idols, and to commit fornication.” THE WAY OF BALAAM - 2Pe. 2:15 “Which have forsaken the right way, and are gone astray, following the way of Balaam, the son of Bosor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness. • USE OF YOUR GIFT FOR PROFIT - The Spirit of Balaam uses God-given gifts for the pursuit of money. There is nothing wrong with getting paid for a job, receiving an offering for ministry, prospering in a business. People ask if I’m a prosperity teacher, my answer, “Well, I’m sure not a poverty teacher.” It is the wages of unrighteousness that is the problem. Ill gotten gains that are derived from God-given gifts. The love of money is the root of all kinds of evil. • BRINGING A MIXTURE INTO THE CAMP - The counsel of Balaam spoken of in Num. 31 addresses the fact that he could not curse the people that God had blessed, so he advises Balak to use the Midianite women to seduce the men. This brought about the plague of Peor where 24,000 men died. What Balaam couldn’t do by conjuring curses, he did by using the flesh and carnality in man to bring a mixture into the camp.

• Rev 2:15 - So hast thou also them that hold the doctrine of the Nicolaitans, which thing I hate. • DOCTRINE OF THE NICOLAITANS - There are several meanings to this aspect of our discourse. Some scholars believe that this is an apostate deacon enumerated in Acts 6. I believe that for our time it may mean something else. Nikao is defined as “prevail, conquer, overcome”. Laos is the laity, people, masses. I believe that the spirit we are talking about is the elite rule over the people. We are seeing it more and more, that there are two rules and standards for us. One for the connected and ruling class and another for all the other people. Whether it has to do with masks, vaccines, protests, laws, court systems, taxes, or even religious doctrines, all of these always favor a certain point of view and narrative. I am always entertained when a politician, media personality, or celebrity wants to tell me what Jesus would do are say about any given topic. The doctrine of elite rule over people is a major giant that needs to be brought down.

• Rev. 2:16 - “Repent; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth.”

• Rev. 2:17 - “He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it. HIDDEN MANNA - the manna put in a golden jar and placed into the Ark of the Covenant. I believe this speaks of a word that comes from the presence of God. There was daily manna where you

could go out everyday, receive it, and nourish yourself. But, there is a place in the presence of God, basking in His glory, dwelling in the secret place of the Most High, it is here where God will give us the hidden Manna set aside for such a time as this. Go back to the place where you can see Him face to face, and the Lover of our soul will speak to us the words that are Spirit and life.

We are living in precarious times. We are coming to a Mount Carmel encounter with what was started in the 50's with the rise of communism and socialism. This 70 year venture to turn America into something other than its original intent is moving at a fevered pitch and coming to a conclusion. It's not that America won't be here, the question is "what" America will be here? And what of the people of God who dwell in this land? What is our role in these times? I believe 2Chron. 7:14, that if we will humble our selves, pray, seek his face, and turn from our wicked ways, He will hear from heaven, forgive our sins, and heal our land. I also believe that what took 70yrs of neglect and dilapidation can be rebuilt in 52 days, just ask Nehemiah. There are giants in the land, but we are here to do our part in forming the Kingdom history for our families, cities, states, and nations. Fear not for the Lord your God is for you and not against you. "Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not", Jer 33:3.

(Joe Bogue is lead pastor at Grace 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. He does a short livestream each Wednesday at 9:45am on the Grace Church Facebook page. His email is: PJoeB87@gmail.com * Website: gracewillis.org * Services at Grace are live each week on Grace's Facebook page and there is an archive of videos on Grace Church's YouTube Channel.)



