SEEC Magazine

A QUARTERLY KINGDOM PERSPECTIVE

VOLUME 27

ISSUE 1

JANUARY-MARCH 2023

PTL for OUR 27th YEAR OF PUBLICATION!



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Impresatory Prayers Jim Hodges

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1Co 14:3; Eph 4:12

2023 **Declarations** Marty Gabler

> Awakening in Motion **Kathy Gabler**

The Kingdom Will be Preached at KC2023



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Issue 1

January-March 2023

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ON THE COVER: Jn.18:37,Amp—"Pilate said to Him, Then You are a King? Jesus answered, You say it! [You speak correctly!] For I am a King. [Certainly I am a King!] This is why I was born, and for this I have come into the world, to bear witness to the Truth. Everyone who is of the Truth [who is a friend of the Truth, who belongs to the Truth] hears and listens to My voice."

and listens to My voice."
Jn.3:16-17,Amp—"For God so greatly loved and dearly prized the world that He [even] gave up His only begotten (unique) Son, so that whoever believes in (trusts in, clings to, relies on) Him shall not perish (come to destruction, be lost) but have eternal (everlasting) life. 17 For God did not send the Son into the world in order to judge (to reject, to condemn, to pass sentence on) the world, but that the world might find salvation and be made safe and sound through Him."

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 our mission is statement and SEEC Ministries International is attempting 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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We need an Awakening as badly as Judah did in 2Kings 17. They had forgotten their God. They had forsaken their one true God and even closed the door to the temple and nailed it shut. 2Kings 17:16-17, could be copy from today's newspaper: The people disobeyed all the commands of the LORD. They made idols of gold and built altars to gods and goddesses and they worshiped the stars. They indulged in all the black arts of magic and sorcery. . . They sank so low as to sacrifice their own sons and daughters! These things are literally happening in our churches, neighborhoods, schools, businesses, small towns, movies and even cartoons, but most assuredly, (as it reads in the last line of verse 17), GOD HAD ENOUGH.

In the next chapter, 2Kings 18, Hezekiah became king of Judah and Awakening began. Hezekiah was AWARE they needed God and He took action to begin sanctifying the nation. He destroyed the local shrines, tore down the images of foreign gods, cut down the sacred pole for worshiping the goddess of sex and fertility and he also smashed the bronze snake Moses had made in the wilderness. Remember when fiery serpents were biting and killing them in the camp? God told Moses to put a brass serpent on a pole so people could see it and be healed. That was a one-time obedience that led to the intervention of God for their nation. Keeping that pole as a testimony from history to teach their children about God was understandable, but sticking that pole among the idols they were worshiping and making sacrifices to dishonored both God and the acts of God in their behalf. That generation had to have *cooked the books* (unethically change the meaning) of their own history to justify worshiping a SNAKE on a STICK. Let's bring that home to our present darkness. How much have crooked lawyer's and judges cooked the books in America and distorted the Rule of Law and the Constitution of the United States as they deliberately try to change our history. They fully intend to redefine who we are and distort the God purpose and destiny within us. We need an Awakening to stop the madness in both the Church and the Nation! We need to follow Hezekiah's lead in such a time as this! He made the God-changes that were in his reach! He could reach their idols and he tore them down . . . and it PLEASED God! Of course, it didn't necessarily please everybody else because Awakening always upsets the norms.

Judah was upset as their idolatrous and corrupt lifestyle was shattered, but they faced an even greater threat from another direction at the same time. A cunning enemy, an Assyrian Commander who fully intended to take them captive, used their *upheaval of norms* as the moment to undermine their confidence in their king Hezekiah and more importantly, their God! He taunted them saying, "You obviously have no hope of divine help!" And they couldn't argue with that since King Hezekiah had already cleared out their collection of gods, proving all their gods were powerless and disposable! Sennacherib reminded them that the Assyrians had taken over country after country and none of their gods had done them any good. Added to that, any hope they might have had of Jehovah God's help took a nose dive with the fall of the "SNAKE on a STICK!" Judah was shaking in their boots. Taking advantage of that moment, the crafty Assyrian put them to the question: What justifies your confidence that you can beat us?

(For future reference, no matter who corners us with such a question, whether friend or foe or self-talk, there is only one answer: Our confidence comes from the faithfulness of God. His faithfulness is greater than anybody's opinion or experience or track record.)

At that point, Hezekiah put on sackcloth and went to prayer and sent runners to Isaiah the prophet with this message: it is a day of deep distress; for sons have come to birth and there is no power to bring them forth. In other words, it's time to pierce the darkness around us and change the future for generations to come, but we're not strong enough to do it. We could add to Hezekiah's message in our day: most of us are too weary to even try to fight the darkness because for years we've seen morally depraved people blaspheme all things sacred! For years, we've watched wealthy bullies get away with murder and seen corrupt politicians cheat and blackmail and bribe their way to the top. We've watched media deliberately lie and deceive and brainwash the public with propaganda. We've seen technology kill people with chemicals and germ warfare and engineered storms. And we've seen injustice go unpunished. All this has left us rattled and weary and weak.

HOWEVER, I declare we are not too weary or too weak to participate with our God because we know what the Lord told Judah that day in 2Ki 19:6, and I believe it's a prophetic word for us today! God is going to deliver His people and our nation from Evil! We need to be AWARE of that and PARTICIPATE! The Lord said through Isaiah: Don't be afraid. It's Me that's being blasphemed. Behold, I will put a spirit in (your enemy) so that he will hear a rumor and return to his own land, and I will cause him to fall by the sword there. That sounds like God's gonna turn the tables. It sounds like our enemies will be taken out by insiders and their own camp will betray them. Sure enough, in Hezekiah's distress the word of the Lord came to pass. Whether Sennacherib believed Judah's God would help them or not, he heard the RUMOR of the Angel of God massacre that left 185,000 Assyrian corpses in their camp! So Sennacherib got out of Dodge, but when he went back home, his own sons killed him.

Isaiah's prophetic word already came to pass then and it will once again. We are not likely to hear it on the 6:00 fake news, but God is sending angels to help us prevail over this present darkness. Whether that darkness is evil politics or greedy schemes or 100 year old strongholds or impossible situations or personal wars in our backyard, we are being delivered from evil!

We have never been where we stand right now as the Church or as the Nation. For over 100 years, the Church has been deliberately undermined as a godly force in our culture and our Nation has been systematically sabotaged, but the cup of iniquity of the Amorites is full, (100 years and 100% full!) The meanings of the word "Amorite" tell the story graphically: the iniquity (darkness) of the Top of the Mountain controllers is FULL! The iniquity (injustice) of the the Public and the Prominent is FULL! And just like God gave the Amorites centuries to repent but they would not, God has given old-bloodline world controllers centuries to repent but they have not. So to quote 2Kings 17:17 again, GOD HAS HAD ENOUGH. Justice will be ugly for the Public and Prominent in coming days, but justice now will be deliverance for generations to come, and God will avenge the innocent.

As the CHURCH, may we be AWARE of what is righteous and what is not. We dare not hold to an old mindset of hide until we rapturously escape! No, this earth is the Lord's and He is our Lord, so we're on His side! That means we take a righteous stand and participate with our Lord to make a difference. A friend told me of his dream that carried this prophetic message: as the people of God stand up and turn from what is not God, we will see God move swiftly to bring about what is God! So be it. If the Lord has to pry us loose from traditions that are security blankets or mindsets we cling to like a pacifier, He loves us enough to do it. In this decade of Awakening, may we work with God and not idolize past obediences or past sounds or past experiences, nor cling to formulas and drag around a "snake on a stick."

As One NATION under God, may we not be afraid to open our eyes and see what Truth exposes as the Lord uncovers works of darkness and removes workers of darkness. Instead of living out a future in deception and dysfunction under siege of darkness, we are going to AWAKEN to God's Original Intent for this nation again. We are Positioned and Graced for an Awakening that God has planned! Please Grab that by faith today, not bowing to how you feel. Mary wasn't even married yet, so she certainly didn't FEEL like the mother of the Messiah, but she was Positioned in history and GRACED by God to be part of His plan, and so are we! If you are breathing, your name is pre-written in God's script for the Awakening of this 2020 decade. Again, we're not talking the impossible dream. We're talking the plans of God for sons and daughters to tend to Father's business. Please don't let that scare you or stress you in any way because we don't have to have a super hero full-body leotard or a cape and a mask. This is about being God-Positioned and God-Graced, Holy Spirit-prompted and Holy Spirit-enabled, and our part is to simply respond: "Lord, be it unto me according to Your word." Our willingness to participate with Father should come more from TRUST than COURAGE because we trust that the Lord has POSITIONED us and GRACED us to see His will done to us and through us in this AWAKENING.

