

# SEEC Magazine

A QUARTERLY ISSUE ON A KINGDOM PERSPECTIVE

VOLUME 26

ISSUE 2

APRIL-JUNE 2022

NEW  
QUARTERLY  
ISSUE

Acts 5:30-The God of our forefathers raised  
up Jesus. Whom you killed by hanging Him  
on a tree (cross).

**S**TRENGTHEN  
**E**NCOURAGE  
**E**QUIP  
**C**HURCH  
**M**INISTRIES

1Co 14:3; Eph 4:12

DREAMS VISIONS PROPHECY SEPT.9-11,2022



# SEEC Magazine

## A KINGDOM PERSPECTIVE

Volume 26

Issue 2

April-June 2022

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### ON THE COVER:

**As of this issue, SEEC Magazine will be published on a quarterly basis rather than bimonthly. We will still have the same great writers and content to Strengthen Encourage Equip and Comfort. The next issue will be released the first week of July 2022.**

SEEC Magazine is published by SEEC Ministries International. SEEC stands for Strengthen, Encourage, Equip Church Ministries according to 1Co 14:3 and Eph 4:12 as taken from the New International Version. This is our mission statement and SEEC Ministries International is attempting to accomplish that mission through ministry in local churches, around the globe, in conferences, seminars, through publishing, internet, audio and video. CDs and books by Marty and Kathy Gabler, may be ordered at: mail@seecministries.org or 935-653-4108 or write us at our PO Box.

SEEC Magazine is a quarterly publication produced by SEEC Ministries. 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.

**SUBSCRIPTIONS:** Please send your name and address to SEEC Magazine PO Box 298 Coldspring, TX 77331-0298. A donation of \$20.00/yr. is suggested to help with publication costs.

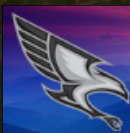
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## The Culture of the Kingdom



A “culture” is predominating beliefs, customs, attitudes, behavior and way of life that characterizes a group. Every household has their own culture with elements that are unique to them. Businesses, communities and nations have a culture. It was the culture of the age that Romans 12:2 warned about saying, “Be not conformed to this world, or don’t become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking.” Be discerning about every culture, sports, media, schools, neighborhood, local church cultures, etc. We have to stay discerning so that predominating beliefs, customs, attitudes, behavior and lifestyle fit God’s Word and His plan for our life.

In my thirties I looked back over my life and the expectations of the church culture we grew up in. In our efforts to comply to all its standards, traditions and obligations, I began to suspect that we’d submitted to some unnecessary duties, (unnecessary to God or the future). That suspicion grew to resentment in some parts of my heart that I had to get resolved. In other parts of my heart, those suspicions drove me to seek freedom. (Where we need freedom we need Truth, so the quest was on.) We knew we were called to fulltime ministry, but we couldn’t find our place within the fence lines of our culture. Of course, we couldn’t imagine going outside those boundaries because that might be rebellion, but there was no category of ministry called prophets in our culture. There were only three choices for full time ministry in our cultural fences: pastor, evangelist or missionary. So I got a B.A. in missions because I knew I was not a pastor



or evangelist. Neither was Marty, so he got his M.A. in Biblical Studies. With that done we felt we had done all we knew to do within our culture.

Marty's graduate degree was in a frame on the dining room table. We sat looking at it as sunset shadows filled the room. The atmosphere was gloomy. We talked about our combined ten years of college trying to understand and confirm our calling and purpose. We recalled the struggles of those education years. One struggle that we remembered all too vividly was how our own denominational leaders back home debated Marty's eligibility for ordination since he'd been two years in a seminary classroom instead of ministering on a church staff. It was hard for us to reconcile that those two years of study could be doubted as essential to the calling and purpose of ministry, but then wiser hearts prevailed and he was finally ordained. Sitting in those shadows that day we cried, not knowing where to go next, feeling like a runner with a message but thirteen hours from home and no direction to run, no certain path, no map.

Over that next fifteen years, we worked with the congregations of six different churches as we searched for our place and purpose. During that time I was given a book by Pat Robertson, Keys to the Kingdom, but I just didn't get it. His terms and concepts didn't compute because we had not grown up in a Kingdom-culture. Marty had begun to learn about the Kingdom of God when one of his professors, (who himself was transitioning to another church culture), felt led to have Marty do a theme paper on the Kingdom of God. While Marty told me several things about the Kingdom, I still did not get it. I look back and realize how faithful God was to get us through all those times of stretching beyond our boundaries as the Holy Spirit nudged us into awareness that went beyond Jesus as Savior to also know Him as King of His Kingdom. And His Kingdom was to be more to us than somewhere over the rainbow someday. (That *someday* attached to Kingdom can rob you of a lifetime of fulfillment and glory to God.) We are genuinely thankful for our beginnings and foundation and heritage. We are also thankful for the difficulties in the journey that kept us from anchoring our identity and calling in a culture that had to transition and extend its fences. God's plan for our lives moved us beyond the religious or church bench culture we first knew.

We look back and realize that although we felt fatherless at times, without denominational formats and mentors for guidance, that lack worked for our good and set us to searching out the Father/son relationship. Although sonship was not mentioned in our early culture, sonship is a core essential in the Kingdom of God culture. Jesus emphasized this

with His first two words, “Our Father,” when He taught us to pray. That prayer went from “Our Father” to Thine is the Kingdom, the Power and the Glory. So also should go our lives. We start as sons, praying “Our Father” and then live our lives displaying His Kingdom, Power and Glory. That was the map we were looking for!

By experience the Kingdom of God is righteousness, peace and joy produced by the Holy Spirit. The Scribes and Pharisees thought righteousness was about following the letter of the law. However, that was not the case because Jesus said: (LITV) “If your righteousness does not surpass *that* of the scribes and Pharisees, you shall not enter into the kingdom of God, never!” As a young person on the church bench, when I read that Jesus said my righteousness had to surpass the Pharisees, I took it as a challenge, a competition to prove I could stick to the law better than they did and without their hypocrisy! And I obviously wasn’t the only one to take that scripture like that. There are religious groups that still prove their adherence to holy laws with their attire or meeting place or by fasting conveniences or by continuing a set of traditional rituals as their due diligence to the law. “Be especially careful when you are trying to be good so that you don’t make a performance out of it. It might be good theater, but the God who made you won’t be applauding.” Matt 6:1 (MSG) Any action or even an obedience can become a meaningless ritual if it becomes “performance” to be considered righteousness.

Jesus did not say: Seek first the Kingdom of God and YOUR righteousness. He said: “Seek first the Kingdom of God and HIS righteousness. Our understanding of righteousness has to start right to be right. If you put your pants on backward in the morning, your pockets won’t work right all day! If we think we can achieve His righteousness, we’ve got our pants on backward! *Rom 10:3 For they are ignorant of the righteousness that comes from God while they try to establish their own, and they have not submitted to God's righteousness.* You can refuse to embrace or be transformed by the Righteousness of God, but you can’t de-righteousize God’s righteousness. The righteousness of God is in CHRIST JESUS. *For Christ is the culmination of the law as far as righteousness is concerned.* It is not necessary to PROVE you know you were not worthy of the gift of salvation or the gift of righteousness. That can turn into a life-long marathon of false humility and there’s no righteousness, peace or joy in that lifestyle. So that’s no Kingdom culture lifestyle.

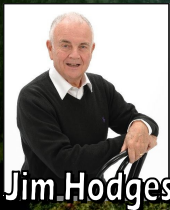
By definition the Kingdom is the government or rule of God in effect. For that to be the culture of our lifetime, it’s essential we think as mature sons. Sons are meant to be First Responders that bring Father’s Kingdom Realm, His Sovereign rule and His governing order to lives and situations and circumstances and atmospheres and difficulties. Jesus did, and He

told His disciples to do so also in Matt 10: *Heal the sick ones, cleanse lepers, raise dead ones, and cast out demons and As you do, tell them the kingdom of Heaven has come near them.* He was training them to be sons before they even knew it. Jesus and the disciples impacted their culture by manifesting an *as it is in heaven culture*. Jesus said if a person is born again from above they can SEE the Kingdom of God. That word “see” means they can enter in and partake of and demonstrate God's Realm like Jesus and the disciples did. As sons of God the creation is waiting to see us manifest and develop our Father's Kingdom culture so that wherever we are, the Sovereign order and government of God is also. We can't ignore the fact that Jesus told them to heal, raise the dead and deliver. That would sound almost like blasphemy in the culture of my youth, yet Jesus didn't say, “Go pray that Father will heal, raise the dead and deliver.” SO, HOW DO WE ADJUST TO SUCH A RADICAL LIFESTYLE that we actually heal the sick, raise the dead and deliver folks? It seems that the answer is both simple yet profound: since we enter the Kingdom by being born again into the family of God, evidently the way we live out the Kingdom culture is by being family, by being sons.