For I know the purposes which I am purposing for you; says Jehovah; purposes of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope." (Jer.29:11, NKJV)

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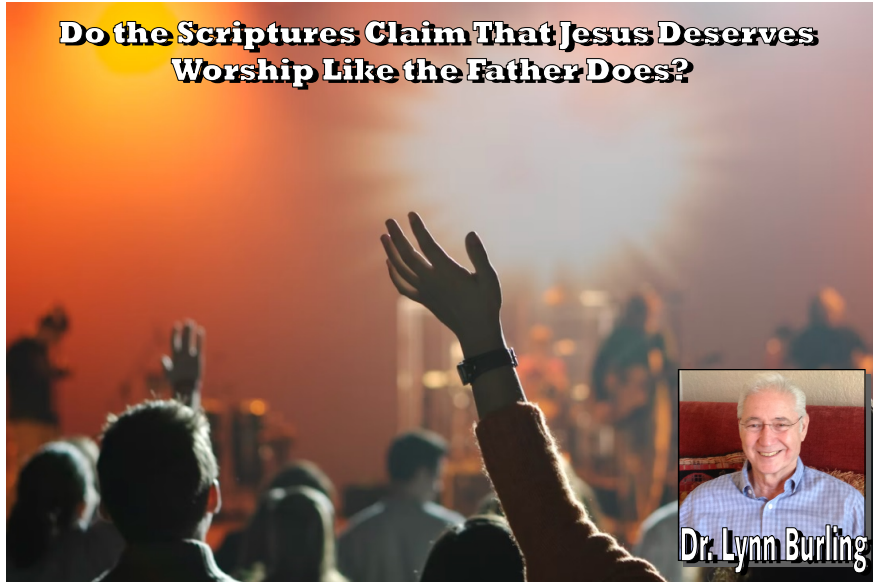
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Do the Scriptures Claim That Jesus Deserves Worship Like the Father Does?



Do we worship, God the Father, Jesus the Son or the Holy Spirit? The answer is YES! I've noticed over the last several months, this question has arisen and many Christians are not sure of their own doctrine concerning the Godhead. The prompting for this is that I've had the privilege of watching several Jewish Rabbis and Christians discuss whether Jesus, Yeshua, is the Messiah. Let's state right up front, the true Jew will not worship anything or anyone that is not the true God! Neither will I, nor do I believe would you, but for clarification, let's delve into this to find the real motivation and truth behind worshipping Jesus. The chief belief of Christians that sets us apart from all other religions is that Jesus Christ rose or resurrected from the grave. Some of the Jewish protagonists state that before Christ was born, there were others who claimed to have been born of a virgin and claimed to have risen from the dead. That is not surprising. Even Satan understood some of the scripture and has tried to water down the truth so as to confuse and deceive God's ultimate plan, but where is the body of evidence for their claims?

"Hear O Israel the Lord our God is one Lord." A couple of shortcuts are to assume many who read this know that the Father God is God, Jesus is God and the Holy Spirit is the very God of very God. All three are one, period, but each is easy to understand, as each one manifested to the world at their perfect time. One of my all time favorite verses is: John 1:1-3 (NKJ) "In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." [Did you just hear that scripture was God?] Beloved, how can anything that "was God" cease to be God, the Father? Even you and I cannot be separated from our Word. It is our personal distinction that separates us from one another. Now, Jesus the Christ is

the Word of God. See if you remember these scriptural quotes: “If you’ve seen Me, you’ve seen the Father.” “I and my Father are One.”

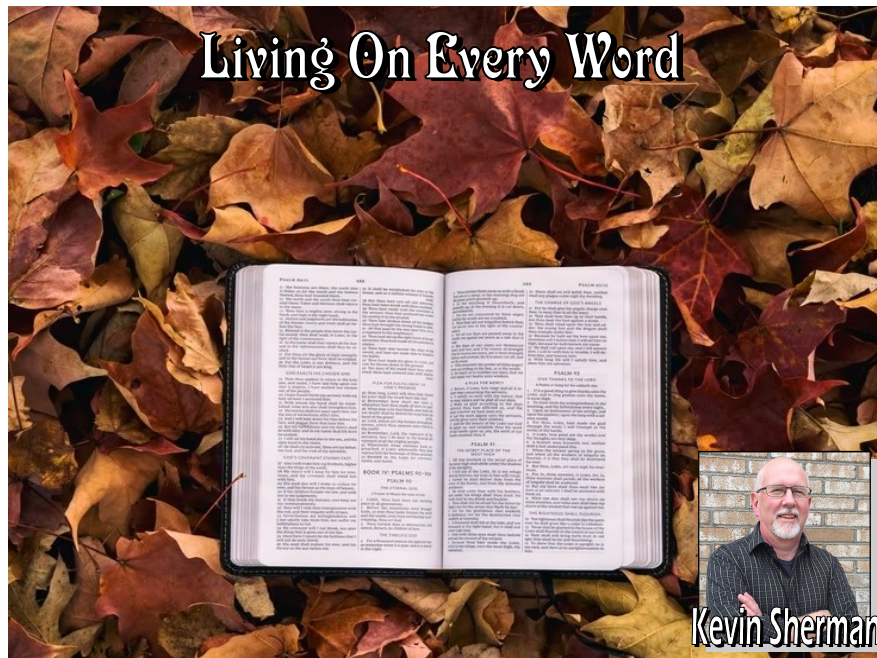
“In whom we have redemption through His blood, even the forgiveness of sins: who is the image of the invisible God.” “And without controversy, great is the mystery of Godliness; God was manifested in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.” Pause, *selah*. Let’s remember God had a plan for man’s redemption before the foundation of the world, before Adam fell, in his foreknowledge, He knew all of this.