(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)

KATHY will be speaking at the 16th Annual Kingdom Congress 2023

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If we are to see the Kingdom advance, wickedness must be dealt with and you cannot deal with it without using all the powerful tools we have. Somehow the Church seems to have omitted imprecatory prayers. Imprecatory prayers are the justice prayers in the book of Psalms. Psalm 10:2, In the pride of the wicked the poor is hotly pursued; Let them be taken in the devices that they've devised. 10:15, Break thou the arm of the wicked; And as for the evil man, seek out his wickedness till thou find none. Psa 28:3, Draw me not away with the wicked, And with the workers of iniquity; That speak peace with their neighbors, But mischief is in their hearts. Psa 28:4 Give them according to their work, and according to the wickedness of their doings: Give them after the operation of their hands; Render to them their desert. Psa 28:5 Because they regard not the works of Jehovah, Nor the operation of his hands, He will break them down and not build them up. Psa 94:1 O Jehovah, thou God to whom vengeance belongeth, Thou God to whom vengeance belongeth, shine forth. Psa 94:2 Lift up thyself, thou judge of the earth: Render to the proud their desert. Psa 94:3 Jehovah, how long shall the wicked, How long shall the wicked triumph? Psa 140:8 Grant not, O Jehovah, the desires of the wicked; Further not his evil device, lest they exalt themselves, Psa 35:1 Strive thou, O Jehovah, with them that strive with me: Fight thou against them that fight against me. Psa 35:5 Let them be as chaff before the wind, And the angel of Jehovah driving them on. Psa 35:6 Let their way be dark and slippery, And the angel of Jehovah pursuing them. Psa 35:7 For without cause have they hid for me their net in a pit; Without cause have they digged a pit for my soul. Psa 35:8 Let destruction come

upon him unawares; And let his net that he hath hid catch himself: With destruction let him fall therein. Psa 55:15 Let death come suddenly upon them, Let them go down alive into Sheol; For wickedness is in their dwelling, in the midst of them. Psa 59:13 destroy them in your anger; destroy them completely. Then everyone will know that God rules in Israel, that his rule extends over all the earth. Psa 69:22 May their banquets cause their ruin; may their sacred feasts cause their downfall. Psa 69:23 Let their eyes be darkened, so that they cannot see; And make their loins continually to shake. Psa 69:24 Pour out thine indignation upon them, And let the fierceness of thine anger overtake them.

In David's lifetime, he faced many enemies, the lion, the bear, the giant, King Saul, and the Jebusites. Satan wanted to destroy the seed in David which was Jesus, the son of David. In WWII, Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote about imprecatory prayers. Under the tyranny of the beast-like government of Hitler and the Nazis, he was part of the remnant Church that stood up. We are not to accommodate enemies. We are to put our foot on their neck, to use Bible language. In Bonhoeffer's book, <u>Psalms, the Prayer Book of the Bible</u>, he said, "David is as the anointed king of the chosen people of God a prototype of Jesus Christ. What happens to him happens for the sake of the one who proceeds from him, namely Christ. In the Psalms of David, the promised Christ Himself already speaks (Heb. 2) and may also be indicated by the Holy Spirit (Heb. 3). These same words which David spoke therefore, the future Messiah spoke through Him. So the Psalms can be seen as not just the prayers of David but also the prayers of Jesus the Son of God to the Father."

Acts 4:23-27 is the authorization of the New Testament Church to employ the Psalms in our prayer and worship. Acts 4:27 lists the enemies of the gospel as Herod and Pilate, the gentiles and the peoples of Israel. We see here the context of ministering or singing through imprecatory prayer and intercession and worship is all about engaging the enemies of God and enemies of the gospel. The enemies named first were Herod and Pilate. The same enemy is called the Beast in the book of Revelation, and both indicate tyrannical government. The second listed enemy, "gentiles," is the same enemy that is called Babylon in Revelation. Thirdly, "the peoples" of Israel, referred to first century, apostate Jewish leaders who officially rejected Messiah and were part of the corrupt priesthood of that day. They were the enemy called the false prophet in the book of Revelation. The Church engages these enemies through bold proclamation, intercessory prayer and signs and wonders, like it was a sign and wonder when Peter and John showed up at the prayer meeting that was gathered to pray for their release. They had been in prison for preaching the gospel but were then threatened and released even as prayers of release were being prayed for them. At their arrival, the scripture implies that those in the prayer group broke out spontaneously singing Psalm 2. That Psalm speaks of the kings of the earth or civil rulers that are raging against the King enthroned in heaven.

"Imprecation" means a curse. To put it simply, imprecation is the opposite of blessing. There are curses for disobeying God's law and revelation. Imprecation also means a reproach, a reviling or to become lessened or even despised or insignificant. God's own people had become an imprecation. That is a staggering warning for us. This isn't only about those who blatantly and unashamedly oppose the gospel, but also about God's own who become an imprecation rather than a light for the nations. For thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, "As My anger and

wrath have been poured out on the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so My wrath will be poured out on you when you enter Egypt. And you will become a curse, an object of horror, an imprecation and a reproach; and you will see this place no more." Jer. 42:18 And I will take away the remnant of Judah who have set their mind on entering the land of Egypt to reside there, and they will all meet their end in the land of Egypt; they will fall by the sword and meet their end by famine. Both small and great will die by the sword and famine; and they will become a curse, an object of horror, an imprecation and a reproach. Jer. 44:12

Now to summarize and apply imprecatory prayer: 1) Imprecatory prayer is not the outburst of personal vengeance. Rom 12:19 - Avenge not yourselves, beloved, but give place unto the wrath of God: for it is written, Vengeance belongeth unto me; I will recompense, saith the Lord. David had resisted the temptation to kill Saul out of personal vengeance. He was imploring the God of Israel concerning Saul because of Israel.

2) Imprecatory prayer is releasing the vengeance of the Lord against HIS enemies. Christ prayed through David and He prays through His Church. Jesus is the chief intercessor and He leads us in His prayers. Divine vengeance is rooted in divine justice. Justice demands righteousness, vindication for His servants and deliverance for the oppressed.

Praying imprecatory prayers is not unloving. Scripture says God takes no delight in the death of the wicked, however, to not pray these prayers would be unjust. When justice is not executed and the perpetrators of destruction and wickedness are not stopped, that is unloving. The release of God's vengeance is the action of God to bring justice to victory in the earth. The imprecatory prayers of the Church release this victory. This generation does not seem to be able to handle anything but the message of "God is love." However, while it is true that God is Love, God is Justice at the same time. It's not loving to NOT deal with the oppressor or to NOT lift up the oppressed. Isaiah tells us that Messiah brings justice to the nations. First Corinthians 6 tells us that the Church will judge the world. Of course, we need to understand that "judgment" is an evaluation. It's God's perfect imprecable analysis of how things ought to be. (That analysis is not the same as condemnation.)

