

SEEC Magazine

OUR 28th YEAR OF PUBLICATION!

A QUARTERLY KINGDOM PERSPECTIVE

VOLUME 28

ISSUE 1

JANUARY-MARCH 2024

Matt.11:12

Mk.1:15



Kingdom Congress 2024

SEEC Ministries International
17th Annual Kingdom Congress
March 6-8, 2024 * NO FEE**



Kathy, Marty, Melissa Gabler



Jim Hodges



Dr. Don Crum



Dr. Greg Crawford



Larry Burden

STRENGTHEN
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1Co 14:3 Eph 4:12

Theme: "The Kingdom of God is Within Your Grasp"

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A KINGDOM PERSPECTIVE

Volume 28

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January-March 2024

IN THIS ISSUE

Rebuilding our Temple Daily.....	3
Kathy Gabler	
Covenantal Connections.....	6
Jim Hodges	
Shifting the Gears in 2024.....	8
Larry Burden	
Heading Into the Next	
Year of our Lord.....	11
Melissa Gabler	
Why we Fight?.....	13
Joe Bogue	
Going Through the Door in 2024....	15
Brandon Burden	
Who are You Lord?.....	20
Brian Sherman	
Re-prioritize.....	25
Dr. Lynn Burling	
2024 Declarations.....	28
Marty Gabler	

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ON THE COVER:

Job 37:6-"For He says to the snow, 'Fall on the earth'; likewise to the gentle rain and the heavy rain of His strength." "



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Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness.

Thank you for sowing into SEEC Ministries International.

REBUILDING our TEMPLE DAILY



Kathy Gabler KATHY WILL BE SPEAKING AT KINGDOM CONGRESS March 2024

Are you facing the new year pumped and ready for new battles and greater challenges, or are you tired? Tired of waiting on promises that are still unseen? Tired of praying for healing, but seeing only a little? Tired of watching loved ones cycle instead of succeed? Tired of looking for change but seeing sameness? Tired of asking for a refreshing rain but ending up in a puddle of disappointment? Since we all get tired, we have to remember tiredness will pass, and more importantly, we have to decide not to spiral down into weariness. Weariness is a another matter. It gets into our attitude and outlook on life because it allows the grit and grime of experience to layer on our windows and change the way we view things. (And for the record, weariness is never an accident. It is more like a skilled foe and an ever present stalker.)

In the book of EZRA, Judah had been captives of *confusion* for 70 years in Babylon. They had to be tired, but they came out of that captivity with heads raised and a second wind, intending to return to the values and priorities they knew were right. So they set up an altar for sacrifice and laid the foundations of the temple where they would meet with God. BUT, (Ezra 4:4-5), their neighbors discouraged them and frightened them away from building. They hired counselors against them to frustrate them all the days of Cyrus king of Persia. They wrote accusations against Judah and Jerusalem saying they would become traitors. Ezra 4:23-24, The government then stopped them by force. And work on the house of God or the meeting place of God with man, ceased until the second year of Darius king of Persia. By then, the storms of life had layered grit and



grime on their “windows”, and they couldn’t see the need to keep on pursuing their meeting place with God. They were weary and had no heart to proceed.

Although weariness is understandable, bowing to it will cause us to abandon our God-priority and be robbed of destiny. Haggai 1:1-4, “In the second year of King Darius, on the first day of the sixth month, (*which corresponds with the Jewish new year*), the word of the LORD came through the prophet Haggai. This is what the LORD Almighty says: These people say, “The time has not yet come for the LORD's house to be built.” They were living out their daily grind and decided not to prioritize God’s presence. They had allowed weariness to drain their hearts of all diligence and faithfulness to do what was right, so God urged them to look at their consequences and reconsider. Hag 1:5-9, The LORD Almighty said, “Give careful thought to your ways. You have planted much, but have harvested little. You eat, but never have enough. You drink, but never have your fill. You put on clothes, but are not warm. You earn wages, only to put them in a purse with holes in it. Give careful thought to your ways and go up into the mountains and bring down timber and build the house, so that I may take pleasure in it and be honored,” says the LORD. God listed the results of not building a place for Him to meet with man and told them to give careful thought to their PRIORITIES. He was cautioning them not to decide their day according to weariness or opposition or problems or feelings or circumstances but according to the priority of meeting with Him. He was telling them to think differently so they could CHANGE their life and take their ground and their future.