Our Father speaks clearly in 2Cor 5:19 to wit, that God (Father) was in Christ (Jesus), reconciling the world unto Himself. So if God, His own incarnate Word made flesh, is His only begotten, not another God, but God of Very God, then worship Him as Father, worship Him as Son, and as Holy Spirit. (Compelling!) Now, the Old Testament says, “I will give my glory to no one and you will never worship any other than me,” interesting. God the Father commanded the angels to worship the Son. Heb.1:6, when He bringeth in the first begotten into the world, He saith, ‘and let all the angels of God worship Him’” (REALLY!). Why would God tell the angels to worship the Son as they have worshipped Him? It should become more clear now Jesus declared, “I and my Father are One.” Yep, that’s what he said, “Before Abraham was I AM!” Yep, again! You see, the Jews knew that He was making Himself equal with God when He called God his own Father. Makes sense to me!

In John 17:13, Jesus prayed to the Father, “And now, O Father, glorify me together with you (with your own Self) with the glory which I had with thee before the world was.” I pray this is all making sense and your head is not spinning. You see, before Jesus the Christ, in the Father, was with God the Father, God as the Word, and the same Word that created all things, and all things are held together by Him. Yes, that same One before He came as a man servant just to offer up a sin sacrifice for our eternal life is God the Word, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.

Isaiah 42:8: “I am the Lord, that is my name, and my glory will I not give to another.” Glory, (DOXA), means Praise, Honor, Magnificence, Preeminence, Majesty, (Thayer). Honor is the honor of one who outranks others, Veneration and Reverence, (Thayer). Phil. 2:9-11, in the Complete Jewish Bible, “Therefore God raised Him to the highest place and gave Him the name above every name; that in the honor of the name given Yeshua, every knee will bow in heaven, on earth and under the earth; and every tongue will acknowledge that Yeshua the Messiah IS Adonai, to the Glory of God the Father.”

(Lynn Burling is a retired pastor. He is Texas Bishop for the Association of Evangelical Gospel Assemblies and President of From The Heart Ministries. He is an apostle to leaders and pastors in multiple countries worldwide.)



The incarnation is a wondrous thing to think about. God becoming a man. The Word becoming flesh. Of all that is written in the Bible and everything holy, nothing leaves me in a greater state of awe than when I meditate on the fact that the second person of the Godhead, the Son of God who sits at the right hand of God the Father, was born into a human body, walked the earth as a man, submitted himself to earthly parents, and even learned to listen and obey, eventually giving himself over to a cruel death at the hands of evil men. Part of the purpose of God coming to Earth in the flesh was to demonstrate to us what it looks like for a man to have an intimate relationship with God. The Creator of the universe entered into our humanity. It's a mind-boggling paradox, yet we must set out on a quest for understanding or we'll completely miss the meaning of everything Christ endured. *The* Son of God became flesh to bring me into union with him so that I could live as *a* son of God.

Back to the Jordan River. John baptizes him and something strange and wonderful happens when he comes up from the water...the realm of heaven opens up over Jesus and the Holy Spirit descends and rests on him in the form of a dove. Not only was he baptized in water, he was baptized in the Holy Spirit. Then, the voice of the Father comes out of the sky, saying, *"This is My Beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."* Matthew, Mark, and Luke all give an account of the voice coming down, though we're not told with certainty if all those present heard it too. I believe they did because it served a dual purpose: those present needed to hear it and Jesus needed to hear it.