- 3) Imprecations are longings for the establishment of righteousness and justice. *Psa.* 7:9 *let the evil of the wicked come to an end, but establish the righteous.* Scripture teaches that righteousness exalts and lifts, but sin brings reproach and death. This word is for individuals, families, churches and nations.
- 4) Imprecations are expressions of the zeal of God for His historical Kingdom purposes. Even though David would not harm Saul, David was still pursuing fulfillment of the promise that Samuel gave him.
 - 5) Imprecations are expressions of abhorrence for sin.
- 6) Imprecations are prophetic indicators of God's attitude toward His unrepentant and persistent enemies. Prayers that seem rough are only stating how we should pray because God has already promised to act accordingly. Psa 1:4 is an imprecatory prayer: The wicked are like chaff which the wind scatters. So the thing God said, we declare in prayer. Psa 58:6 O God, break their teeth in their mouth; break out the big teeth of the young lions, O Jehovah. Psa 3:7 Arise, O Jehovah; save me,

O my God; for You have struck all my enemies on the cheekbone. You have shattered the teeth of the wicked. When God says He is going to blow wind on the chaff and shatter the teeth of the wicked, we can then pray that. Civil rulers who do not function according to God's law and covenant and who oppose the authority of God, will perish. This was true of Pharaoh in the Exodus. It was true of Herod who was eaten by worms. The agendas of civil rulers will become anti-Christ when they do not embrace Christ. The anti-Christ we are fighting now is anti-life, anti-true gender identity, anti-family, anti-Church, anti-nationhood. No need to search out a man who is the anti-Christ, 1 John said the anti-Christs are already functioning in the world. (And for the record, the book of Revelation is not about unveiling the anti-Christ, it is about the unveiling of Jesus Christ as it says in Rev 1:1 This is the revelation of Jesus Christ)

Jesus released imprecatory declarations: Matt 23:32 - Fill up, then, the measure of the guilt of your fathers. 33 You snakes, you offspring of vipers, how will you escape the sentence of hell? 34 "Therefore, behold, I am sending you prophets and wise men and scribes; some of them you will kill and crucify, and some of them you will flog in your synagogues, and persecute from city to city, 35 so that upon you will fall the guilt of all the righteous blood shed on earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah, the son of Berechiah, whom you murdered between the temple and the altar. 36 Truly I say to you, all these things will come upon this generation. This is a chapter of woe that Jesus released on the generation He was talking to. He tells them plainly, 37 "Jerusalem, Jerusalem, who kills the prophets and stones those who have been sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, the way a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were unwilling." 38 Behold, your house is being left to you desolate!" Then after all these imprecatory declarations, Jesus then leaves them some hope by saying: 39 For I say to you, from now on you will not see Me until you say, 'BLESSED IS THE ONE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD!'"

In Rev. 6:10, the martyrs are praying imprecatory prayer: "How long, O Lord, holy and true, will You refrain from judging and avenging our blood on those who live on the earth?" If Jesus prayed these prayers, if David prayed these prayers, if the Church prayed these prayers, if the Martyrs prayed these prayers, what ought we to be doing? The challenge after any revelation is application and implementation. Some practical guidelines for praying imprecatory prayers: 1) Pray imprecatory prayers with the heart of God. 2) Pray out of revelation. We can only boldly pray the Lord remove His enemies when we have revelation from Him that they will never repent. 3) Pray with a corporate anointing. 4) Pray with patience because all accounts are not settled in this life. Our prayers transcend this life.

(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 a recent time of prayer, I saw a vision of a framed portrait. As I paused to admire this portrait, the Lord reached out his hands, removed the frame, and replaced it with a different frame. With the new frame now in place, the portrait itself had an entirely new look. The portrait had not changed, but the new frame brought out a new dimension that was not there when the old frame was in place.

As I pondered this vision, I sensed the Spirit impressing me that the portrait represented the body of Christ, the Church. The frame around the portrait represented the Church mindset. The replacement of the old frame with the different frame was the Father sending a message that He is reframing the mindset of His Church. In my spirit I knew that there would be coming a progression of new frames to the Church that would bring greater dimensions of mindset changes in the coming days.

In scripture the word frame is the Greek word *katartizo* which translates, "to fit", "to render complete". Another word for frame is the Greek word *sunarmologeo*, which translates to frame together, speaking of the church being fitly framed together as the body of Christ. I saw the Lord intentionally engaging and maturing the Church by shifting the mindsets of His body. It is clearly in His heart that we, His Church, come into our destiny and purpose in these end times.

The best example of this progression in the Bible is seen in the life of Abram. In Genesis 12, Abram received a divine call from the Lord to leave his home in Ur of the Chaldees and journey to a new land that only the Lord knew about. With this directive also came a promise that the Lord would cause Abram to become a great nation, to be blessed, and to be a blessing to all the families of the earth. The Lord, in effect, removed the current frame of Abram's life and replaced it with a new one, one that now brought the revelation of a new dimension of his life destiny.

As Abram stepped out to follow the Lord, his faith was tested over and again. In each trial, the Father's heart for Abram was progressively revealed as old mindsets were changed by fresh revelation and old frames were replaced with new ones. Arriving at Hebron, Abram received instruction from the Lord to look to the north, south, east, and west and to see the land upon which he stood. For all the land that

you see, I will give it to you and to your descendants, forever; so if anyone can number the dust of the earth; then your descendants can also be numbered. Arise, walk about the land through its length and breadth: for I will give it to you (Genesis 13:15-17).

Following the rescue of Lot and the encounter with Melchizedek, the Lord appeared again to Abram in a vision. In the vision, Abram shared his confusion about the promise of his descendants since he had no child for an heir, only a servant in his household. Once again the Lord changed the frame (mindset) of Abram by adding further revelation and encouragement. The Lord said, one who shall come from your own body, he shall be your heir. And he took him outside and said, *Now look toward the heavens, and count the stars, if you are able to count them. And He said to him, so shall your descendants be* (Genesis 15:4-5). Once again a new dimension of the promise was given by the Lord to reframe Abram's mindset and strengthen his faith that the original promise of the Lord would be fulfilled. Abram believed the Lord, and the Lord cut covenant with Abram as a seal that His promise would not fail and that His heart toward Abram would not change.

When the Lord's timing is not consistent with our expectations, we become vulnerable to take life matters into our own hands. Such was the case with Abram when he decided to father a child with Sarai's servant, who birthed Ishmael. Rather than rebuke Abram and withdraw from His covenant promise, the Lord reframed Abram once again with fresh revelation and a new covenant dimension of understanding. He changed Abram's name to Abraham (Father of a multitude - the name of his destiny) and changed Sarai's name to Sarah (Princess). He then declared that within the year they would produce an heir, a son named Isaac. Isaac would be the fulfillment of the Lord's promise. This time, the covenant would be sealed by the blood of circumcision. Isaac indeed was born as the Lord promised.

There was one last frame change, one final mind and heart set, that Abraham would receive from the Lord. It came when the Lord required that Isaac be sacrificed upon the altar to the Lord. The Lord said, Take now your son, your only son, whom you love, Isaac, and go to the land of Moriah; and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I will tell you. (Genesis 22:2). Abraham obeyed the Lord, and as he placed Isaac upon the altar and drew back the knife to offer his only son, the angel of the Lord stopped him. He said to Abraham, Do not stretch out your hand against the lad, and do nothing to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me. (Genesis 22:12) In this final frame, the mindset of Abraham was set free of all limitations of the soul and flesh. He was so in oneness with the Father's heart that he was completely convinced that should Isaac be offered as a burnt offering, the Father would resurrect him (Hebrews 11:19). Abraham had settled it in his heart that The Father would never take back His promise. The final frame of Abraham's mindset was in complete harmony and unity with the Father's heart. He was now ready and framed to truly BE the Father of Multitudes.

We are all a work in progress. We pass through the progressive stages and changes in life that at times seem overwhelming, difficult, and even destructive. Could it be that in each of these life events, the Father is simply exchanging the frames of our mindsets to progressively bring us into the fullness of our destiny and

purpose in this life. He intentionally challenges our current mindsets by reframing us with new dimensions of revelation and spiritual understanding of His word, His ways, His purposes, His heart for our lives. He will not stop until all of our limitations are consumed by the fullness of His love and life.

Your life is the portrait that I saw in the vision. You are a progressive work of art of the Father. As you lean into His heart through the maturing processes of life, you will see that His ultimate will for you is to evolve into His finished work. You will not only fulfill your ordained life purpose but also become a praise unto His glory, just like Abraham and so many others throughout history. Never doubt His love for you. Never doubt His heart for you. Never let go of Him in the challenges of your faith. He progressively changes your frames until you become His greatest masterpiece.

(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 *The Spirit of Fatherhood*. He also wrote *The Orphan Heart* which 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)



Can I just be real with you? Here's where I am currently, things don't look right or feel right, (and I've had multiple conversations with others feeling the same way). It's looking like the norm we grew up in has faded into the sunset for good. Things that used to entertain us have become disgusting beyond words and the atmosphere is so weighty it is tangible. BUT in the midst of all of this, I sense something phenomenal coming that has me so full of hope and pure joy that I can breathe deeper than I ever have.