(Kathy is a prophet/teacher, intercessor, author and mentor. She leads SEEC Ministries International with her husband Marty. Her books, videos and audio teachings on dreams and Kingdom perspective have had impact throughout the world. Excerpts from her teachings may be viewed on Marty's Facebook page several times a week. Her archived magazine articles are available at [martygabler.com](http://martygabler.com)) **(You can order the mp3 audio file of Kathy's message from Kingdom Congress 2022. You can also order any of the other speakers or you can order the entire set of teachings. We will email you the link or links and you can download it. Contact us: [mail@seecministries.org](mailto:mail@seecministries.org))**

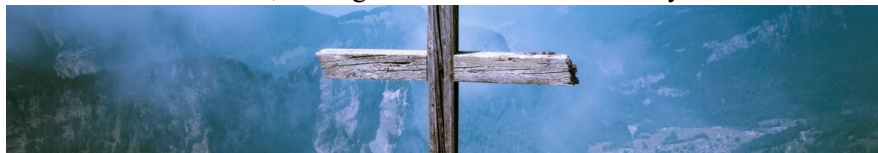
Marty—God is doing such awesome things in this season in spite of the negative narrative. The Lord gave me a word last May toward the end of the month that we would be having to press through the summer. People have told me don't ever give any more words like that! Yet, we pressed through the summer 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 and for those whom He has for us to strengthen, encourage, equip and comfort.

# The Year of Eliakim



Jim Hodges

In January, four mornings in a row, I woke up and heard the Lord say, “2022 is the year of Eliakim.” Eliakim is in Isa 22. This is the root of Revelation 3:7, with the key to lock doors that no man can open and to open doors that no man can shut. In Isa 22, God was moving an old order and introducing a new order. The old order was represented by a man named Shebna who was a royal steward in the palace, the household of King Hezekiah, the king of Judah. Eliakim was going to witness a change in the order of several rulers and the order of Israel as a called nation. Shebna had been caught embezzling money from the king’s treasury because as a royal steward he had a key to the king’s treasury that he wore on a sash over his right shoulder. Shebna wanted to have a rich tomb because in that culture an elaborate tomb displayed a person’s significance. However, Shebna got demoted to scribe and they put in Eliakim to become the royal treasurer of Hezekiah’s war chest. He then was prime minister under the king of Judah. He was foreshadowed by Joseph being prime minister of Egypt under Pharaoh. Eliakim, according to his name that means *God rises, uprightness, the power to stand*, had a ministry and anointing that represented some that came before him. Way back in Gen 14, Melchizedek was serving a *God who rises* and his priesthood was of the order of Christ’s priesthood, (Psa 110:4 and Heb 7), and was a resurrection priesthood. You and I are called to serve a resurrection priesthood. We are a royal holy priesthood. We are stewards. We have the key of David on our shoulder, our right shoulder. The authority is there to move



as stewards of the King and to occupy places of influence in society to make sure God's royal purpose is prevailing against demonic, evil structures that are coming against us.

Considering further the meaning of names connected to purpose, Eli was the priest at the first location in Israel when they had the tabernacle at Shiloh. Eli's name means *ascender*. When Eli failed to correct his biological sons, he didn't live up to his name. However, he did live up to his name when he counseled young Samuel who was interacting with God. I think Eli represents times in history when the Church had little or no understanding of their Ekklesia calling and responsibilities (not understanding we have been raised up in Christ and seated in heavenly places at the right hand Eph 1:22.) When we don't understand these Ekklesia responsibilities it thwarts the advancement of God's Kingdom agenda in history. Ekklesia is not a deeper life club, it is essentially what the Church is. Where we went wrong in history was in the Reformation. It was mainly good in Europe but in other places it had difficulties. One disciple of John Calvin changed the word Ekklesia to "kirche" in the German Bible, and he translated "kirche" as the people of God. Though the people of God are included in the Ekklesia, that is not fully the meaning of Ekklesia. It is the people of God who govern on behalf of our exalted King.

The name Elijah has two Divine names within it, EL and JAH. I believe Elijah's ministry gives us a snapshot of where we are right now in a number of ways. In today's world there is a battle between globalism and nationhood. Within our nation we are polarized in so many ways, spiritually, culturally and politically. In Elijah's day, Israel was polarized. Some worshiped Baal and some worshiped Yahweh. The same analogy can be seen in Matt 13 concerning the wheat and the tares. As they mature, there is more polarity. In some ways our culture and society and politics are bi-polar, perhaps more divided than ever. The contrast between a Kingdom worldview and an antichrist worldview is stark and startling. The spirit of Elijah has come upon us to have the courage to stand up and not back off from a showdown with evil, just as Elijah did not back down on Mt. Carmel. In this year of polarity, we are going to see some showdowns with the prophets of Baal and the God who answers by fire. Showdown is in the atmosphere, you can feel it. We will not only see healings but also see more Christian power encounters in the shutdown of false prophets, Baals and Jezebels.

The name Elisha means *God is gracious*. Grace is favor and power unto God. Elijah who had double divine names left a double portion upon Elisha when he departed. Then Elisha had twice the miracles of Elijah. However, it was not just about power. Like Heb 12:23 mentioned, it was a *gathering, an ekklesia of the first-born*. So the first born introduces something going on beyond power given by God through a prophet to a spiritual son. It means he then has authority to get the inheritance promised God's family. Jesus in the sermon on the mount in Matt 5:5, said the meek inherit the earth, not heaven. There is no need for us

to be in a hurry to get to heaven and give up on our inheritance. El Elyon owns it and we are to steward it. We will succeed where Adam and Eve failed because the second Adam came. Like Eliakim we are called to be earthly stewards. We are called to be planet managers. Since it takes some resources to manage the earth and God's agenda, there has to be a transfer of wealth. That is not just hype, there must be a transfer from the wicked to the righteous.

Jesus said, Rev 3:21 *To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me in My throne, even as I also overcame and have sat down with My Father in His throne.* David, the last son of Jesse was made a first born of God in this Psalm 89:26-29. *He shall cry to Me, My Father, You are my God, and the rock of my salvation. And I will make him My first-born, higher than the kings of the earth. I will keep My mercy for him forever, and My covenant shall stand fast with him. Also I have set his seed forever, and his throne as the days of the heavens.* So then David had the first born's authority to steward his inheritance. David lived in the Old Testament, but it is amazing how Davidic the New Testament is. On the day of Pentecost, David was quoted three times. In Revelation, Jesus is the root and offspring of David. Through Abraham we access our redemption, through Jesus, the seed of Abraham. But our connection to Jesus as the son of David releases our royalty to steward the King's house and treasury.

In 2Kings, during Eliakim's stewardship ministry, he was encouraging Hezekiah the king who was being harassed by the Assyrian king, Sennacherib. He sent messengers to tell Hezekiah that there was no way they could withstand the Assyrian onslaught and assault because the Assyrians had already beaten every other city in the region. So, Hezekiah was in a hard place. It was a day of distress. So Eliakim positioned as prime minister of Judah, was the right man at the right time to stand with him. King Hezekiah turns to the wall and prays because he and Judah are in trouble. With a praying civil ruler, a Kingdom man Eliakim as steward and counselor had opened something dramatic. Their prayer opened the setting for 185,000 Assyrian soldiers to be slain by one angel! God did that because of a praying king and a faithful, royal steward of the kingdom.