Religion had taught me from early in my childhood that the voice heard from heaven was only for the sake of those in the crowd that day, letting everyone

there know that this was their long-awaited Messiah. Could it be that Jesus needed to hear it too? Could it be that Jesus, the Son of man, needed affirmation from his Father that he was indeed His son? Could it be that he needed to hear that his Father was well pleased with him, even though he had yet to perform a miracle? What happens next is very revealing as to why this affirmation was so important.

It is very important to know that Jesus had not even begun his ministry before he heard those words come down from the Father in heaven at his baptism. The natural inclination is to think, "yippee, let's pack our bags, hit the road, and go do some miracles now!" Nope, not yet. *"Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil."* (Matthew 4:1 NASB) That doesn't sound like the way to start the ministry of saving the world does it? One of the reasons Jesus came was to show mankind the way and it's not usually the way we would choose. When Jesus said *"I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the father but through me"*, He wasn't just talking about going to heaven. He was talking about being able to approach the Father as a son or daughter. Jesus made the way and showed us the way.

The same Spirit that had just descended on Him in the form of a dove had now led Him into the wilderness to be tempted by satan. I know there are people who struggle with the idea that Jesus could be 100% God and 100% man, but think about this: Why would the devil even consider it worth the effort to tempt the Son of God? Before the devil was known as Satan, he was Lucifer, an archangel in high ranking along with Michael and Gabriel. He had been in heaven with the Godhead - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. He knew about their power and authority and found himself on the wrong end of it when he rebelled against God. If he was arrogant and power-hungry enough to think he could take God's throne, then surely he could trap Jesus, much like he did with Adam and Eve in the garden. *And after He had fasted forty days and forty nights, He then became hungry.* (Matthew 4:2 NASB) I've never fasted that long (not even close) so I can't imagine what it was like, nor have I ever been led by the Spirit into the wilderness where I am alone, with no other human being around to interact with. Other than encountering wild animals and being ministered to by angels, we are given no other account in the scriptures of what it was like for Him. Why would a loving Father send His son out into the desert wilderness alone to fast for forty days?

Have you ever said, "I need to get closer to God and have more of my prayers answered, so I'm going on a fast"? I believe one of the major keys to successfully completing a fast is hunger. Spiritual hunger. This is not a book on fasting, but it is important to know the purpose of it. The purpose of it is not to twist God's arm or to show Him how serious we are about prayer. What is it about, then? I ask you to consider this: Could it be for the purpose of learning to live on every word that God speaks?

And the tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread," But He answered and said, "Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that proceeds out of the mouth of

God.” (Matthew 4:3-4 NASB). I have no doubt that Jesus did in fact experience physical hunger while fasting for forty days, but there was a craving for hearing the voice of his Father that was more powerful than any hunger pangs. We develop a hunger or an appetite for the things that satisfy us. Though we have no record of it in the Bible, I would imagine Jesus had heard the voice of God many times since childhood, but I feel like *’This is my Beloved Son in whom I am well pleased’* echoed loudly in His ear as He was sent into the desert wilderness. He feasted on it and then brought it up again and again in meditation. It was His sustenance.

Jesus had been sent to do something greater and self-gratification would have no place in it. Jesus would later multiply bread to feed thousands and referred to himself as the bread that came from heaven. We, likewise, have been called to feed the multitudes as carriers of the bread of God which came down out of heaven, and gives life to the world.

Mindsets are determined by what we choose to meditate upon. The mind of Christ is not something we obtain by simply confessing it when we need a breakthrough. It is developed through a lifestyle of meditating on the word of God - the written word and especially the Living Word. We are given the promise that we’ll be *like trees planted by the rivers of water* if we meditate on His Word day and night (Psalm 1:1-3).

In Jesus’ John 17 prayer, he says, *’I have glorified you on the earth. I have finished the work which you have given me to do’* (v.4 NKJV). The work that Christ came to do was to glorify the Father. His work began after Holy Spirit descended on him at His baptism. The pleasure that Jesus felt coming from His Father is what He wants us to experience too, as we learn to live on every word coming from his mouth.