My current life scripture describes the hope I'm feeling, "Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this." (Isaiah 9:7) In the midst of utter evil and chaos, the government/Kingdom of God is increasing on this earth. The Kingdom of God is not just some realm above us that we call

heaven that we will go to some day. The Kingdom of God IS heaven increasing on this earth NOW. This increase is exposing evil which is causing chaos in our world. Why is it chaotic? Because we have been living a norm that is far from the norm of heaven and it has to be exposed and overturned. So very many have been living like brainwashed puppets being directed by a puppet master whose intent is to rule and enslave through fear unto death. It sounds like a bad movie plot! When our eyes are opened, we see the horribly scripted reality we've been living which is far from heaven's reality. The increase of His government is bringing stunning insight into what God's original intent really looks like. It looks like heaven supplanting the world we've known, not us being taken to another place.

I just heard, "There is upheaval ahead" and what I saw was a paved road being torn up and removed to expose the ground below it. Familiar, man-made resources are being undone and we are returning to the natural, God-made resources underneath. There will be upheaval when the paths we have been used to get destroyed. How will we know which way to go? When the limited, controlling man-made path is gone, our options will grow immensely. Next I heard, "Sensory overhaul." When everything we've known starts shaking, we are going to get a sensory detox and rewire so that we can acclimate to heaven on earth!

A phrase that has been going off in my head, which goes hand in hand with upheaval, "It's going to be wild." I don't even know what all that means but I feel it. I have to look at it this way, if we have been living a false norm/reality then the upheaval of the false by the true would be wild! "So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, 'If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." (John 8:31-32) The truth sets you free because the truth is the reality of heaven, the reality of original intent, the reality of God. This kind of truth subverts the puppet masters' plans and replaces them with the higher government intended all along. We've been talking about the original intent of God for a long time now and we are about to see what that looks like. We couldn't handle the weight of it before now because we have had to go through some exfoliating and conditioning to be able to handle the wild ride ahead. "I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come." (John 16:12-13)

Here's what I'm feeling about the term "wild". I believe we are about to see some things manifest. I mean literally SEE things that have been hidden. The Spirit of truth is about to unveil things that have been working against us AND for us in other dimensions. That upheaval mentioned above is going to be a catalyst in this exposure. I'm telling you, the normal "Leave it to Beaver/Cosby" show life has been a great script in a false reality. True reality consists of every disease being healed, dead being raised, lives being changed and interacting with the supernatural realm, not just living day to day trying to have a good life and be a good person. Getting back to true reality will be shocking and will require us to be aware of and interacting with different dimensions. We are going to see some stuff in the coming years... get ready.

How do we prepare for what's ahead? You've been made ready in ways you

haven't put together yet, but it will come together as we head into the year. Also, we need to realize it's just time to BE the new creation Jesus exemplified. We need to pick up the Bible and rehearse the things Jesus set in motion. We typically call those "promises," but in our modern culture that word tends to have only a future connotation. His promises are fully alive and available for application now and where we are headed. For instance, we read in the gospels about fish and bread being multiplied to feed thousands. We need to be ready to facilitate that new creation norm. Finally, remember this isn't all about evil being exposed. Our focus needs to be on the increasing Kingdom that is going to be revealed in the midst of the mess. "I have told you these things in parables (veiled language, allegories, dark sayings); the hour is now coming when I shall no longer speak to you in figures of speech, but I shall tell you about the Father in plain words and openly (without reserve)." (John 16:25 Amplified) The reality and mysteries of God being uncovered will be the biggest mind-blower of all! The "brainwashed zombie" in each of us will try and hold on to old logic through the upheaval ahead, but the new creation we already are will bring us through to a victory that words can't relay right now.

It's going to be wild, so now is a good time to get ready. We get to be alive for this.

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The word "remnant" Webster's means: a small remaining quantity of something, a surviving trace, a small part, member, or trace remaining, a small surviving group. Perhaps the small number is because of not being qualified to be hand-picked by God. In this verse it speaks of time, which here means Kairos or a divine moment of God. Perhaps the remnant is small because few recognize that divine moment. Or perhaps the remnant is small because it is so valuable. What does that mean? God always reduces to what is most precious before He pours out. Gideon was reduced; the followers of Christ were thousands and only eleven remained faithful. In the upper room, of the thousands ministered to beforehand, only one hundred

twenty would keep pursuing what had been promised. God does this to show it is not about numerical conquests but yielding to His Spirit. God has never been hung up on numbers like we are.

I have said for a long time, it is not only about whether you will make it to heaven as a Christian. No, it is also about what you will "rule and reign" for all of eternity. The proving ground of governing there is how we govern here. I believe we have been given our seventy years plus guaranteed, to fulfill our roll in governing and to fulfill our destiny. God may extend our life depending on our stewardship of these things.

Is this the final remnant? Part of me believes it and hopes it is. Another part of me knows many things are only forerunners of the true ones yet to be seen. Will we see them in our lifetimes? Only God knows. We need to be planning to be here a while and at the same time believing for a 'suddenly 'to occur again. I am planning my moves with both intentions. The books I write I hope grows the Church and brings it into authentic life and maturity. At the same time, I am writing books not for the generation alive today but for generations yet to come, if the Lord tarries. In either way, I believe I am contributing to the final remnant. After all, most authors become known after they are gone.

We look at things taking a long time and maybe never seeing in our lifetime, as God forms within us through His great workings and dealings. I believe we have the generations of promise upon the earth. The ones who will bring things to conclusions and usher in a new heaven and earth. But I also know they will never accomplish the finalization of the Kingdom to present to the Father unless a new order and pattern emerges. It must be 100% spiritual and not based on man's wisdom or structures. I wish I knew what I know now when I began the journey. I would have avoided a lot of lost time, so now I work to bring others to a higher starting grid. But God is also a God of 'suddenly 'and can accomplish more in two to three years after a lifetime of preparation. That was the pattern of Jesus, thirty years of preparing for three years of governing. These kinds of thoughts and thinking patterns bring a realization that the ways of God are indeed higher than our ways.

Here, I want to reference and draw attention to Psalm 110. This is the Psalm that is most quoted today and most quoted in the New Testament. This is the Psalm of the final Remnant. The Lord told me, "During the pandemic, people are quoting Psalm 91 for the virus, but Psalm 110 is the way of the future." Reading this Psalm, we see a remnant group that is moving, the priesthood of Melchizedek. This Psalm literally has the elements I talked about at the beginning of the book. The power of nature, the method of rule-righteousness, authority through sonship/inheritance, power by nature and grace as the catalyst. All surrounding the beauties of holiness found in verse 3. Notice it says here beauties, plural. There are dimensions of holiness we have not yet seen or entered that God will be revealing.

As God is re-ordering the Body of Christ back to the original intention, we will find many things we strove for to be no longer viable. But the re-examination of our spiritual life always seemed to create a deep hunger for both the simplicity and depths of God. We can talk about order and we immediately think of Kingdom and 5-fold government. We think about alignments, relationships, ordination, commissioning, and a host of other things. All these things are important but what I see is,

there is a "way" that seems right to man but can lead to our own destruction. But there is a way from God that will lead us to life. These things do not lead us to life but help manage and maintain the life already flowing. This is one of the concepts we have wrongly embraced, thinking if we just had these things going, then the move of God will come. The Biblical pattern is these things all were needed after the life of God was already flowing. They were required to manage the move of God but did not necessarily create the moving of God.

You see, we have put more attention on building structures, networks, and followings than on building the spiritual man to the point of intense overflow. These things all make us feel accomplished and feel good about ourselves. But they all bring a false validation that is coming from ourselves because of what others are saying or affirming. There is so much scrambling to be connected to the latest and greatest emerging leader. So much time and resources going to conferences to be seen and perhaps talk to "the man or woman of God" so we can name drop. In all honesty, I do not see this as behavior of those hidden with Christ, whose lives are no longer their own. I do not see a holy remnant being taken in so easily to be deceived and get into such a self-deceived state that these things are more valuable than simply sitting at His feet and truly knowing Him. "My God" what have we become?

We must have a fascination like David did with who God is and have such a desire to come before Him, several times a day, just to be close to Him. David was fascinated by the beauty of holiness and it caught his imagination. Today we are more in the state of fantasy Christianity, instead of 'truly knowing 'Christianity. I have concluded, in America, we are in a pre-Christian era. We have not yet come into the maturity we see scripturally portrayed by the Early Church. Fantasy will derail you, but imagination will empower you. Imagination was given by God to take away spiritual limitations and open spiritual ways and thinking only found in other realms. This is what Enoch discovered.