Judah had been conditioned by experience instead of the Truth. Experience is hard to argue with. Experience can dominate our belief system. Experience can demand we doubt God and square-off with Him: “God, IF you’re there, then do something! Have you ever wondered why some people get prayers like that answered? “If you are God, heal me,” and He does! “If there is a God, give me a miracle,” and they got it! While that has to simply be God’s goodness to bring to repentance, Mature sons cannot start with saying, “If you are God - then.” God knows the difference between an immature query and a hissy fit! And at the point of a hissy fit, we have two choices, either repent and take some ground or spiral down into unbelief. And unfortunately, falling into unbelief isn’t complicated. It is usually a simple matter of doubt getting to our doorstep before an answer does. We must give careful “thought” to our ways because unbelief starts in our thinking. That’s why GOD told Judah to think carefully and set their priorities in order. Rebuilding the temple to meet with God would change their future and break the cycles and pat-

terns of loss they were suffering. Rebuilding the Temple to meet with God would bring vision and purpose that reaches beyond yesterday's results and today's limitations to muster PASSION and ZEAL to take ground. *Prov 29:18* - says, "Without a vision the people perish." When we have no vision, no awareness of God's presence, purpose and plans, we have no guidelines for choices. So, we make life-decisions, friendships, marriages, education, career and investments randomly without awareness of how all areas of our life connect to God and His plans. That's why our lives get disjointed and in conflict, and we end up confused, wounded and weary with a bitter taste of unbelief.

We cannot deny it can be difficult to see eternal purpose through the grit and grime of experience, but that's why our heart has to be renewed, to clean the "windows" of our soul. That's why David prayed: *Ps 51, Create in me a clean heart, [Send your window-cleaning angel], O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.* A steadfast spirit is a spirit that circumstances cannot bully, that emotions cannot control, that experiences cannot defeat. *Don't cast me away from your presence and don't take your Holy Spirit from me, (Keep me ever mindful that I am Your temple to house Your presence and purpose. 1 Cor. 3:16.) Restore to me the joy of your salvation and sustain me with a willing spirit.*

The priority of Judah rebuilding the temple to meet with God parallels our mandate in the New Testament to seek FIRST the Kingdom of God. Putting God FIRST keeps us in awareness and alignment with His heart and with what we were created to be and do. And we bring glory to God by doing what we were created to do, *John 17:4 "I glorified You on the earth, having accomplished the work which You have given Me to do.* Our everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth, neither faints nor is weary and it is He that gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who WAIT upon the LORD, expecting God to be God, will renew their strength. (*Isa.40:31*)

Keeping our pursuit of His presence and purpose as our first priority will keep us standing strong through any extremes that come at us is 2024.

KATHY will be speaking at the 17th Annual Kingdom Congress 2024

(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)

Covenantal Connections



JIM HODGES WILL BE SPEAKING AT KINGDOM CONGRESS March 2024 Jim Hodges

A crucial emphasis for the coming New Year is walking together in covenant. Many cultures have a strong understanding of covenant, but generally in the western world, we don't have a good grasp on covenant. An apostle from Africa told me, "In America, you think *me*. In Africa, you think *we*." The mind set has to be shifted out of an extreme individualism. You and I have individual status with God covenantally, but while we embrace our *individuality* we must be set free from our *individualism*. The theme of our individualism in America and even in our churches is, *it is all about me*. However, it is all about Him and us.

We have to overcome a cultural challenge that has crept into the Church that wars against relationships. When John described the spirit of antichrist, it was not only the spirit that denies the incarnation of the Son of God but that also denies the relationship between God the Father and God the Son. This spirit of antichrist is at work in the Church, trying to keep people in the Church from relating with one another. We have to recognize that we are in a battle to keep our relationships and covenants in tact under our supreme relationship which is with Jesus Christ. So, let's break down some theological and biblical elements of covenant relationships.