There is a key on our shoulder and we can declare, "Dear Lord, Son of David, thank You for providing this key for my life and ministry. I thank You that I can say, "Lord Jesus I have the authority You have given me." In Your grace and mercy, You are demoting and deposing false stewards and evil workers, be it in the Body of Christ, be it in the nation. Thank You for the spirit of Eliakim. Let God arise and His enemies be scattered! We receive what we need to represent You well Lord and to do what we were born to do!"

(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](http://fmci.org) or by calling the office 972-283-2262.)

# Transition and Restoration



We are in a restoration or recovery of the Church and how it functions. There is transition happening in the Body of Christ. Some of the paradigms and mindsets in the Church have become strongholds that hinder us during this transition. A lot of those strongholds are inherited through our families and many come through the culture thinking of our nation and some come from the religious strongholds of the institutional church. Then we also have mindsets that we force on ourselves. Confronting these strongholds with the Word of God can bring us to breakthrough: *2Cor 10:3-5, For walking about in flesh, we do not war according to flesh for the weapons of our warfare are not fleshly, but powerful to God to the demolition of strongholds, the demolishing of arguments and every high thing lifting up itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought into the obedience of Christ.*

In Acts chapter 1, after the Lord's death, burial and resurrection, and before His ascension, Jesus spent 40 days with the disciples, His apostles. He talked to them and gave them commandments concerning the Kingdom of God. Then in Acts chapter 2, on the day of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit was poured out, there was misunderstanding about what was happening, so Peter stood up to address it: *Act 2:31-40, seeing this beforehand, he spoke of the resurrection of Christ, that His soul was not left in Hades, nor would His flesh see corruption, God raised up this Jesus, of which we all are witnesses. Therefore being exalted to the right of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He has poured out this which you now see and hear. For David has not as-*



*cended into the heavens, but he says himself, "The LORD said to my Lord, Sit at My right hand until I place Your enemies as a footstool to Your feet." Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God made this same Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ. And hearing this, they were stabbed in the heart, and said to Peter and to the other apostles, Men, brothers, what shall we do? Then Peter said to them, Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ to remission of sins, and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all those afar off, as many as the Lord our God shall call. And with many other words he earnestly testified and exhorted, saying, Be saved from this perverse generation.* Notice he didn't say be saved to go to heaven, but be saved FROM a perverse generation with a perverted mindset. That generation had crucified the Lord and was against the ways of God. He was telling them to receive Christ to be separated from that perverted culture.

*Act 2:41,42 Then those who gladly received his word were baptized. And the same day there were added about three thousand souls. And they were continuing steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine, and in fellowship and in the breaking of the loaves, and in prayers.* For three and a half years, these men were with Christ and His teachings became the apostles' teachings. They then taught what they had been taught. In their walk with Christ for three and a half years, He taught them a particular fellowship. It was not the fellowship that you and I think of but rather the fellowship that Jesus Christ had with His Father and the Holy Spirit. Then He taught them about the new covenant and of breaking bread (the sign and seal of the new covenant), and He taught them about prayer. So then the disciples taught the people what they had been taught, these doctrines of the Kingdom of God.

The Church had large meetings and small meetings. In the large meetings, they had a disciple or apostle that had been taught by the Lord and there was one person teaching the people. They broke up into small groups and spoke with each other about what they'd learned. The large meeting in the temple was about setting doctrine. It was the small meetings that carried the theme of real discipleship. Doctrine can actually be weakened in a seeker friendly church that centers on the larger meeting and creates a lot of programs because that does not make disciples. Although the seeker friendly intent is to restore the Church, it is the wrong format to do so. The small groups were where people were nurtured and worked out a practical church life. The larger meetings confronted doctrine and the way the church was to behave.

Under the Old Covenant, they had temple meetings and synagogue meetings.

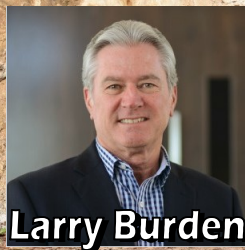
The synagogue assembly was about a few families coming together for personal building up. The temple assembled with all the people. The church deteriorated trying to make the temple assembly do it all. It is possible to draw people yet not make disciples. There are primary truths, secondary truths and truths that do not really make disciples of Christ. Both the larger meetings and the smaller meetings have to be right for discipleship. Larger meetings cannot disciple because they are basically one person speaking for a particular reason. In smaller meetings, everybody has to speak and the Body builds itself up as they speak and minister to one another. In a short period of time, prayer died and the smaller meetings died. When it was harder to keep the smaller meetings going, they developed training centers or Bible schools for fulltime ministers and trained them to handle large meetings so they could pull a crowd. A man that can communicate and that has the right charisma may not be able to disciple, but he can draw a crowd. In the Protestant Reformation, the emphasis went to a one man speaker and that is still church life today. However, it does not build the church.

The temple meeting was not pastoral but a meeting to set a standard of sound doctrine where people could be disciplined and have a right lifestyle. Then that teaching has to be taken into small meetings where there are shared conversations and not a one man speaker. Programs develop in the church when they see a need. However, they get a person to head up a small group and one person still does all the talking. That's why programs don't disciple. People are disciplined when everybody is speaking. Until people learn how to speak what they believe, they don't grow and neither do people around them. People don't grow listening to a speaker. People can go to a church for 40 years and hear one man speak then remain the same for 40 years and just know more doctrine.

Small groups can't be another meeting where one person speaks and everybody else listens. The right man can keep a crowd for years. The right man is one who has the right charisma and knows his doctrines. We have seen over the years a young man graduate from training and go to a dying church and revitalize it, but it is still a one man delivery. Small groups die because everybody has responsibility and we have a selfish culture that no one wants to be responsible. People are willing to bring their money and hire professionals, a professional singer, a professional speaker and professional people over programs. But a person does not grow without responsibility. Plugging people into a place to serve does not cause them to grow either. Most get burnt out and leave the church to get out of serving. We have to have a church life, a community that is real and working out life together. In a small group the center focus has to be the Word of God. It can't be one person's experiences, preferences and ideas if it is to disciple. Many people are bailing out of the church because of no discipling and no community church life that's living and working. The church needs restoration because the church restored will have life and be able to transform a region.

(This article was taken from a teaching given by Simon Purvis. He is the lead teacher at the Word of Life Teaching Center in Lufkin, TX. Teaching and intercessory prayer for the nation 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: wol-luf@consolidated.net)

# The Living Gateways

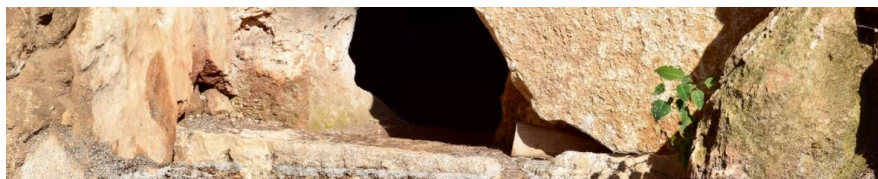


**Larry Burden**

There is much written about gates and gateways in the Bible, both literally and metaphorically. In the literal sense, gates were the means of controlled access to cities, palaces, and temples. Metaphorically, gates spoke of the entrance of the ways that lead to either true spiritual life or to destruction. Of course, we all know that gates in scripture also refer to government. The strength of a gateway is no greater than the force controlling it. This adds special meaning to the words of Jesus in *Matthew 16:18* where he declared *upon this rock, I will build my ekklesia, and the gates of Hades will not overpower it* (NASB). No greater power exists than that of Son Jesus!

In ancient times, a given city might have several gateway access points. Each one served a specific purpose and function to allow the flow of traffic in and out of the city. That said, all cities had one main gateway where traffic was closely governed. The main city gate was a fortified complex of an outer gate, an inner gate, and several doors of entrance.

These massive gate complexes were secured by great bars, sometimes made of iron. Towers were built above the gateway complex to provide a strategic advantage should battle break out against the city. Lookouts were commonly stationed atop the towers to detect any approaching danger and alert the city. If one wanted to take control of a city, he had to ultimately take the battle to the gates. To take the city, one had to possess and control the gateway to the city.