I believe the final remnant will not be concerned with so many of the things we are concerned with today. I believe their spiritual focuses will be heightened and they will be more spiritually present in the moments. They will know the time and season and intentions of God. They also will know the ways and paths and what is holy, profane and a mixture. They will not deliver messages but be the message inside the Messenger who is Christ. Hidden mysteries they will speak and unfold, bringing revelation to many longing hearts desiring the One true living God. In simplicity, they will speak but eternal consequences will unfold from their lips.

Perhaps you are one of these remnant ones who has a deep knowing your life is to have so much more. Perhaps your whole life is coming to a few short years where it will leave its mark upon the earth. These are the things I personally contend for. I do not have hard and fast answers or formulas, but I know to keep pursuing and hopefully arrive at points I can bring others to, as well. I do know this; the future is before us if we have breath. I know those contending will find each other and draw strength and encouragement. Will you be chosen as one of the final remnant? Will you abandon what you think you know and be willing to walk in a new place of wonderment? The Spirit is beckoning in this hour, the earth is groaning, heaven is watching, the Spirit is brooding. It is time to be counted and to leave your mark upon the earth.

This article is an excerpt from Dr. Crawford's book *The Dawn of the New Order: The Original Intention for Heavens Structure* (p. 83). 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; Website: www.thebaseiowa.org)



The presents have been opened, the ham and turkey came out great, you've eaten more than you should, and now you're looking into the next year with, hopefully, optimism and expectancy. As we move into 2023, the climate and culture seem to ever be against the things of God and His purposes, but still God is still moving us towards His plans. There is one aspect of the character of God that we don't necessarily seem to care for, at least I know I don't. I'm calling it the "blessing of no." What I mean by this is there are times when God just tells us "no." We may not like it. We may not understand it. But for whatever is involved with His master plan to bring His Kingdom to this earth, sometimes He just says "no" to our prayers and desires. Let's explore some of these times in scripture.

Many times in scripture God doesn't allow a people or person to enter a place or region. This is for a variety of reasons for example in Gen 3:22-24 "And the LORD God said, Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil: and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live forever: 23 Therefore the LORD God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from whence he was taken. 24 So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life." The Lord didn't allow Adam and Eve to live in the garden anymore due to the fact that if they were to eat from the tree of life, they would live forever in their fallen state. So, for their own sakes, God had to

"drive" them out. The word "drove" means expel, cast out, divorce, thrust out. These are very strong words to us and seemingly unloving, uncaring, or incompatible with the character or God. But, these are the necessary actions that must happen to Adam and Eve if all mankind is to be saved. We must come to the realization that many times our plight is tied to the future and not just ourselves.

Another example is the children of Israel refused to go into the land that God promised them. Deu 1:34, "And the LORD heard the voice of your words, and was wroth, and sware, saying, 35 Surely there shall not one of these men of this evil generation see that good land, which I sware to give unto your fathers, 36 Save Caleb the son of Jephunneh; he shall see it, and to him will I give the land that he hath trodden upon, and to his children, because he hath wholly followed the LORD. 37 Also the LORD was angry with me for your sakes, saying, Thou also shalt not go in thither. 38 But Joshua the son of Nun, which standeth before thee, he shall go in thither: encourage him: for he shall cause Israel to inherit it. How can this be a blessing? Even though God had delivered them from slavery, destroyed all the armies of the Egyptians, done miracles in the wilderness, they still refused to trust and obey the Lord. They could take the slave out of Egypt, but they couldn't take the Egypt out of the slave. Beyond the personal affront of disobedience, murmuring, and mutiny, God would not allow a slave mentality into the promised land. Sometimes God has to say no to us because our old mindset will not allow us to function in a new place. We need to make sure that our minds are ever being transformed and renewed to align us with the thoughts, desire, character, and imagination of God. Only in this way will we be able to see the hand of the Lord in wherever He is leading us. Old mindsets can keep us from getting the green light from God.

Paul was prevented from preaching in Asia. Act 16:6, "Now when they had gone throughout Phrygia and the region of Galatia, and were forbidden of the Holy Ghost to preach the word in Asia. Why would God seemingly limit the preaching of the gospel? I believe there are two things in operation here. One is the sphere of influence - the Metron - that God want us to stay in. As you look through scripture, you find that the Lord many times has a scope on his rifle pertaining to ministry. There are many God-encounters in the book of Acts; Peter and the centurion, Philip on the road to Gaza, Paul and Silas in prison, Paul in Ephesus. God many times wants us to exert Kingdom influence in families, businesses, cities, and regions. The-bigger-the-better isn't always the best way to approach Kingdom strategy. There is also a timing issue with the opening and closing of plans. For example, at Grace we were planning a whole building project to start in 2000. We were going to add onto the building, work on the parking lot, make plans for our future building, etc. These were great plans until the revival came. We call it the "gold rush" of 1999. During a Dreams and Visions conference with Marty and Kathy Gabler, the Holy Spirit came in amazing and powerful ways. Services went 4-5 hours every night. We saw miracles, gold teeth, gold dust on people, healings, salvations and it was amazing. We went 6 weeks straight in meetings and realigned ourselves with our primary mandate. It refocused us on our primary job of ministering to Jesus. Buildings are good, parking lots are necessary, but ministering to Jesus is and has always been the primary ethos of our house. . The adage of "build it and they will come" works good in the movies, but not necessarily in the Kingdom. Sometimes God says "no" so we can get back to our primary mandate...Jesus.

James and John had to endure the "no" of God. Luk 9:53 "And they did not receive him, because his face was as though he would go to Jerusalem. 54 And when his disciples James and John saw this, they said, Lord, wilt thou that we command fire to come down from heaven, and consume them, even as Elias did? 55 But he turned, and rebuked them, and said, Ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of. 56 For the Son of man is not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them. And they went to another village." Maybe God is saying "no" to us because we are not operating in the right spirit. The disciples wanted to destroy this village because of being rejected. They allowed the pain of rejection and offense to cloud their judgment. Jesus stops them and identifies that they were drawing their inspiration from another source besides the Holy Spirit. They allowed their emotions and soul to cloud how Jesus wanted to respond. This is why we can't pray and receive answers because we ask amiss James 4:3. Sometimes God tells us "no" because we are drawing from another spirit and not the Holy Spirit.

Even Jesus had to hear "no" from God. Mat 26:39 - 39 And he went a little further, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt. When Jesus went into the Garden of Gethsemane He was on the verge of a nervous breakdown. "My soul is exceedingly sorrowful unto death." Other words, "I feel like I'm going to die!" He was feeling the weight of the purpose and timeline of God coming crashing down on his existence. In this place of agony and excruciating pressure Jesus asks God if there is another way.... but the answer... was "no". God had to tell His own Son, by His actions, that there is no other way. This is one reason why I know Jesus is the only way to the Father, because if Father was going to answer any prayer throughout time and history, wouldn't it be the cry of His own son. But He didn't. Jesus submits his mind, his will, and his body to the purpose of God. All of mankind was at stake. Even though the redemptive plan of God was done at the foundations of the earth, Christ's humanity was still trying to find a man solution for the sin condition. Sometimes God says no because there are bigger issues at stake than what I am going through at this moment.

There is a great song by Rita Springer titled, Gonna Be Worth It. Here are the words: I don't understand Your ways; Oh, but I will give You my song; I'll give You all of my praise; You hold on to all my pain; And with it You are pulling me closer, Pulling me into Your ways; Now round every corner And up every mountain I'm not looking for crowns Or water from fountains, I'm desperately seeking And frantically believing That the sight of your face Is all that I'm needing; I will say to you that It's gonna be worth it, It's gonna be worth it all. I believe this.

God will say "no" for your sake and the sake of His purpose and plan. We just need to know that the part we play is not in vain, but will be worth all the pain and trouble we have to endure. Don't despise the "No" from God, it is a blessing.

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"Those from among you Shall build the old waste places; You shall raise up the foundations of many generations; And you shall be called the Repairer of the Breach, The Restorer of Streets to Dwell In." Isaiah 58:12 Why? What's the point of healing, signs, wonders, miracles, and people free from oppression? What is the point of having authority? Well, it's quite simple. We are to restore. And more than that; we are to partner with Jesus in bringing about a new creation. Eden was where Heaven and earth overlapped. God intended to fill the earth with the garden of Heaven on earth using man as means to do it. God's will has not changed. Jesus came to restore man so that man could restore, revive, rebirth earth. If Adam, the human, was the steward over original creation, Jesus, the resurrected human, is the steward over new creation. He is in us, and he is wanting to be made manifest by transforming us into new creation humans so we can steward a new creation earth and a new creation Heaven. This, by the way, is why the princes of the world would not have killed Jesus had they known (1 Cor. 2:7-9). They can never access new creation. Resurrection requires death, and they cannot access what is on the other side of death, (think, the crossing of the Red Sea and the fate of Pharaoh's army). You being the son-that-you-are is the thing they fear most.