THEOLOGIC ELEMENTS of COVENANT

The relationship in the Godhead is a model for our covenant relationships. Father, Son and Holy Ghost do not exist in isolation but in alliance. They cooperate in all that they do. For example, in creation, the Father planned, the Son administered, the Spirit executed. In redemption, the Father sent the Son, the Son accomplished the work of redemption and the Spirit applies redemption to us. This covenantal alliance is a dynamic of God and the mystery of any successful



relationship. That is why the Church has to model successful relationships, walking in covenant relationships for a world that is in conflict, turmoil, terrorism and war so they can see a model of a peaceful society. Since we are in His image, we are supposed to cooperate with each other and form alliances, like marriage, business, team ministries, etc. These are all alliances that speak of covenantal root or definition.

The place we mess up in looking at the Godhead as our model is that we forget that the Godhead has both unity and diversity. Our unity will not come through uniformity and sameness but rather through understanding the unity we see in the image of God includes diversity. God is one and God is three, so God has diversity within Himself. If the Godhead has diversity, then we ought to embrace diversity, (i.e., embrace basic diversity as between a man and a woman and the diversity of ethnicity, etc.). Consider the diversity in five-fold ministry. All are from Christ yet are five different perspectives. The story of the Good Shepherd seeking the lost sheep can be used to illustrate those different perspectives: The pastor is carrying the sheep, picking off flees and ticks and brush from its wool. The prophet says, "What are you doing out there?" The teacher says, "I'll give you eighteen steps of how you got there and nineteen steps to get back." The evangelist says, "Did you witness while you were out there?" The apostle says, "Hey, you have been holding up the rest of us from going forward." That is diversity and thank God for the differences. Miraculously, covenantal relationships bring the differences together and unify the diversity to make a powerful expression of the multifaceted attributes of our eternal God.

BIBLICAL ELEMENTS of COVENANT

Let's consider some apostolic observations and experiences concerning covenant ministry relationships.

1) Synergy

Synergy is essential. We get the word *synergy* from the word Paul used as *fellow workers*, which comes from two Greek words meaning *with energy*. So, synergy is what is produced when we flow together covenantally in relationship. We see more produced together than if we are alone. You cannot get synergy by yourself. Paul in 1 Corinthians 3, talked about his ministry and about Apollos' and Peter's ministry there in Corinth. The Corinthian church, instead of accepting the synergy of those giftings, divided over their preferences. If I had to speculate about this, I think that happened because either the people were immature or perhaps somehow Apollos and Peter and Paul did not completely connect in a covenantal way as a model for the church. (Five-fold leaders need to model synergy among themselves for an example to the Church.) Romans 16 shows us that synergy embraces both local leaders and trans-local apostolic teams in teaching. Paul named several such as Priscilla and Aquila and Andronicus and Junia and others, calling them *fellow workers*. The synergy of covenantal relationships produces more comprehensive and effectual ministry. Of course, there must be some level of trust for such relationships to form and maximize the Lord's ministry among us. We trust God and must learn to trust one another. Those who stay in isolation because they cannot trust will minimize their gift and calling.

2) Balance of Relationship and Mission

Another consideration is the importance of the balance between relationship and mission. In balance, relationship and mission are a tandem team, but if we get too focused on one or the other, things do not run smoothly. For example, Paul was focused on the mission in Acts 15, and he did not consider John Mark ready to be part of it. However, Barnabas was more relational and focused on the connection with John Mark, so that caused Barnabas and Paul to separate. The mission and relationship was not in balance to keep the synergy they previously had. As the Body of Christ we have, at times, been so focused on relationships that we were like “bless me” groups that forget to engage in the message of the Kingdom and have no vision or mission. However, we must also guard against pursuing vision and mission to the point of leaving too little time to maintain and strengthen our covenantal relationships. We need to be long and strong in both mission and relationship.

It is a privilege to be called to walk in covenant with God and with one another. Many look for ministry in assignments, but God would have us look for our alignments. Out of your alignments will come your best assignments. May God grace us with clarity to solidify covenant alignments, for we secure our future by walking in covenant.

(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. Apostle Jim Hodges' book *WHAT IN THE WORLD IS THE CHURCH TO DO?* and other materials may be found at his website: fmci.org or by calling the office 972-283-2262.)



Some of the fondest memories of my childhood were the frequent visits to my uncle Merle. He lived in the country with his family (my aunt and cousins), which was quite a culture switch from my home in Pasadena, Texas. He taught me how to shoot guns, play baseball, and enjoy the benefits of country life. My favorite memories are from the driving lessons.