In each of these gateway structures, there were also rooms on the sides where guards were housed. Guards were on duty twenty-four hours, seven days a week. The gate to the city was the most strategic target for any opposing force to gain control of any city. To gain access into the city, one had to pass through the gate by crossing the threshold, getting past the guards, and going through the doorway access provided. It was quite an experience,

In my Bible school Spirit Life training class, we students learned about strongholds and gates of darkness. We learned to war against this darkness by binding, loosing, and storming these gates with strong faith-filled prayer to break through the resistance and to occupy the spiritual territory beyond. These strongholds might include such things as sickness, demonic oppression, locked-down destinies, and more. We students developed a strong spiritual awareness of demonic strongholds and became very adept in “ripping them apart” in prayer. You might say we developed a strong anointing for spiritual warfare. We experienced countless breakthroughs in the lives of many who were oppressed.

It was in that season of life that I learned that the key to victory was knowing the Word of the Lord. This was a specific word of instruction or directive to me. It was a word of His faith and a word of His covenant. At every level of growth and maturity there was the testing of faith. I had to know that the Word of God’s faith was the key to break through all resistance in the spirit realm and to achieve the victory that Father God said was mine. It was obedience to stand on the Word of the Lord that broke through the gates of darkness and the resistance of the enemy spiritual forces.

During this training season I also discovered the *anointing*, the presence of God that breaks the yokes of bondage (*Isaiah 10:27*). I began to realize in warfare engagements against demonic strongholds that, when the anointing of Holy Spirit manifested, the warfare was over. The presence of God swallowed up all demonic resistance. So, I began from that point to pursue the *anointing* of God for the breakthroughs needed to progress in my life calling. I had been taught that there was a price to pay for spiritual power in ministry.

For years, I pursued the anointing: healing anointing, miracle anointing, deliverance anointing, anointing for wealth creation, anointing for creative miracles, and more. My heart was so hungry for the power of God; I did not want to miss anything that He had for me in ministry. I would position myself around ministers with different anointings and get in their prayer lines. I wanted them to lay their hands on me and to impart their anointings into me. I was desperate for the anointing. My success in ministry depended on this!

Without realizing it, I had become a slave to ministry. Spiritual gifting and ministry pursuit had become the idols of my worship. I was more enamored with the anointing and anointed ministers than I was the Father. To save me, Father had to rescue me from myself and this slavery. He delivered me from a ministry-minded system and repositioned me into a kingdom-minded family. He joined my heart to a spiritual father who could not only teach the kingdom of God but also model it.

Over the past twenty years, the Lord has progressively changed my life through kingdom understanding. From slavery to sonship, from mentorship to fatherhood, and from anointing to abiding; life has continually shifted and grown sweeter through the years. Love has taken on an entirely new meaning, and the condition of the heart has become far more important than the greatness of ministry accomplishments. There is still much ahead, and there are many gateways yet to be opened for the kingdom agenda in the earth to be fulfilled. However, the greatest gateways are arising in this hour, the US, the Church!

*Psalm 24:7-10 declares, Lift up your HEADS, O you GATES, and be lifted up, O ancient DOORS, that the KING OF GLORY may COME IN! Who is this king of Glory? The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle ... He is the King of glory. To lift up is to exalt. The word gates is translated doors. A door is a portal; and we, the church, are the living portals through which Father God releases His glory. We are the living gateways through which the glory of our Father is to be released into the earth realm. When we lift up our heads to exalt the Father, we are opening His gateways of our hearts and releasing His eternal glory into earth. Heaven and earth must respond to His glory by bowing and giving place to His presence. His light swallows all darkness, and His will prevails against all resistance.*

When Father's glory shows up, it is game over! Whatever is hindering His purposes are shattered. Whatever is delaying His response is displaced. Whatever spiritual forces are resisting His purposes are dissipated, as if they never existed. He reigns and rules over ALL in His majesty and brightness of shining. Our thoughts are one with His. Our view is one with His. Our mindset is one with His. Our hearts are in harmony with His. All schemes and devices of the enemy are immediately non-existent. All plans for deception and self-exaltation are swallowed up and become as nothing before His magnificence.

We, the ekklesia, are the gateways that matter in this hour. Lift up your heads, you living gateways; the King of Glory wants to come into His creation through you!

(Larry and Kathy Burden are the founders of KingdomLife in Frisco, TX and are national officers and trainers for the International Fellowship of Chaplains. 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](http://www.kingdomlife.org))



We are currently in the midst of WW III, it just looks a little different in 2022 than it did in wars past. Let me explain by breaking it down into battles currently happening. The Russia vs. Ukraine battle: Let me start by saying, I do believe it is a war zone over there and people's lives are being greatly and horrendously affected. Let me also say, I don't believe we are being given even half of the truth as to why this is happening. War is fueled and affected by what is happening in other dimensions and there are powers and principalities that are stirred up and causing uproars. People are pawns of these spiritual uproars and that is why the truth is not easy to find. I say all of this to remind the sons and daughters of God that it is of utmost importance to be led by the Holy Spirit when praying over this situation. Only He knows the hearts of men and what is truly going on.

Another battle, going on right here in the USA, is the government vs. the people. It's a battle to subdue and control via mandates, inflation, shutdowns, misinformation, outright lies and fear-mongering. They are using platforms like news outlets, social media, CDC, WHO, UN, and sports and entertainment. For decades we have been hypnotized by the afore mentioned entities so that we simply believe what we are being told without investigating. A spell has been cast over our culture to the point that celebrities, of any genre, can mesmerize most people to trust everything they say simply because of the twinkle in their eye and bright-white-

toothy-grin on their face.

And certainly not the last, but the biggest battle going on right here amongst us is our children vs. Molech. Molech was the god of the Ammonites and Phoenicians to whom some Israelites sacrificed their infants. I don't think it can get more obvious that evil is after the children. Here are just a few ways that are being brought to light: abortion, child trafficking, gender politics in classrooms and children's shows, and sexualization of children in classrooms and entertainment. The bill that Florida just passed is all about protecting children from being sexualized, but if you see any "celebrities" talk about it they are purposely misleading the brain-washed masses. You can read the bill for yourself here: [flsenate.gov](https://www.flsenate.gov) and where it says "Go to bill" at the top of the page, type in 1557. I read it and it does not say what mainstream is touting. This is a state bill to protect the parents' rights to protect their children in education. The spirit of Molech agenda is about conforming children (who make future adults) into addicted, confused, sexual deviates that can be easily controlled and enslaved. This is proof that it is powers and principalities we are fighting and all of the sick individuals hyping this evil rhetoric are simply the victimized puppets. If people think all of this is crazy they better understand that this thing is steadily cranking up. At the end of last year my Dad heard, "By halloween of 2022 the underbelly of the USA will be exposed." This is where we are headed. We better be aware and prepared for what's just ahead.

Here are some thoughts on prayer during times of war, such as this. In Matthew 6:7 Jesus gives insight on prayer, "But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking." Vain repetitions here means: To chatter, be long-winded, utter empty words, stammer, repeat [dictionary.com]. In times like these there is a tendency to just rattle off every fear and concern we have. Jesus gave good advice here as he explained in verse 8, "Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him." We need to come to God prepared to hear an answer and not just to throw up our worries all over Him. This really came to life for me recently when I had just had one of those days where my concern list got filled up. That evening I sat down to be quiet and listen when, all of a sudden, I was standing in this beautiful garden. The trees caught my attention because they seemed lively and animated. As I was taking in their beauty they all turned in one direction and I realized they were responding to the Lord walking through the garden. I saw Him walking toward me when this thought hit me, "He knows." In that moment I literally felt my shoulders and body relax. I knew He knew about

all of those things on my list. Not only did He know, He already had an answer for each of them and my part was to simply trust. As we navigate this time of war we don't have to rattle off our fears to God. He knows not only what's manifesting but what is behind each manifestation.

Here are some practical ways to pray during this time. (Quick side note, our first priority in wartime prayer is to tend to our relationship with our God. It's through that relationship that we learn to trust the One who created this earth, and know how to pray from divine truth.) Back to prayer, 1. A practical way to pray is tongues. Praying in tongues is speaking mysteries that only God can understand. 1 Corinthians 14:2 "For one who speaks in an unknown tongue does not speak to people but to God; for no one understands him or catches his meaning, but by the Spirit he speaks mysteries [secret truths, hidden things]." There's no babbling going on here, just full-on pure interaction with the King. So, this means the soul can't get in the way, nor can what we just saw on the news.