God never intended to pull his kids out and destroy what He made. He intends to restore his kids here, now so that He can then restore what He made using his sons. Restoration is a family business. Remember, the state of creation is a reflection of what happened to God's first son on earth. God wants to restore his sons so that they can partner with Jesus in restoring everything else. The state of new creation is to reflect what happened to and through Jesus.

Behold, I make all things new. Revelation 21:5. Jesus makes all things new. It is not something he did once a long time ago. It is not simply something he will do one day in the future. It is what he does right now. It is what he always does. It is his very nature. He makes all things new. This is his intention. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have

become new. 2 Corinthians 5:17. When you die to your self and become the son that you are, you are a new creation. When God restores a person

He doesn't just repair them; He makes them someone new. Yet, somehow God uses the old in the making of the new. All things have become new. This word new is not really about something being restored to its original state, but rather about something being recreated according to Christ. God takes the old, combines it with Christ, and makes you, a new creation.

Look at it this way. God takes the old you, adds sonship, and produces the you that looks like Christ, the you that is a son. Not only that, but this new creation that you are carries the power to lead others into this great exchange. This is called the ministry of reconciliation.

Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation. (v. 18) We are restored so that we may restore others. This is not so much about a special ability we have, but about the reality we live in, the reality we carry. When we are in Christ, seated with him in heavenly places, we carry the very atmosphere of Heaven. We are new creations, having exchanged our earth-to-Heaven identity for a Heaven-to-earth identity. We bring Heaven wherever we go.

How Sons Restore - Now, let's look at how we are to partner with Jesus to restore others and the world. And believers were increasingly added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women, so that they rought the sick out into the streets and laid them on beds and couches, that at least the shadow of Peter passing by might fall on some of them. Also a multitude gathered from the surrounding cities to Jerusalem, bringing sick people and those who were tormented by unclean spirits, and they were all healed. Acts 5:14-16. Peter carried something. The Holy Spirit was upon him and he brought the atmosphere of Heaven with him. I'm sure Peter remembered that fateful day on the water. Now, Peter is no longer being Simon, son of Jonah. He is being Peter, carrying the keys to the kingdom of Heaven. He has learned why he walked on water. He has discovered what Jesus was really inviting him into over the edge of that boat. He now walks in the gravity of Heaven everywhere he goes.

Sons Heal - We need to understand why healing is important, why it is necessary. Being sick, crippled, diseased, impaired, deaf, blind, etc., is simply not the way God designed us to be. We are made in his image and that image is not meant to be distorted. We are to be whole.

Jesus did not just heal people from their sickness or ailment. He healed their souls, their whole being. "Your faith has made you whole" (Mark 5:34 KJV). Wholeness is the goal. Chronic sickness, genetic disorders, birth defects, disabilities, incurable diseases all have a way of twisting our identity to fit within the box of limitation. Who we are and the disease we suffer from become synonymous. The real disease is then found in the soul and becomes a filter for how we see ourselves. The body was designed to heal itself. When it doesn't, it's because something is in the way - genetics, environmental conditions, diet, soul wounds, strongholds, beliefs, mindsets, demonic oppression, etc. Somehow, Jesus is able to cut straight to the issue and address the thing at its root. Jesus' compassion was not centered

around someone feeling better. He wanted people restored. Restored to what? Not just their original identity, but their sonship identity.

After being healed from sickness and set free from the soul wounds caused by it, each person Jesus healed is faced with a new reality. They don't just have a new lease on life, but a new perspective on themselves. Why did Jesus heal me? Why so much love and compassion for someone he doesn't really know? What does he believe about me? How would he have me live? Who does Jesus see when he looks at me? Jesus restored people to lead them to the threshold of transformation. What will you now do with your new life? They certainly can't go back to an old life, even the one they had before sickness. They are forever changed, marked by Jesus.

Sons Deliver and Forgive -The same holds true about deliverance. Demonic possession or oppression literally makes someone live their lives as someone else. However the enemy gets in, it remains because it attaches itself to a stronghold built on a lie. That stronghold may have come from trauma, abuse, chronic disappointment, indoctrination, or a number of other ways. All of those things carry a message (that isn't true) to the heart: you are broken; who you are is bad. But not all deliverance is demonic. If you suffer from ongoing anxiety, depression, and fear you need to be delivered. All those things are symptoms of the reality you live in. It is a combination of what has happened to you, the long, brutal assault of the enemy against your heart and the environment you live in. They are not compatible with Heaven's reality. If they are constantly present in your life, then you need to be restored.

A powerful way Jesus delivered people was through forgiveness. So He got into a boat, crossed over, and came to His own city. Then behold, they brought to Him a paralytic lying on a bed. When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, "Son, be of good cheer; your sins are forgiven you." And at once some of the scribes said within themselves, "This Man blasphemes!" But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, "Why do you think evil in your hearts? For which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Arise and walk'? But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins." Then He said to the paralytic, "Arise, take up your bed, and go to your house." And he arose and departed to his house. Now when the multitudes saw it, they marveled and glorified God, who had given such power to men.

Matthew 9:1-8. I don't know what sins this paralytic man had or how it was connected to his disability. Here is what I do know based on this passage. Jesus forgave the man's sins when he saw "their" faith. Perhaps there is a story here that we aren't directly told. This paralytic man likely suffered from more than a physical ailment, and the effects of long-term illness could have poisoned his mind. It's not uncommon for chronic sickness and disease to twist people's thinking into believing God has made them sick in order to teach them something profound. These kinds of beliefs distort our identity over time. Remember, sin at its core is really about living as someone other than the son that you are. The self sins, and the self is perpetually created and molded based on external circumstances. Unhealed sickness creates a self that "deserves" sickness.

Faith is seeing into Heaven's reality and acting according to its laws and nature. When Jesus saw their faith, he saw that they acted as though Jesus intended to heal, not that the man somehow deserved to be the way he was. Faith brought forgiveness

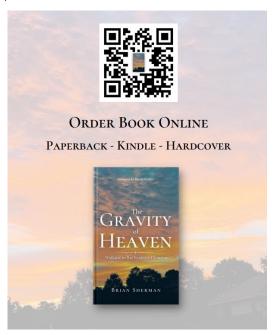
and restoration back to the paralyzed man's identity and dignity as a son. Then Jesus required that man to act on that truth, to rise and walk. And he did. He stood up a forgiven man. He stood up a restored man. The world is full of people who need to be forgiven for the person they have self-created. They sin by attributing their problems and pains onto God, as though He is the cause. They create a God in their suffering image. The last verse in the passage above is quite eye-opening: Now when the multitudes saw it, they marveled and glorified God, who had given such power to men. Matt 9:8.

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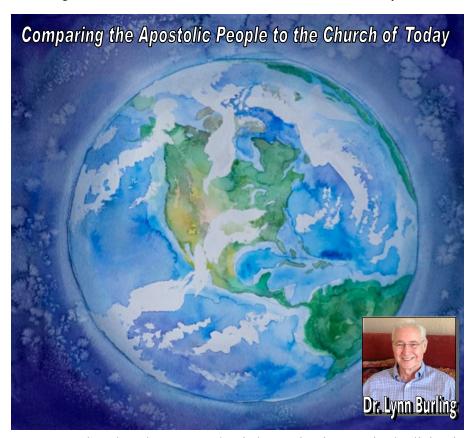
God has given the power to forgive to men. There are countless people out there who simply need a son of God to come to them and say "your sins are forgiven." They can do this because sons reflect the Father, and the only way to know who you really are is by seeing the Father for who He really is.

Restoring the World Around Us - Creation is waiting, groaning, in labor pains. When will sons show up? When will the carriers of Heaven walk the earth? This is the only way creation gets set free — if humanity itself is set free into sonship.