Uncle Merle had a 1953 Chevy pickup truck that was quite unique. It had a stick shift on the column and a starter in the floorboard. In order to *fire up* the engine, one had to turn on the key, push in the clutch with the left foot and simultaneously push down on the accelerator and starter post in the floorboard adjacent to the accelerator. It was quite a maneuver for a lad. That was only the beginning. In order to drive the truck forward or backward, one had to learn to prop-

erly apply the clutch and shift the gears while navigating the truck down the road and the different terrains. Driving that truck required constant adjustment in speed, steering, and gear shifting, all the while watching where you were going. Fortunately for me there was not much traffic on country roads. It was loads of fun! Thank you Uncle Merle for being so patient and kind.

In meditating about 2024, I see many shifts and turns as, daily, we navigate the spiritual terrain by the Spirit of Truth. Just as road conditions would change while driving the old Chevy truck that necessitated being mindful of road changes, gear changes (speeding up or slowing down), and steering adjustments to accommodate the changing driving conditions, so will be the need to adjust in our walk as we follow the Spirit of the Father to navigate the coming year.

The most profound impression I have had for some time is that we have come into an era of unusual miracles. Healing and deliverance notwithstanding, these are miracles much like those in Old Testament history and in the first century church where God intervened (often with angelic assistance) when Father's chosen ones had their backs to the wall and no seeming way out except through divine intervention. The level of faith will be exponentially increased as we find ourselves in situations outside the norm of our assumptive world. In some of these situations, we will be warned by the Spirit in advance, and in others we will have no pre-warning in order to build our faith and God-confidence.

The importance of ministry will take a back seat to personal relationship with the Father through the Son. Knowing Him more deeply will be most essential in the days ahead. While they both work together, the knowing will become critical to the doing. Out of the intimate relational knowledge of the Father will come a new boldness and God-confidence that will overcome the adversity which will attempt to compromise trust and faith in the Father. Opposition will become opportunities to grow and mature, to find strength in the midst of pressures, and to arise and become *more than conquerors* that Apostle Paul declared in *Romans* 8:37. Goliaths will continue to fall in 2024.

Suddenlies will become more frequent in 2024. Declarations will become more essential and powerful as we experience greater supernatural breakthroughs. As faith arises in the body of believers, declarations and decrees will become more powerful with instant manifestations of the Father's heart and desires. There will also be an increase in prophetic dreams that will release warnings and divine intelligence to assist in navigating the times ahead. Dreams will become road maps to follow into victories.

In a recent prayer time, while praying in tongues, I kept releasing the word, *lambano*. I learned that the word is a Greek word translated, *to take hold of, to seize for oneself, to take back what is yours and make it your own*. It means *to take possession of, to apprehend, to reach after, to take back*. I see 2024 as the year to take back what has been stolen through the plots and schemes of the enemy. *Lambano* speaks of a grace and faith that connects in cooperation with the Father to literally pull down something from the Spirit realm into our earth reality. I see new mantles arising in obscure places, new victories being won by believers who simply trust and obey the voice of the Lord, and the restoration of

lost dreams, visions, assignments, and destinies that have been short-circuited through the curses and slander fueled by spirits of pride, jealousy, and envy. I see a divine reckoning in the coming days and a restoration of stolen promises and dreams through the Father's heart for his sons and daughters.

The siftings of past seasons will bring forth a renewed expression in righteousness, love, and grace that will precede the massive harvest of souls. Kindness and understanding will become powerful forces in the revival of lost souls and the restoration of the prodigals who have been wounded by their fathers and the church. Knowledge and understanding of the word will marry activation and impartation to properly equip the saints to engage in the work of the harvest. There will not be time to school new converts as in the past seasons. They will become quick studies of understanding of the truth of the scriptures as Holy Spirit will become their tutor. The voice of the ekklesia will drown out and overpower the voice of the antichrist spirit operating through powerless religion and evil government/economic systems. As judgment rushes through the house of God, so justice will tsunami throughout the earth. The redemptive and restorative heart of the Father will be the source of that tsunami. *The earth will be filled with knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea (Habakkuk 2:14).*

As we charge the gates of enemy powers in 2024, we will see new victories, renewed hope, and genuine faith becoming realities. The ekklesia will behold Pharaoh systems collapse. Captives of antichrist ideologies will become liberated and restored to right mindedness. Torment will bow to peace. What was meant for evil and destruction will be transformed into blessing and glory.