2. By putting on Jesus: Romans 13:11-14 "Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires." - Back to the above mentioned side note, you put Jesus on through relationship and the prayer that flows from that relationship hits the target because it comes from His thoughts and ways which stand above anything happening here! (Isaiah 55:8-9)

3. Boots on the ground prayer. You may simply be instructed to go somewhere and just BE there and not say a word. We carry the eternal in us which far surpasses what's happening in the atmosphere. So, you may just need to carry that eternal realm to a location as a catalyst for what God is doing. This is where Matthew 6:7 comes in really handy. Just be, don't babble. I saw this in effect a couple of months ago. There was an event happening in my county that had the potential to cause all kinds of sparks to fly. Knowing this, even though I really wanted to go, I questioned for a week if I should indeed go. Finally I got the answer that I was supposed to have my boots on the ground. It was an all day event and I may have prayed once or twice as I was directed. I never witnessed any tense moments and found out later that nothing had erupted and that was quite amazing. Don't discount just being where God tells you to go.

4. Lastly, walking into another dimension and taking care of business.

A couple of weeks ago I was lying in bed slowly waking up when I heard quick footsteps coming toward my door and my door flew open. I looked up to see what was going on and no one was there. It took me a minute or so to gather myself and realize what was happening. I finally realized, bless my heart, that I was being invited to step into another realm and see something. My day took several unexpected twists and turns so I was not able to be still until late afternoon. As soon as I sat down I was immediately standing in a marble-walled hallway. An angel was standing there waiting and motioned to me saying, "Hurry. This way." We rounded a corner and walked into a meeting room where there were light-beings sitting around a conference table. As I approached I could see a map in the center of the table. One of the beings was standing and pointed to the map. All of a sudden a mushroom cloud camp up off of the map. I couldn't see where it was coming from. The closer I got to the table the bigger it was and the smaller I was. By the time I reached the edge I could barely see over the top of the table. I was watching all of this unfold and looked up at the being I was standing by. He was solid white light. I could see all of his features outlined. He was even wearing a crown. I asked him, "Is this real?" He looked at me and said, "You can stop it." He then pulled out a giant pair of scissors. I crawled up onto his lap, looked at the map where the mushroom cloud was still billowing and saw a cord running from the bottom of the explosion off of the map. I knew this cord was the fuel for this bomb. I took the scissors with both hands, leaned over the table and cut the power cord. This was an invitation for intercession on another level. We were made for this and should be expecting more and more invitations to deal with current evil in unique ways.

We were made to advance the Kingdom in this moment. We get to be alive to advance the Kingdom in this moment! God doesn't do things by chance, He does them with intention. I say this to say, you have the eternal plan of God inside of you, all you need to do is walk it out. How do we walk it out? By relationship with our Father which solidifies our identity as a son or daughter made to manifest the dominion mandate.

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

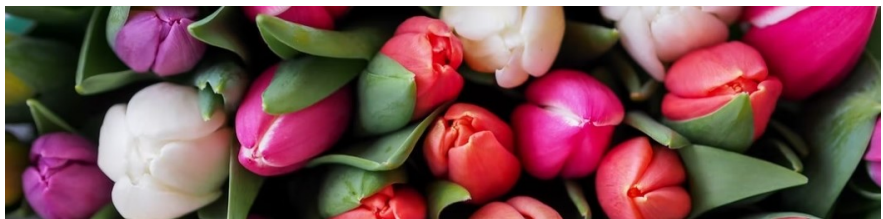
# Palette Cleanser of Life



Joe Bogue

What a season we've come through!!! I cannot remember a time when I have had to deal with so much sickness and death in my life. This season of Covid has really affected the way we see the world. Fear has so gripped people in the church and the world. Some pastors I've spoken to have relayed that only half of their people have returned. Other churches say that they got everyone back. Some churches' giving is down 20, 30, 40%, while others never dropped anything. I thank God that we are the latter. Almost all of our people made it back and giving never waned. During this time, we have done so many memorials. Fathers, mothers, friends, faithful servants have taken their journey home and we were left with picking up the mantle of purpose and destiny behind them. Many of you have been through the exact same thing as we have. Recently, while I was at yet another memorial, I heard something in my spirit from the Lord. He said, "Bitterness from the cup of loss is the palette cleanser of life." Whoa!! What was that? As I pondered that statement, I began to see the wisdom of it.

Firstly, we all drink from the cup of loss. At some point in our life, we will all have to taste the bitter flavor of loss. Whether its a parent, a child, a loved one, a business, a dream, a mentor, a church, a ministry, or anything else you give your life and love. It is unavoidable in this realm to escape that cup. The cup of pain and suffering are very real in our peoples' lives. Jesus had to drink of this cup of purpose in the Garden of

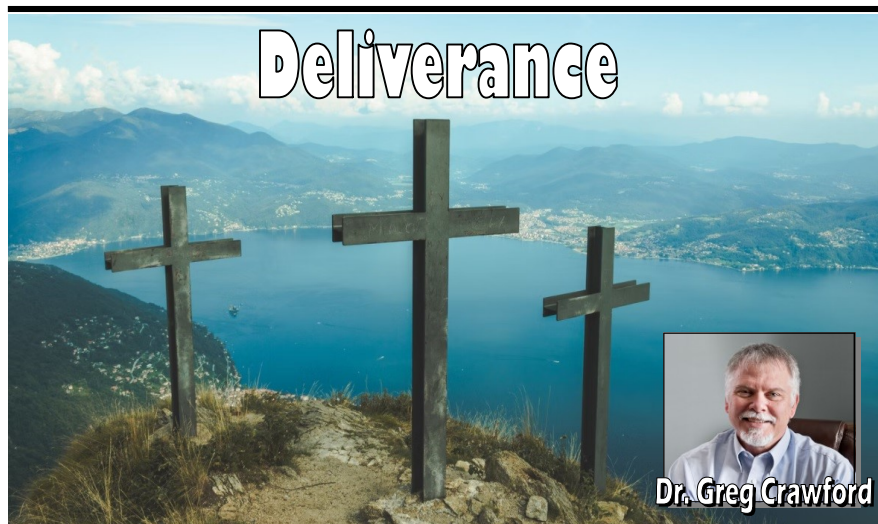


Gethsemane. Jesus asks James and John if they are able to drink of this cup. There is no escaping this aspect of life, but we have a hope in Christ.

Secondly, the bitterness can taint your ability to taste again. Strong bitter herbs have a way of contaminating other flavors. Apple cider vinegar, cranberries, kale, coffee, and dark chocolate all have these bitter tannins. And if you're not careful, this dark flavor can ruin a whole dish by too much use. If you consume too much bitter herbs or ingredients, they will trigger the senses to your brain that everything in that dish is bitter. This is what happens when we turn into the bitterness of loss. Many people will turn into the pain instead of turning to Jesus. They not only remember the bitterness of an event, but by this continue to relive it. You know when you have come to a place of healing when you can remember something without reliving it. "Watch over each other to make sure that no one misses the revelation of God's grace. And make sure no one lives with a root of bitterness sprouting within them which will only cause trouble and poison the hearts of many." - Heb 12:15. Two of the greatest causes of a root of bitterness are trauma and offenses. Both of these allow the enemy to get a foothold in the soul, keeping our minds and hearts in a wearied and hopeless state. They work by questioning God's intent and purpose with any painful events in our lives. The seed of doubt begins small but then turns into a great tree of trouble in our lives, the fruit of which can eventually, if left undealt with, destroy us. So what's the alternative?