(This article is an excerpt from Brian's new book release Sonship and the Gravity of Heaven, the chapter titled Sons Restore. Brian Sherman, through writing and speaking, shares regularly on the topics of identity and spiritual growth. He and his wife Hannah lead the Children's Ministry at Grace Church Willis. They are also Directors of Experience Youth Camp, a week-long summer camp that mobilizes churches throughout Texas each year to provide junior high and high school youth with a lifechanging encounter with God. Brian and Hannah live with their daughter in Willis, Texas. To learn more go to bcsherman.com)



The website to order the book is: gravityofheaven.com I recommend this book, Marty



I never thought I'd ever see what is happening in organized religion in my lifetime (actually dis-organized religion). To make my point, what is happening now was alive and well in Jesus' day. We will refer to John 9:1-38 (I'm sure you know the story, so I'll comment on every salient point as we follow the thread of the story). Jesus commented to his disciples that this man, nor his parents sinned. Verse 6, "Having said these things, He made mud with his spit", then he anointed the man's eyes with the mud. He sent him to wash in the pool of Siloam (which means sent). When he came back seeing, the neighbors and those who had seen him as a beggar, were asking?"Is this the man who begged?", and others said "No, but he is like him". He kept saying, "I am the man!" So they asked him, "How were your eyes opened?" Verse 11, "A man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and said, 'Go to Siloam and wash', and I can see."

Let's catch up here. John 6:29, "This is the work of God – that you believe in him whom He sent. The works of Jesus were performed on the blind man, that others may believe in Him (Jesus). Notice: The charismatic flamboyance displayed by Jesus in vs 6, "Did not open the eyes of the blind man." The spit is symbolic of the spirit (water). Spit and dust make clay, which is symbolic of the flesh. The blind man had to walk to a specific pool.

Not the Red Sea, the Dead Sea or Jordan, but the pool of Siloam, to receive his sight. The pool of Siloam is symbolic of an apostolic church or apostolic resource. It's waters bring clarity of vision and purpose. Apostolic people live under the mentality that they are sent. John 20:21, "Peace to you! As the Father has sent me, I also send you" (NKJ). The sent one recognizes that: He is connected to the sender, (God); He carries the message from God; He is accountable to the sender ... and he represents the sender.

The man's transformation, and the characteristics revealed in the apostolic people, are called The Works of God. It was Lifestyle Transformation. "Is not this he who sat and begged?" (Note that Jesus did not change his appearance in any way). The only thing different was he received his sight. Why did his neighbors and acquaintances not recognize him anymore? ANSWER: His walk changed, he was now more sturdy, purposeful, confident and directed in his walk. When you connect to apostolic anointing, your walk will change. Your lifestyle will change. You will walk with wisdom and circumspection in the illumination of God's light.

- His Instant Witness was "A man called Jesus." The man testified of Jesus in his own neighborhood immediately. Apostolic believers become instant witnesses of Jesus Christ. Attention is always directed to Jesus. In the apostolic, Holy Spirit always directs believers to be witnesses of Jesus Christ. Acts 1:8, "You shall be witnesses to me in Jerusalem in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth. John 1:8, (John) "He was not that light, but was sent to bear witness of that light." (NKJ)
- Inspiration of a Christ-Pursuing Mentality: "Where is he?" Apostolic believers are not only witnesses, their lifestyle provokes others to look for Jesus.
- A Seventh Day Illumination: The healing took place on the Sabbath Day. We are in the seventh Millennium since Adam. Apostolic ministry is for now, the seventh day, a ministry necessary for today.
- He told it like it was which is clarity. "He put clay on my eyes and I washed, and I see." Apostolic believers have a clear message, clarity about divine command and human responsibility.
- A Ministry of Division (then like now): John 9:16, "And there was a division among them". The nature of the apostolic message conflicts with that of a religious house where laws and traditions are exalted above Christ. It is inevitable.
- Notice the Rapid Upgrade: Verse 11, He called Jesus a man. In verse 17, He called Jesus a prophet. (Rapid Upgrades) Apostolic believers are open to proceeding revelation.
- Maturity (vs 23): He is of age, ask him, he will speak for himself." Apostolic believers are recognized for their mature spiritual stature. They are able to discern and explain.
- He Was Sought Out: "Ask him." Isaiah 62:12, "and they shall call them,

the holy people, the redeemed of the Lord; and thou shalt be called, sought out.

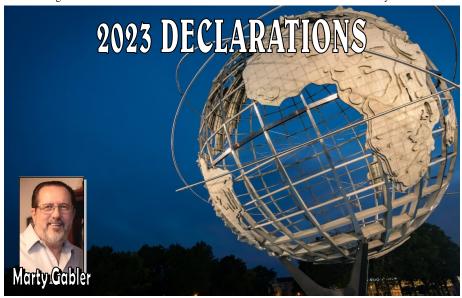
- They are Autonomous: They are delivered from addiction to leadership. They can answer for themselves. They can contend for the faith.
- Clarity of Focus: "One thing I know." The minds of apostolic believers are not muddled down with a multitude of visions. It's one thing at a time. Paul said "but one thing I do."
- Clear Distinction Between Past and Present; Very clear on the past and clear on the present move of God. "I was blind, but now I see."
- Apostolic believers have the boldness and capacity to stand before antagonistic religious spirits who will not listen: "I told you already, and you did not listen!"
- They identify as a Jesus Disciple: "You are his disciple." It was his "logic" when speaking to them. Vs 30, "The man answered and said to them, "Why this is a marvelous thing, that you do not know where he is from; yet, he has opened my eyes!" Vs 32, (Powerful) "Since the world began, it has been unheard of that anyone opened the eyes of one who was born blind. (A creative miracle that Moses, nor Elijah nor anyone had ever done, but Isaiah says the eyes of the blind shall be opened and they shall see.) Note: He is yet to have met Jesus face to face. He has only received his healing. And he powerfully defends Jesus, confessing Him to them! They accuse him of teaching them! Wow! Logical conclusions are a distinct feature of apostolic believers, making them instant teachers.

It says, "They cast him out." Ouch! The religious order will not accept apostolic believers. Notice he was sought by God. Jesus found him, then revelation came in waves: "You have both seen Him and it is He who is talking with you." He had a rapid upgrade when he said "Lord", and he worshipped him. Vs 35-38, Revelation from man, to prophet, to Lord is a feature of the "Proceeding Word".

(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)

MELISSA — "You crown the year with your bounty, and your paths overflow." (Ps. 65:11 AMP) "Crown" here is the Hebrew word "atar". It means to encircle for protection. So, we really are tiptoeing into something big in 2023 and we are protected as we approach our reveal. And let's just top it off, "Your paths overflow" says 2023 is marked with abundance. The biggest fight we have at this point is truly believing our God is as good as He really is!

KATHY—The Holy Spirit gave me specific instructions one day to put my heart into the day. Graciously, He did not say, "Instead of murmuring today, try living like it connects to My good plans for you." Whether we can see past the smoke of the fire we are in or not, we can decide to persevere each day with the confidence that it truly is an investment toward tomorrow and our potential in 2023. Mt.6:34,TPT—"Refuse to worry about tomorrow, but deal with each challenge that comes your way, one day at a time. Tomorrow will take care of itself."



I received the Declarations during seasons of prayer. As you are able to agree with and own these declarations (1) you will be built up in your most holy faith (Jude 1:20) and (2) you will have a tool to war with that can defeat the enemy in the coming year. These declarations are for (1) prayer points (points that we pray over regularly) and (2) points of agreement (points that we put agreement to in the atmosphere—agreeing with the purposes of God and with one another). Each year individuals, churches and prayer groups join us in prayer and agreement throughout the year over the declarations.

"DECLARE": Job 15:17; Ps 9:11; Isa 42:9; 48:5-6

**(Brian and Hannah Sherman, Children's ministers at Grace Willis, wrote the Kids Version. They lead the children in one of the declarations each Sunday during Children's Church.)

I declare that in 2023:

1.THERE WILL BE A FRESH OUTPOURING OF THE SUPERNATURAL.

(KIDS: We declare that we will speak the words that bring heaven to earth.) Numerous people will be anointed by THE Prophet to prophesy awesome stuff. Your cry will be "Oh, God, let me prophesy the awesome, the extraordinary, the unconventional of your power, your love, your compassion, your wisdom, your provision." 1Cor.14:3,TPT—"But when someone prophesies, he speaks to encourage people, to build them up, and to bring them comfort."