As I said, driving that old Chevy truck required shifting and gears, following the road while simultaneously adjusting the speed and the gears to the road conditions. It also required that I trust Uncle Merle sitting beside me to encourage and direct each of my movements. With all those factors working together, we would arrive safely at home each outing and celebrate another successful venture. Each successful outing became a defining moment.

I see the victories of 2024 becoming defining moments for the Kingdom of God. Wars are won through decisive battles that are planned and implemented with confidence and courage. Many battles become the defining moments that ultimately lead to the victory of the war. We are destined for victory, and victory will yield great reward from the Father. Dreams and vision, hope, faith, and divine destinies will become realities. We are destined to rule and reign in Christ both in the earth and throughout eternity. Let us learn now, in 2024, how to get it done. Seated with our Father, who is encouraging and training us as we go, we will always be victorious! Onward!

(Larry and Kathy Burden are the founders of KingdomLife in Frisco, TX and are national officers and trainers for the International Fellowship of Chaplains. One of Larry's recent books 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)

HEADING INTO THE NEXT YEAR OF OUR LORD



Melissa Gabler *Melissa WILL BE SPEAKING AT KINGDOM CONGRESS March 2024*

I have received several nuggets in conversations with friends to help prepare for the year ahead. These were highlighted segments of conversations that just sunk in.

In the first conversation I heard, “Make your plans and head toward them but do not get disappointed when there is a sudden turn in your path.” I saw someone make a plan and start heading *straight* ahead toward it then out of nowhere a sharp left turn came that was off of the projected path. Then I heard the Spirit say, “I will move you out of the way of attacks coming to meet you that you don’t see.” That quick sharp turn was protection and not derailment. The Holy Spirit then showed me that the outcome may not look like I thought but it will be the right outcome IF we stay in His flow.

Let me expound on this a bit more. It is okay to make plans in the upcoming year and head for them like you know how BUT you will need to be ready to pivot when the Spirit leads. In self-defense or boxing a pivot is a move that can take you off of the direct line from which a strike is coming. It changes the direction you were originally facing. For example, a pivot can cause a punch coming straight to the face to miss you entirely AND it allows the one who pivoted to strike back at the attacker from a better position. This can be a life saving direction shift. What at first may seem like a derailment could be the thing that keeps you from being shattered and allows you to strike back and take care of the enemy that has tried to destroy you!

Here’s another important piece to remember. We have a tendency to picture the perfect outcome of our plans and we have the tendency to get disappointed when it doesn’t look like what we expected. As you make plans in the coming year hold onto the desired outcome loosely. What I

mean by this is don't be locked down on what you think the best outcome is because you may miss the greatest outcome. If we are determined it has to look a certain way then we might miss what God has in mind. We are headed into days of realizing how small our American mindsets, dreams and expectations really are. So, hold loosely to your expectations right now and let God shift them for His glory.

"You will keep in perfect peace all who trust in you, all whose thoughts are fixed on you! ... But for those who are righteous, the way is not steep and rough. You are a God who does what is right, and you smooth out the path ahead of them." (Isaiah 26:3 & 7)

In the next conversation at lunch with a friend she mentioned that the Holy Spirit told her to be slow to speak in the coming year. When she said that, it was like bells went off in me. I started thinking about all of the ways this would need to be heeded: Slow to react, slow to answer, slow to fix a situation, slow to defend traditions, slow to take up a cause, slow to believe what's presented on any form of media, slow to anger, and the list could go on and on. Of course there will be situations that require immediate action but that's not what this is about. This is about hearing the guidance of the Holy Spirit in situations rather than acting out of a familiar norm up to this point. It's going to be important to operate out of these things Jesus operated in, *"And the Spirit of the Lord will rest on him—the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord."* (Isaiah 11:2). The reason this is of great importance is because we are headed into unfamiliar territory and we will need guidance outside of our own understanding. I have gotten to where I ask the Lord that I might operate in all of these on a daily basis. I also ask that everything I hear or read might come through these filters and not man's logic.