Thirdly, the bitterness can be used as a palette cleanser to taste the finer things in life. Many things are used as a palette cleanser: ginger, sorbet, water. These things allow a reset of taste buds as well as aromas in our mouth and nose. The tongue can only taste 4 things: sweet, salty, sour, and bitter. Everything else comes through our sense of smell. This is why when your nose is stuffy nothing tastes right. Everything seems bland and uneventful. It is when you couple the four major tastes in the tongue with the billion's of odors a sensitive nose can discern that you really can enjoy the subtlety of fine dining. The same is true with life. Allowing the bitterness of loss to be used as a contrast to the goodness of God only accentuates His great character. The sky is bluer, the grass is greener, the laughter of children is sweeter, the loving look of your mate means that much more. A new appreciation of the little things in life begin to emerge from obscurity. With that new attention to detail, our priorities will naturally change as our values are renewed and strengthened. The bitterness from the cup of loss is the palette cleanser of life, if you turn from the bitterness to Jesus. Then and only then will life make sense again.

(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](http://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.)



This will not be an in-depth teaching on deliverance. But I want to speak to what we are seeing because there is a greater level of demonic influence leading to more deliverances being conducted. This is due to several things. Culturally we are more accepting of people acting out. We must be aware of it as the true church arises. Demonized people deep down want to be free and will seek out those places that bring freedom. This is what is bringing a new awareness to deliverance. My concern is seeing a repeat of many years ago of a lot of confusion in deliverance that finally leveled out as it matured. We seem to be repeating this again in some circles as deliverance ministry is new to many recent believers. I have seen believers who are still walking out deliverance or in need of deliverance trying to conduct deliverance on other people. We are planning to do a full conference in this area in the near future to help instruct people.

With so much attention on deliverance and so many “Experts” I decide to write into this subject to help bring some clarity. First, what qualifies me? Let me give you some history and then I’ll speak to some of the things going on.

I have always been involved in deliverance ministry. It started when I was 6 months old in the Lord in 1979. Many people were getting delivered from drugs, and a huge number of other things and we had many de-



mons manifesting. These deliverances went on for many years. We eventually did mission trips into West Africa in 1992 and went to the location where all the witchcraft in West Africa originated. Along the way we confronted a village of four hundred witches, saw demonized monkeys, saw witches saved and delivered and a typical night would do 200-300 full blown deliverances in a meeting. In 2000 I went into Nigeria and dealt with witchcraft at new levels. Witches behead people in anger that I, as an apostle, had come into the area. I have seen curses broken, eyes regenerated where there were empty sockets, hearing come back, sunken skulls pop out, plagues dissolve, women be able to conceive, broke the power of water gods who impregnated women and I had to take authority over a witch doctor who astral projected into my bedroom once. There are many curses put out by witches. In one place a death in an intersection happened weekly because the witches had put a curse on it. I took 300 pastors, stopped the traffic, broke the curse and until this day no deaths. These are only a few things I'll share as most people in the western church wouldn't believe or would acknowledge how real it can truly be.

In the states I have cleaned out homes where demons were being seen. In one home they were turning on the water faucet. In another they were seen walking around in the night. Our ministry was birthed doing deliverance as over sixty cult people got saved and went through ongoing deliverance. We had daily walk-in deliverances as well for 12 years. We confronted strong holds over families, broke generational curses, and took out a couple primary principalities. We have seen people levitate, contort and just about any kind of manifestation.

But what makes me most qualified to address some of the things I see is not just my experience in these areas, but my current position in the Lord as an apostle, father, leader, and biblical student of the Word. There is a grace to bring order and see authority be effective.

There are a lot of people in this hour doing a lot of deliverances with what I can see either a mix of understanding or a lack of understanding due to immaturity. There is a great need for deliverance ministry, but it needs to be done in a right way and order. Demons are very stealthy and slick. Demonic spirits will point the finger at others and accuse them of the very thing they are doing. The main strongest demonic spirits will sacrifice other demons in a deliverance so they can remain hidden. So, you need to move based on what your spirit knows and not what you observe. My greatest concern in this hour that we are repeating is the sensationalizing of the demonic and the over-focusing and fixating that occurs. Jesus rebuked the disciples talking so much about demonic forces instead of

talking life-giving conversations. As deliverance is occurring right now, I'm really concerned about how many are modeling how it should be done.

### **Mercy Deliverance**

God will deliver people when deliverance is done in ignorance and without much knowledge. I call this God's mercy on a person. In many ways this deliverance is very pure as all the motives are gone and the simple innocent desire for someone to be free remains. The person doing the deliverance may not have much knowledge or understanding. They may not have ever been around deliverance. But the great desire they have for the person to be free and the love they have for the person will free them. God loves people so much He will deliver them despite our techniques or understanding. Sometimes God heals people the same way. Sometimes God simply delivers the person without someone doing deliverance on the person.

### **Showmanship Deliverance**

This is deliverance that draws a lot of attention to the demon itself and the person doing the deliverance. Talking to demons, getting its name or history etc. does nothing to facilitate the deliverance and is not needed. Jesus asked for the name once and Legion responded. This was not to create a deliverance doctrine but to show the strength of the authority of casting demons out no matter the vast number. Showmanship deliverance sensationalizes deliverance and can empower the demon as attention is being given to it. After all, demons do lie and will tell you things you want to hear. This type of deliverance is not done in love and desire for the person but for the one doing the deliverance to be known. This kind of deliverance can be lengthy and drawn out. It also can be very traumatizing for the one being delivered. It has a lot of confusion, chaos and many voices. Many times, there is not a set-person leading the deliverance but an entire gang.

I understand there is much zeal, and that zeal may come out without much control being present. But this is about the person being free more than my own self expressions. In other words, many times showmanship deliverance is done for bragging rights and to create a following. God will still deliver a person even if the motive of the deliverer is wrong. This can cause people to think this is the correct way, after all a result happened. But there is a more excellent way. The way of love.

### **Training in Deliverance**

To me, training deliverance is when a person wants to learn deliverance ministry but has lots of struggles doing the deliverance. The only real way to learn deliverance is by actually doing it. This means you will make mistakes and struggle in some areas. Being with a seasoned person will help you through the journey. This is how I have always trained deliverance people. You can teach the areas understanding is needed in, but the actual application is when the real training begins. Jesus sent the disciples out and when they came back, He told them

what had happened. No one should ever do deliverance by themselves and should always have at least one other person. When in West Africa we had over three hundred people manifesting, ripping their cloths off, smashing their heads into trees etc. We had to tie them up with ropes. The Pastors did not know how to do deliverance, so we showed them how and trained about twenty pastors as they did it.

### **Biblical Deliverance**

Let me say this as I start this area. People perish for lack of knowledge. We need several things to be effective in deliverance. I'm not going to cover this as an all-inclusive teaching but a simple addressing the need for understanding. You can accomplish anything with love, even if you're lacking. Love covers a multitude of sins, short comings and inadequacies.

With Biblical deliverance you need four things in deliverance. (1) Know your authority. (2) Use your faith. (3) Hear the Holy Spirit. (4) Rightly discern the spirits. Everything else is a bonus but not needed to be effective. You don't need to know a list of demons and their attributes. You don't need the demon to talk to you and tell you things because everything is probably a lie. You don't need an exorcism cross, or holy water. You don't need a demon to thrust about or scream to have a deliverance. You simply hear God, rightly discern, bind the demon and cast it out with the authority you have been given.

Most of the time it does not need to take a long time. Jesus said to a whole legion of demons one word "GO". Other times it was simple words, but words filled with power and authority. What I see a lot of times is the struggles doing deliverance come from not knowing who you are in Christ and having things in your own life you need delivered from. You can't deliver someone from things you are battling yourself.

Biblical deliverance is not a show. It never distracts from what is going on. Many times, demons manifest and eventually a whole room can move from worship focused on God to a demon who then is stealing God's worship. When this happens, the demon is in control. Simply cast it out and move on or remove the person to another room and deal with it then.

We need no gimmicks. We need a voice of authority. We don't need a bunch of people yelling but one person should oversee the deliverance and everyone else is praying and discerning. If demons manifest, you tell them to be still. If the person yells you tell the demon to be quiet. You take control right away and part of that means you maintain order. Deliverance is an ordered ministry. If a demon screams, I command it to be quiet. If it thrusts about, I tell it to be still. I take away its power, influence and control of the moment.