2. THERE WILL BE A FRESH OUTPOURING OF PENTECOST. (Kids: We declare that we will speak the words that will invite the Holy Spirit into people's lives.) Holy Father will put upon numerous, hungry, sons/daughters an anointing that will be similar to what He put upon David Duplesis who saw thousands receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit in power. Be among the first of those who zealously volunteer. You will speak (to individuals as well as groups) of the power and the wonders of Holy Spirit and while you are speaking people will begin to manifest tongues and redemptive acts of the gifts of the Spirit. He will give power to be, power to do. Isa.6:8, GW—"Then I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, "Whom will I send? Who will go for us?" I said, "Here I am. Send me!"

3. WHEN YOU ARE PRAYING, YOU WILL REALIZE THAT, BY THE INFUSION OF HOLY SPIRIT, THE PRAYER ITSELF IS SHIFTING.

(KIDS: We declare that the Holy Spirit is doing a new thing when we pray.) You will be praying what you believe needs to take place or the way it needs to take place and when, and then you will find your prayer, directed by HS, begin to shift and you will pray in ways and words you are not accustomed to. You will receive direction that you would have never thought of receiving in the past. Rom.8:26,TPT—"And in a similar way, the Holy Spirit takes hold of us in our human frailty to empower us in our weakness. For example, at times we don't even know how to pray, or know the best things to ask for. But the Holy Spirit rises up within us to super-intercede on our behalf, pleading to God with emotional sighs too deep for words. 27 God, the searcher of the heart, knows fully our longings, yet he also understands the desires of the Spirit, because the Holy Spirit passionately pleads before God for us, his holy ones, in perfect harmony with God's plan and our destiny.

4. WE ARE GOING INTO 2023 WITH A COUNTEROFFENSIVE ALREADY IN PLACE (Kids: We declare that we will strike back against the enemy by using the weapons of God's Word.) There is already a counteroffensive in place and it is causing breakdown in the enemy's ranks. A VISION I HAD A FEW DAYS AGO—It's like I could see a bevy of people rushing around and almost out of breath and pointing and talking and carrying important looking papers and moving things from one place to another to assist plans being carried out, to make something happen. Someone observing says that they are really making progress because of all the consternation and all the ruckus they are causing, but they are more smoke than fire.

Then I see another group of people and they are praying and conferring with one another and praying for the righteousness of Yahweh to prevail and sending messages to others of like mind declaring the purposes of God and the advancement of the Kingdom in spite of all the turmoil.

Then the first group that seemed to be doing such "important/necessary" things and "accomplishing so much" is now bumping into one another and confused. One or two of them start out to go in one particular direction but they act like they can't put two complete thoughts together. Some of them cannot keep

two steps together and lose their balance and begin to drop things and even begin to fall. Just trying to maintain a footing in present circumstances has become an all-consuming preoccupation for them. Those trying to help the fallen ones, fall themselves.

Now some of them are groping about like they are blind. A counteroffensive of prayer and steadfastness has thrown up a great wall of God-ordained, God-infused opposition which has become an impossibility to those groping about. It is the wall that cannot be gone around, cannot be gone through, cannot be gone under and cannot be gone over.

Rev.3:7, TPT—"...these are the solemn words of the Holy One, the true one, who has David's key, who opens doors that none can shut and who closes doors that none can open:"

Counteroffensive might look like: 1) prayer, 2) prophecy, 3) declarations, 4) agreement with the Word of God and Kingdom authority of God which is superior to and supersedes the prevailing predictions of present sentiment, 5) redemptive words and actions displaying the character of Father God.

(Compare this experience from Kathy 12-30-22)—"So far this week, I have had two pastor's dreams where powers of darkness facing them are being exposed to them. 2023 will obviously be a year of strongholds dismantled in the metron of the called!" 1Cor.10:3,TPT—"For although we live *in* the natural realm, we don't wage a military campaign employing human weapons, using manipulation to achieve our aims. Instead, our spiritual weapons are energized with divine power to effectively dismantle the defenses behind which people hide. 4 For although we live in the natural realm, we don't wage a military campaign employing human weapons, using manipulation to achieve our aims. Instead, our spiritual weapons are energized with divine power to effectively dismantle the defenses behind which people hide. 5 We can demolish every deceptive fantasy that opposes God and break through every arrogant attitude that is raised up *in* defiance of the true knowledge of God. We capture, like prisoners of war, every thought and insist that it bow *in* obedience to the Anointed One."

5. A. THERE WILL BE A FRESH REBOOT OF MINISTRIES AND HEART FOR MINISTRY — (Kids: We declare that God has pressed RESET and ministries are getting a new start.)

REBOOT: to shut down and restart; to start up again after closing or shutting down; to start (something) anew: to refresh (something) by making a new start or creating a new version; to start anew: to make a fresh start(Webster)

That power and sensitivity, discernment and Holy Spirit led ministry you formerly walked in will be rebooted but with new software, new spirit-ware, new heart-ware! Heaven-born faith is being distributed and many, who have not ever done so in the past, will begin to act and speak in the same moment that Almighty God moves upon your heart or softly speaks to you.

Your purpose and ministry will yet find fulfillment though it may be in a form considered strange and unconventional from what you, and others, thought it

would be in the beginning. 1Pe.1:2,TPT—"You are not forgotten, for you have been chosen and destined by Father God."

5. B.THERE WILL BE A RESURRECTION OF MINISTRIES

God is going to raise up and resurrect ministries that have **fallen** and those that have **died**. There are times when a ministry falls or a ministry dies and then there seems to rise up a common consent that we can just do without that particular ministry or that kind of ministry. Ministries that have died will be reassigned, remandated in those who have that present vision. Isa.40:31,Amp—"But those who wait for the Lord [who expect, look for, and hope in Him] shall change *and* renew their strength *and* power; they shall lift their wings *and* mount up [close to God] as eagles [mount up to the sun]; they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint *or* become tired."

6. WE WILL SEE AN INCREASE IN THE SPHERE OF OUR INFLUENCE (Kids: We declare that we will have more Kingdom likes and follows.)

Not only will the number of people in your sphere of influence ("metron") increase but influence of who you are in the Kingdom and the words you release to those people will increase. 1Chron.4:10,Amp—"Jabez cried out to the God of Israel, saying, "Oh that You would indeed bless me and enlarge my border [property], and that Your hand would be with me, and You would keep me from evil so that it does not hurt me!" And God granted his request."

EXPECTANCIES TO HIT THE GROUNG RUNNING WITH IN 2023

- 1. In 2023, You will be built up in your most Holy Faith.
- 2. In 2023, You will come to decisive and impacting moments in which you will make the wise decisions and in which you will be fully aware of the Kingdom impact and its value and how to apply it.
- 3. In 2023, Your hope will be resuscitated time and again.

Ps.4:8,Amp—"In peace [and with a tranquil heart] I will both lie down and sleep, For You alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety *and* confident trust."

Isa.33:22,TPT—"The Lord Yahweh is our judge, our Lawgiver, and our King; He will save us completely!"

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

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

Jan.1 * Willis, TX
Grace Church Willis
Pastors Joe & Virgie Bogue
Marty will be giving the 2023
Declarations
Info: gracewillis.org

Jan. 8 * Brenham, TX
Cornerstone Brenham
Pastors Pat & Bob Beaty
Marty giving 2023 Declarations
Part 1 — 10am (Part 2 Jan.15)
Marty speaking in the Upper Room
Bible School 2:00pm
979-830-0404
cornerstonebrenham.org

Jan. 15 * Brenham, TX
Cornerstone Brenham
Pastors Pat & Bob Beaty
Marty giving 2023 Declarations
Part 2 — 10am
Marty speaking in the Upper Room
Bible School 2:00pm
979-830-0404
cornerstonebrenham.org

Jan. 22 * Coldspring, TX Victory Gospel Church Pastor Carolyn Aycock Marty speaking 10:30am Info: 936-653-4509 victorygospel@peoplepc.com Mar. 1 * Willis, TX
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"The Kingdom in This Present World"

Info: martygabler.com/kc2023/

Note: There are more dates on our calendar but I am unable to get to our Google calendar since they have decided to move us to A workspace status. So far, attempts to make a payment have been unsuccessful and I cannot get to my emails. If you need to email us, plz use this address: martygabler@yahoo.com
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"The Kingdom in This Present World"
GRACE CHURCH WILLIS TX

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Jn.18:37,Amp—"Pilate said to Him, Then You are a KING? Jesus answered, You say it! [You speak correctly!] For I am a King. [Certainly I am a King!] This is why I was born, and for this I have come into the WORLD, to bear witness to the Truth.



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