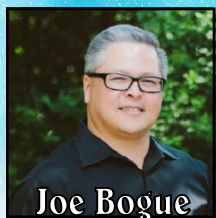
"Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take. Don't be impressed with your own wisdom. Instead, fear the Lord and turn away from evil. Then you will have healing for your body and strength for your bones." (Proverbs 3:5-7)

These are some tools I will be wearing on my tool belt headed into this coming year. I am asking that you seriously consider adding these to your tool belt too. As I mentioned, we are headed into some unfamiliar and wild territory. Some of our old, familiar tools will no longer work and we need to lay them down. It really is going to be important to stay in God's flow even if it's unfamiliar and uncomfortable. As Americans we have a tendency to let comfort be an idol. I'll just briefly say, this coming year will be a year of our idols falling in every arena from comfort zones to materialism and celebrities and so much more. Ouch, well, that's enough of that for now!

Buckle up, stay in your seat and get ready for the ride of a lifetime!

(Melissa is Communications Director and worship leader at Grace Church Willis. You can read her daily devotions three times each week on Marty's Facebook page. She also owns Sterling Regard Photography. sterlingregardphotography.com)

WHY WE FIGHT?



Joe Bogue

I had an opportunity to go back to California for my mother's birthday and Thanksgiving. We stayed with my brother. We had some family and friends over to celebrate. It had been many years since I've been able to be there for mom's birthday. She was moved to tears for the fact that she was surrounded by her friends and both her sons. Mom didn't really care about the food, the presents, or the cake. It was who was there, not the what was there. I also found some old friends that were Sunday school teachers to me when I first received Christ. I found their address on Google, Google knows everything about you by the way, and showed up on their doorstep. Randy and Alice Hamlin had a significant part of disciplining me. Their Bible studies every Sunday at 9:15am helped form their image of Christ in me. They were older now, and they both need canes and walkers to get around, but the joy we had reconnecting after so many years filled our hearts and encouraged us to keep praying for the next generation. They had spent their whole life teaching young people at a little church in California. They are truly blessed and faithful servants. I also, had a chance to connect with a good friend of mine that I've known since junior high. I was 12 and walking home from school when this old beat up Ford Fiesta pulled over. This floppy haired kid jumped out and asked if I wanted a ride. I recognized him from youth group. Hmm....walk home a mile and a half or get in a car with a stranger. Well, if I didn't have to walk that far, it sounded like a deal to me. Matt Nakamoto introduced me to his mom as a kid from the youth group. I had a name, he just didn't remember it, but invited me in to his car and life. Going back to CA this year marked 42 years of relationship. He pastors a Polynesian congregation in Orange County. I had the privilege of ministering to his people. We went to the local Sizzler steak house where we ate all you can eat shrimp and steak. We basked in God's faithfulness to us and where the Lord has brought us to. Matt is such a regular there that everyone knew his name and made a point to come say hi. Even on his birthday, the previous month, he had dinner there, and the staff brought out a cake and sang

him happy birthday. The amazing part wasn't that they sang to him, the amazing part was they had to go across the street to the grocery store and get a cake while he was eating dinner.

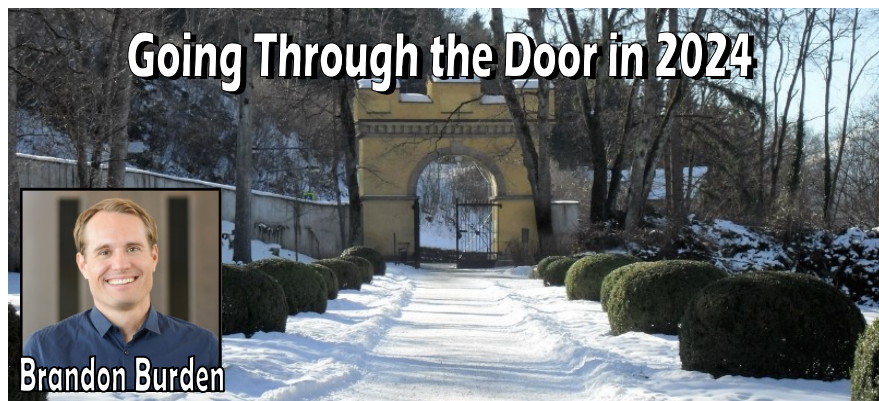
I tell you these stories to remind you that moving into 2024 relationships will have to be a key focus. It is not just what God is calling us to do, but whom we do it for and with. Let's teach our people to value old relationships and nurture current ones. There are some strategies in the book of Nehemiah that I believe are for the next season. Neh 3:23-24 - "After them Benjamin and Hasshub carried out repairs in front of their house. After them Azariah the son of Maaseiah, son of Ananiah, carried out repairs beside his house. 24 After him Binnui the son of Henadad repaired another section, from the house of Azariah as far as the Angle and as far as the corner. Nehemiah had families build in front of their own homes. It's one thing to go help somewhere else, it's quite another to build in your own backyard. The quality of the work holds a different standard when you and your family have to look at the wall everyday. There is a pride and desire to take responsibility for the outcome. In this next year, with all the things happening in our nation and world, let's not forget that people work best when they build next to their own homes.