Any type of deliverance is a traumatic experience for a person. The person needs much love afterwards and needs to be disciplined. They need assurance and to feel they are accepted. The work of deliverance many times is the steps afterward and the days and even weeks following. A void needs to be filled and the

person needs to be assured.

I also discern if deliverance is truly needed. There is a big difference between demonic oppression and possession. Oppression is outward influences affecting internal decisions or responses. Possession is forces from within that can take charge of a person that the person loses control. We can take authority over both. Sometimes we are trying to cast out when we need to prevent by stopping before possession occurs. Other times if we deliver someone, we need to place a deposit within of God's love, presence, etc. to fill the void. This is the real work of deliverance. The casting out of demons is the act of deliverance. After all the word "salvation" means deliverance and just as salvation is both a moment in an event and a long-term process, so is deliverance. It is both the act and the ongoing work of deliverance.

### **Deliverance from the Demon not Manifestations**

We need to touch briefly on taking out root demonic influence points and not just binding manifestations. There is no spirit of nicotine but a spirit of bondage. There is no spirit of addiction but a spirit of bondage. There is no spirit of lust, but perversion. Lust is excessive desire created in the soul as thoughts are planted by demonic forces trying to pervert. Remember Jezebel was a person who had demonic influences.

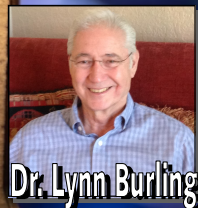
Every demonic spirit has certain attributes. Those attributes reveal what spirit is working behind the scenes. The spirit of jealousy will have competition, feelings of inferiority, and a suspicion. Symptoms will point to a primary demonic spirit at work. There is much to teach on in these areas and again our class in our school is about 25 hours. I feel like we sometimes look very uninformed in the spirit realm and look foolish to the people of the world looking at how we set people free.

If we do deliverance with a works mentality, then it will "wear out the saints". If we do it as a common action with real authority then it will not wear us out or wear us down. We also will not be getting backlash or having demonic activity coming against our lives. We are above these things and have been positioned to live at a higher level.

The sensationalizing connected with deliverance needs to be removed out of our lives as it only opens doors to wrong motives, elitism, pride, and a host of other things. To me, the simplicity of authority is all that is needed. We need to show forth the majesty and sovereignty of our God's power over evil forces and how quickly that authority can move anything that opposes.

(Greg Crawford is ordained through the Federation of Ministers and Churches International. He has a revelatory speaking gift and unique ministry of laying on of hands. He is connected with many national leaders and gives counsel and insight to help current ministry leaders. He pioneered the ministry now called The Base. He has a desire for spiritual fathering and has traveled to many nations conducting leadership conferences. Greg is also the author of numerous books including *Kingdom Discipleship*, *Kingdom Eschatology* and *Kingdom Centers*. Mailing address: The Base 1707 NW 104th St. Clive, Iowa 50325; Email: [info@thebaseiowa.org](mailto:info@thebaseiowa.org); Website: [www.thebaseiowa.org](http://www.thebaseiowa.org))

# Believe His Prophets and Prosper



Dr. Lynn Burling

In this day and time when you can Google current events or even spiritual meetings, with prophets galore, I recently have taken note of the Word of God which warns that in the last days there will be many false, deceitful voices, wolves in sheep's clothing spewing words claiming that they are the now word from God – time will tell. In fact, some set dates as to specific events and the day comes and passes but there is no sign of the fulfilled “prophetic word”. I have been the subject of some prophecies from prophets in my life and my personal experience has been in the high 90's percentile of those prophecies being fulfilled.

The **key** to understanding and believing the word of the prophets is knowing the difference between a “**Preceding Word**” and a “**Proceeding Word**”. May I offer that a preceding word is God's word that has already been spoken, written and is documented as the “logos”. However, a proceeding word, which comes by the Holy Spirit, to his prophets is a **proceeding** word or a **Rhema** word. (There are many prophetic utterances that contain both, to compare what is, and what is to be or to come!) A **proceeding** word is revelation to the hearer for instruction.

Consider the question, “What must I do to be saved?” This question, in some form, was posed to these men and their actions were:

Abel – Offer a sacrifice

Noah – Get into the ark

Lot – Get out of the city

Abraham – Get circumcised

Moses – Keep the commandments

John the Baptist – Repent and be baptized

Paul – Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ



Notice the question is the same, but the answer constantly changes with time. Escaping in the ark was relevant for Noah, but is no longer relevant for us. The present demand of God, for us, is to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ. Getting circumcised or keeping the commandments were preceding truths. Believing on the Lord Jesus Christ is a **proceeding** truth.

Prophets are under the unction to communicate the mind of God to his people. They are divine interpreters of the will and purpose of God. Your prosperity (success) comes by believing in and acting on the prophetic words from God or through the prophets God sends to you. It is important to recognize the prophetic to agree with what God is doing in us and for us. (God has plans for us-Jer 29:11) Proceed with action, faith without action is dead...believing is an action. Sometimes we must wait on the word while believing it to come to pass, yet at other times, act on it now!

All of God's Word is relevant for life, but the Lord has established the redemptive gifts, five-fold, to serve, edify, build up His church or a simple saint of God. He has done this with His written word and He exercises His will through the word of prophecy—that which has been written is **preceding** and that which is newly spoken, the ***Rhema, that which is to be***. “Where there is no vision (or revelation), the people perish.” Note: Matthew 4:4 But he answered and said, “It is written ‘Man shall not live by bread alone, **but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.**’” That is characteristic of a **proceeding word**.

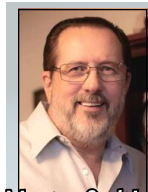
It is a manna word. Yesterday's manna turned to worms. There are many details to this subject for another time, but we must notice that those who put their trust in God's true prophets' proceeding word and believe, will succeed. Israel did! It is God's promise to us that is as fresh manna for the day or moment.

The difference between “**precede**” and “**proceed**”: **Precede** means to come before. **Proceed** means to “go forward” or carry on, beginning a course of action! **Precede**: means to occur or exist before in time or prior to in order.

We can see how God's word, written aforetime, **precedes** but contains information for a later time, as well. Whereas, a **proceeding word** is for **now**. Get ready and position yourself to believe when a prophet of God gives you a **proceeding** word. Believe it and you will succeed.

As Jehoshaphat stood and encouraged the nation to exercise faith and believe Jahaziel, the son of Zechariah, a Levite of the sons of Asaph said, “Listen all Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem (the nation) and King Jehoshaphat: thus saith the Lord to you, ‘Don't be afraid and don't be dismayed at this great horde, for the battle is not yours, but God's.’” The king had to believe! The inhabitants had to believe. Sure, we test the spirits to see if they be of God, we listen to a “confirming word”, but there comes a time when the Lord sends a word to you that demands an all-in for you to believe and He has an incredible blessing attached to it.

(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. [lynnburling@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lynnburling@sbcglobal.net))

**Marty Gabler**

Resurrection and battle-winning appear to be related as we consider our Lord's resurrection from the dead in this present season of battles that are demanding our attention at some level. As we celebrate Easter/Resurrection, we look to God Almighty to display His resurrection

victory while we stand right in the middle of threats of evil against our well-being and against our future. There are giftings in people which must be resurrected now to win family-saving, nation-saving battles now.