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God is doing such awesome things in this season in spite of the negative narrative. The Lord gave me a word last May toward the end of the month that we would be having to press through the summer. People have told me don’t ever give any more words like that! Yet, we pressed through the summer holding dearly to the Word of the Lord. But when the Lord gives a word like that it’s not

like, “Oh no, how terrible, how negative. We’re going to have to go through some very unpleasant stuff that’s negative. I don’t know if we’re gonna make it.” No, that’s not what the word is about. The word is about going ahead and pressing on through because you have the power, you have the strength, you have the grace (the enablement) to press through and when you have pressed through you are pressing through unto... We press through unto... We press through to what God has for us.

Did David say, “I walked into the valley of the shadow of death and I went down to the bottom and got stuck in the muck”? David said, Yea though I walk THROUGH (Ps.23:4). He did not have a pup tent and a backpack and a canteen and ready himself to stay there and grab a root and grunt. Rather, he said, “Yea though I walk THROUGH the valley of the shadow of death. And while I am walking THROUGH there I am dealing with the shadow of death”. David was talking about a demonic entity. If anybody walked through the valley of the shadow of death at least once or twice it was David. Part of what he dealt with while walking through was the fact that it was a low place.

David said, “Yea though I WALK. He didn’t say, “Though I step in for a moment and then step back out. (Most folks don’t get that kind of brief experience.) That valley is not two or three feet long, it is a long enough experience for a man to write, “I have WALKED THROUGH the valley of the shadow of death”. He was in that thing long enough to experience what that entity could press against him with. That shadow, that pressing is evil. The thief has come to steal to kill and to destroy (Jn.10:10). The word just before destroy is “AND”. He has come to do all of it and that evil that is in the valley is set on attempting all three actions. That evil has come to take you out through whatever means are available to it. It will use anything we will agree with. David was facing unconventional threats with that shadow of death. It wasn’t simply a matter of a fever or throwing up. He was in a low place, under the shadow where there was little to no light getting down into that spot, a place of little to no revelation, little to no relief, little to no encouragement.

David didn’t say, “I took two dozen of my best friends and two dozen of my best intercessors and we had a great time right down there in the middle of the bottom of that thing”. No, he didn’t say that because he was all by himself. But when he was walking through the valley of the shadow of death nothing changed with Yaweh, nothing changed with God Almighty sitting on the throne of heaven. Nothing changed, no plans changed. Nothing changed with God. David messed himself up for a while but nothing changed with God. God didn’t send for a scribing angel to come and bring extra ink and quill pens and scratch out a bunch of stuff on the record of David’s life. David didn’t mess up God, he didn’t mess up God’s plan. Jehovah didn’t push back in some stops that he had already pulled out. God did not get messed up. God did not get discouraged nor did God get confused. God did not send back some angel armies that he had already called for, angels that were already to go on the line. They were still on the line ready to go. David said, “Yea though I WALK THROUGH”. There is nothing in that passage that says he paused or that he stopped or that he missed a step or that he missed a

beat but he kept walking through. There is nothing going on in this nation, there is nothing going on in Russia, there's nothing going on in China, there's nothing going on in any part of this world that says to you and I there's a little bit of hesitation going on in the universe. There is no hesitation going on on the part of God. The only thing going on right now is people becoming fearful while they are dealing with that dark entity in the valley.

I will fear no evil for THOU art with me sometimes when I'm really extra good and sometimes when I haven't made anybody mad at me and when nobody has pulled out in front of me in traffic and when I read a couple of chapters of the Bible before I went to bed. No, this was an imperfect man saying, "Though I WALK THROUGH the valley of the shadow of death". It doesn't matter who I am, it doesn't matter what I've done, it's all on Him. Because He went to a cross called Calvary and there He bled and died and on the third day after they laid Him in a tomb He walked out. And He didn't even have a limp. David said, "I will not fear a thing in this valley nor will I fear a thing in that shadow. I will not fear a thing that shadow brings against me or that attempts against me "for THOU art with me".