Nehemiah gives us the motivation to do the work in Neh 4:14 - When I saw *their fear*, I rose and spoke to the nobles, the officials and the rest of the people: "Do not be afraid of them; remember the Lord who is great and awesome, and fight for your brothers, your sons, your daughters, your wives and your houses." For some friends we will do some things. For close friends we may do most things. But for family, we will do anything. We fight for our relationships. We fight for generations that are to come. We are building a habitation for the Lord that has boundaries and barriers for our posterity. The lawless spirit that is prevailing over our nation and world wants easy access to our families and children. Just like the voices in Nehemiah's day wanting the work to stop. They take the rebuilding of the ancient ruins, or old waste places of Isaiah 61:4, as a personal attack on their agenda, which it is. We are no longer aligned with their worldly priorities or agenda.

We are building a microcosm of the Kingdom of God on earth in each one of our towns, cities, states, and nations. This is a piece of Isa 2:2-5 -2 "Now it will come about that In the last days The mountain of the house of the LORD Will be established as the chief of the mountains, And will be raised above the hills; And all the nations will stream to it. 3 And many peoples will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, To the house of the God of Jacob; That He may teach us concerning His ways And that we may walk in His paths." For the law will go forth from Zion And the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. 4 And He will judge between the nations, And will render decisions for many peoples; And they will hammer their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not lift up sword against nation, And never again will they learn war. 5 Come, house of Jacob, and let us walk in the light of the LORD. In whatever sphere of influence we may have, we need to pave a road up the mountain of the Lord whereby people may come and ascend into His presence and learn of the things of God. Every one of us can do this at some

level. This is our time to "Arise and Shine" in a land of gross darkness. I believe 2024 will need our focus, intentionality, proper motivation, and desire to create an accessible place for the nations to come to the Light of the World, Jesus. Remember, as we fight and build for our families and relationships, the whole world gets to benefit from our work. Bring on the new year. We were born for such a time as this.

(Joe Bogue is lead pastor at Grace Church in Willis, TX. He is a pastor, teacher, counselor and spiritual father. He has written a manual for parents and teens on courtship and marriage. He has also headed up missions trips and annual EYC Youth Camp. He does a short livestream each Wednesday at 9:45am on the Grace Church Facebook page. His email is: PJoeB87@gmail.com * Website: gracewillis.org * Services at Grace are live each week on Grace's Facebook page and there is an archive of videos on Grace Church's YouTube Channel.)



2024 has been marked as the year of the open door. Prophetic understanding of the Hebraic calendar reveals our transition into the decade of the "peh," symbolizing the mouth, in 5780. At Rosh Hashanah last September, we entered the year 5784. Four in Hebrew is the "dalet," which is the picture of a gate or open door. Prophets have spoken that the convergence of the "peh" with the "dalet" signifies that we have entered a time marked by voice-activated doors.

The Word of Faith movement in the 70s taught us a lot about confession. We received extensive teaching on the concept of "what you say you will have." Some even coined this concept the "name it and claim it message" or "the power of positive confession." The truth of the matter is that our words carry creative power. Proverbs 18:20-21 (NKJV) says, "A man's stomach shall be satisfied from the fruit of his mouth; from the produce of his lips he shall be filled. Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit."

The words we speak hold the power to bring forth life or death. It was a prolonged journey for me to unearth this truth in my Christian walk, requiring a significant intervention from God to capture my attention. I am a very passionate and opinionated person. I'm like a human billboard for

thoughts—I don't make you guess; I spill the beans straight from the thought factory! I am not one to tiptoe around; when I choose, I unleash unfiltered honesty without holding back. This *modus operandi* worked well for me until I was set into the prophet's office by my apostles in 2020. The following month, all hell broke loose after I made an offhanded comment to my congregation about stocking up on food, water, and gas generators and keeping their weapons loaded due to the January 6th insurrection.