Samson's story is one of the intervening power of resurrection. There was a time when this avowed Nazarite had envisioned every Philistine defeated and every Israelite free. It was something he had plainly seen... at one time. As he matured and realized his destiny, he acted out what he had envisioned. It was something he could grasp... before certain persons distracted him. It was something he could plainly see... before he lost his eyes in a game of touchy-feely with those he was avowed not to have relationship with. A little honey out of the mouth of a dead lion's carcass to satiate a genuine, legitimate hunger wouldn't be condemned by anyone (even if it was a forbidden matter for a Nazarite). A little wine (the context intimates that Samson also drank), the refreshing, nourishing drink of the day (but strictly forbidden for Nazarites) was not given so much as a second thought by anyone. Forbidden relationship with three Philistine women (not just one, but three) did not seem to arouse concern in anyone but his parents. Vows made and vows broken tragically became the order of the day as values and \*mores were eaten away by the consistent numbing effects of exposure to those things of defilement. Endless taunts and jibes at the man's ego brought desired reckless reaction. All intended attempts of the enemy to take the man out were driving a cold, hard wedge between him and his calling. [\*(**mo·res** (môr·"aze") *pl.n.* 1. The accepted traditional customs and usages of a particular social group. 2. Moral attitudes. 3. Manners; ways.}]

The "grinder" of Philistine bones has somehow become the grinder of Philistine grain (Jud 16:21). Under the mandate and empowering of Jehovah, Samson had crushed the bones of those who oppressed God's people, Israel. Now he is grinding grain which will help sustain the enemies of God. He is *way* out of position. He was born to destroy the Philistine strangle-hold upon Israel and the purposes of God in her but, instead, is prospering the enemy of God by grinding the grain that will give them strength to oppress Israel further. Dagon was the Philistine god of grain, thereby, making Samson's act of grinding grain an act of worship unto a false god per the paradigm of Philistine theology. By this time, he is way dead to his purpose. I once overheard a conversation about a well-known preacher who committed adultery. Discussion was about the tragic fix he had now found himself in. One individual made the remark, "Sin will make a fool out of you".

It is a noted fact that the Hebrew strong man has already lost his hair which was an outward sign of an inward devotion to his God. We see now not only lost

hair, but lost devotion and its resultant ineffectiveness. **His vow, i.e., his degree of dedication, was *directly* connected to his ability and the outcome of his endeavors.** The sign and the reality the hair so blazingly represented, are non-existent. The Philistine princes did not bribe Delilah to give Samson a new hairdo, they bribed her to toy with him and get him distracted from his mandate. **Dedication and distraction *will* end up in an inevitable head-on collision** with damaging results.

By the time we get to Jud.16:22 the record would indicate that he has begun to think about past victories. Something is going on because the Bible says that his hair began to grow again. Something resembling the power of resurrection is beginning to have an effect in him. We have something going on inside the man that is being evidenced on the outside. Dr. Jamieson puts it this way: *His hair grew together with his repentance, and his strength with his hair.* Matthew Henry offers: *The return of his hair was not the source of his strength. The return of his hair was the sign of his return to his purpose. His return to his Nazariteship was signified by his extraordinary hair growth. With repentance comes strength.*

We must look closer to get the truth of Samson's "call to the Lord" in v.28. Basically, the word "called" means "cry out;" "utter loud sound." But Strong says that it is the idea of "accosting a person met". Others have said that it is the idea of encounter. Accost means "to approach and speak to often in a challenging and aggressive way." Encounter can mean "to engage in conflict with; a sudden often violent clash." When you accost a person that you meet as you are going along, you might tend to grab hold of them to make sure you have their attention. You could possibly even shake them a bit or go so far as to wrestle about with them if necessary in order to get their attention or get your point across. With all of this evidence it appears that Samson's agreement with grinding ceased and desisted and he sought out the face of God with much vigor and determination, ready for a resurrection experience. It was no slight moment-of-inspiration speech or action. It was desire, nay, desperation in action! Samson began to call upon God to finish what he had started in him — no halfway job, no stone left unturned, not even a reasonable facsimile thereof but the full promise fulfilled.

Samson in the prison house at the grinding stone fit the definition of "death." Death means "termination or extinction of something; cessation of all vital functions." He was as good as dead. Dead means "lacking feeling or sensitivity, unresponsive; not having capacity to produce or sustain life; out of operation because of a fault or breakdown." But when that "dead man" accosted God, when he had an encounter with the God of resurrection, he was resurrected to his purpose and fulfilled what God had called him to. The word resurrection means "to stand up again." The Philistines thought that Samson was down for the count just like the devil and the princes of this world thought Jesus was down for the count (1Co 2:7-8). But when resurrection power hit the body of Jesus, He stood up again. When resurrection power came upon Samson, he stood up again and the Philistines, what few were left, wished he never had.

You may be down and out for the count as far as the enemy and some people are concerned. But don't discount the resurrection power that comes from an encounter with God.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Dates are subject to change. Call before traveling.

Check Marty's FaceBook page for updates or our blog page: [martygabler.com](http://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](http://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

April 3—Bellville, TX  
Red Cabin Bible Church  
Pastors James & Judy Orange  
[facebook.com/RedCabinBibleChurch](https://facebook.com/RedCabinBibleChurch)

April 10—Iraan, TX  
Iraan Community Church  
Pastors James & Michelle Kent  
10:00am & 6:00pm  
Info: 432-639-2734

April 17— A blessed Resurrection Sunday to you and yours.

April 24—Willis, TX  
Grace Church Willis  
Dr. Dana Slegers

May 1—Cedar Park, TX  
Dickinson House Church 5:30pm  
Marty & Kathy sharing  
512-775-2105

May 4—Willis, TX  
Series on Prayer continues at  
Grace Church Willis  
6:30pm — 8:00pm  
Marty: "Prayer & Declaration"

May 11—Willis, TX  
Series on Prayer continues at  
Grace Church Willis  
6:30pm — 8:00pm  
Kathy: "Prophetic Prayer"

May 18—Seguin, TX  
New Life Fellowship

Pastors Chris & Chelsea Larson  
Prophetic Flow Service

May 19—Granbury, TX  
FMCI Annual Regional Reformation Institute with Jim Hodges  
Equipping The Overcomers  
WWIII or Third Great Awakening  
Office: 972-283-2262 or [fmci.org](http://fmci.org)

May 20—Granbury, TX  
FMCI Annual Regional Reformation Institute

June 1—Marty & Kathy celebrating their 49th wedding anniversary.

June 22-26—Louisia, KY  
With Apostle Jim Hodges  
Addiction Recovery Care  
Leadership Ministry/Training

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**Dreams Visions  
Prophecy  
Conference 2023  
September 9-11, 2022**

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**KINGDOM CONGRESS  
MARCH 1-3, 2023**

Grace Church Willis [gracewillis.org](http://gracewillis.org)

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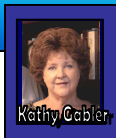
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DREAMS VISIONS PROPHECY SEPT.9-11,2022



Kathy Gabler

Grace Willis



Melissa Gabler

Job 33:15-16

Joel 2:28

Rom.12:6

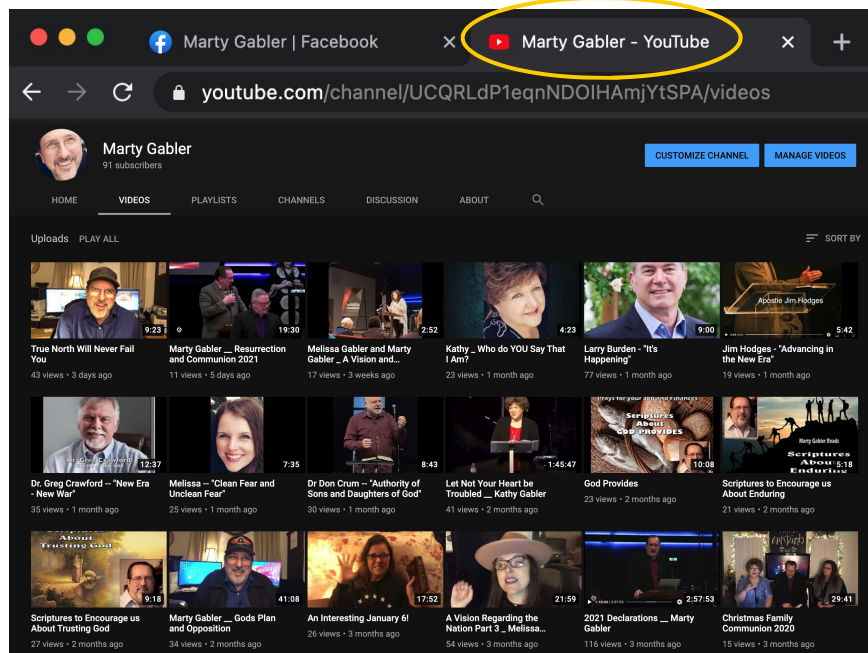


Marty Gabler

All info: [martygabler.com](http://martygabler.com)

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Website: [seecministries.org](http://seecministries.org)



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