I wonder if David had seen by faith, or by revelation, Jesus already walking out of the tomb when he was in that valley of the shadow of death. If we will just open up our hearts and open up our eyes, even in the most pressing moments of the darkest hours, God will reveal things to us that we don't know presently. It will be like the breaking of the dawn of the brightest day after the darkest night.

"Father God, here we are in the year 2021 and approaching the end of the year. Yea though we walked through 2020, yea though we walked through 2021, yea though we enter into 2022, we will not fear any evil because THOU art with us. You were with us back in 1950 and 1960 and 1970. You were with us in 2010 and you are with us again because you never leave us nor for sake us (Heb.13:5)!

At the very moment that you find yourself stepping into the valley of the shadow of death, just start repeating the Word of God that does not fail, that does not change. I will not fear any evil because THOU art with me, thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Now that may be just plain weird by most people's standard: I am in the valley of the shadow of death but right in the middle of it I have comfort (Ps.23:4).

David was not comforted in the valley of the shadow of death because he was surrounded by people patting him on the back and voting for him to be man of the year. At one point, his own son turned on him and tried to usurp the throne. David didn't receive comfort in the bottom of the valley of the shadow of death because all of his wonderful elite friends and family were showering kudos and compliments on him, nor was it because all his bills were paid. He was comforted because the rod and staff (both used for guiding and defending) of the Shepherd was with him. That meant that David knew correction and he knew God's order. "Come on Shepherd, bring your rod and your staff. Just bring your presence, just bring your person, bring anything you need to bring with you for correction, for instruction, for edification."

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

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. 9 * Grove, OK

New Song Church

Grove, OK 7:00pm

Pastor Marty Dyer

918-786-7737

Oct. 10 * Grove, OK

New Song Church

10:00am

Oct. 24 * Cedar Park, TX

Near Austin, TX

Dickinson House Church

Info: Don Dickinson

512-775-2105 6 p.m.

Oct. 25 * Frisco, TX

FMCI Fall Conference

Kingdom Life Church

Melissa is on the worship team

Marty, Kathy and Melissa are

on the Prophets Team

7pm—Jim Hodges

Oct. 26 * Frisco, TX

FMCI Fall Conference

Meetings at 9am, 2:15pm

and 7:00pm

Oct. 27 * Frisco, TX

FMCI Fall Conference

Meetings at 9am, 2:15pm

and 7:00pm

Nov. 6— Change Clocks

"fall back" one hour

Nov. 14 * Bellville, TX

Christian Faith Church

Pastor John Tarver

979-865-5464

cfcbv@swbell.net

Nov. 25

Have a blessed Thanksgiving!

At this Thanksgiving time the people of God lift their voices, their hearts and hands and sing thanksgiving unto the Lord God for all His beneficent blessings toward us. For God is good and greatly to be praised. "[A Song of Praise] Come, let us praise the Lord! Let us sing for joy to God, who protects us! Let us come before him with thanksgiving and sing joyful songs of praise. (Ps.95:1-2, GNT)

Kingdom Congress

March 2-4, 2022

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I am thankful that the faithfulness of The Creator of the universe answers the longings of my heart. I must add the longings that are also in His heart. When my desires are His desires they will surely come to pass. It may not be as soon as I would like, but surely they will come to pass. I've learned that many factors play into the timing of answered prayer. I am now sure that when I first selfishly asked The Lord about this matter the answer shot out of heaven aligning everything in its path to get to me. So I will be forever grateful of the perfect timing and the overwhelming answer that was way more than what I asked, deserved or expected. (Bill Traylor, Grace Church Willis)

Psa 100:1 A psalm of thanksgiving. Shout happily to the LORD, all the earth.

Psa 100:2 Serve the LORD cheerfully. Come into his presence with a joyful song.

Psa 100:3 Realize that the LORD alone is God. He made us, and we are his. We are his people and the sheep in his care.

Psa 100:4 Enter his gates with a song of thanksgiving. Come into his courtyards with a song of praise. Give thanks to him; praise his name.

Psa 100:5 The LORD is good. His mercy endures forever. His faithfulness endures throughout every generation.



Kingdom Congress March 2-4, 2022

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