My words went out over our livestream straight into the ears of my adversaries, primed for a confrontation with the MAGA camp. This resulted in the *Dallas Morning News* taking my sermon and printing five articles demonizing me and my church. They interviewed city councilmembers and residents in the community who spoke out against my rhetoric. Citizens went to the next City Council meeting and asked the city to shut down our church. My phone, mailbox, and inbox blew up with hundreds of phone calls and hate mail. Black Lives Matter threatened to raze our church to the ground. We had to call in local and statewide law enforcement so we could continue to meet safely in our building. I was interrogated by the FBI. The IRS opened a one-year investigation into our 501(c)3 non-profit status. You can read my full story in my new book ***Daniel Nation: When Christians Take a Stand in Civil Government***, available on Amazon.com. [Editor's note: All information is at the end of this article.]

I learned through the woke media attacks of 2021 that my words have more power than I realize. Through my off-handed comments about keeping guns loaded, I discovered that my words had the power to turn a city, even a nation, upside down. The Lord showed me that my words were like bullets that could take down giants or get a prophet into trouble. Unfortunately, I didn't completely learn my lesson in 2021. In 2022, I made another off-handed comment when publicly describing a recent confrontation with a Jezebel spirit that was operating through a Republican party official. While recounting the encounter at church one Sunday, I shared with my congregation how an individual seated in the front row at the Republican party meeting whispered to her neighbor that I was a false prophet, and I overheard it. I conveyed the emotions it stirred within me, revealing the surge of anger and the temptation my human nature felt to seek retribution against that individual. I even expressed the way I felt like retaliating in that situation. Once again, my sermon was being livestreamed and the media picked it up. This time, the *Denton Record-Chronicle* and the *Dallas Observer* printed articles saying that I had called our county official a "Jezebel." Once again, I was in hot water.

After the media barrage of 2021 and 2022, I finally learned my lesson.

I discovered that I could not just say whatever I felt like saying. I recognized that I was no longer just Brandon Burden. I was Prophet Brandon Burden, and there was a huge difference. The prophet's office carries tremendous authority in the spirit realm. It carries a significant weight of glory and is held to a stricter judgment by God. As God's representatives in the Bible, prophets spoke directly for God. Whatever they said was the word of the Lord for kings, nations, and international affairs. If a prophet misspoke for God or prophesied falsely, it was a big deal. Deuteronomy 18:20 says, "But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in My name, which I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die." In the Old Testament, God took this office gift seriously as it held the potential to shape the destinies of entire nations. This was a lesson I had to learn the hard way. After 2022, I had to place a guard over my mouth and learn to speak only what God instructed me to say, nothing more and nothing less. This decision brought about a divine shield of protection. I give God glory that I haven't had any media attacks since 2022, even though I have been very much in the public eye.

"But Brandon, I am not a prophet," you say. "My words don't carry this level of power." My friend, that is where you are wrong! The least in the Kingdom of God carry more power than the greatest in the kingdom of darkness. In the decade of the "pey," God is teaching His people about the power of their words. Did you know your words have creative ability? In Charles Capps book *God's Creative Power*, he says, "Your words are building blocks of which you construct your life and future. Your words set the cornerstones of your life, and you live within the confines of that boundary you create with your own words." According to Proverbs 18:20-21, we are eating the fruit of what comes out of our mouths. In other words, we are living the reality we create with our own words. Words have so much power that God used them to create our universe. In the beginning, God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light." God said, "Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters" and there was a firmament. God said, "Let the dry land appear" and the dry land appeared (Genesis 1:3, 6, 9). Notice how everything responded to God's words. Everything obeyed what He told it to do. It was by divine design.

We exist as responders to God's word, each of us a spoken manifestation from His mouth. Matthew 4:4 says, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.'" Our actual existence is a response to God's word. We are human beings simply because God said, Be!" He spoke our name and we came into existence. Isaiah 43:1 says, "But now, thus says the Lord, who created you, O Jacob, and He who formed you, O Israel: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by your name; you are Mine.'" If we understand that our very essence comes from His speaking our name into existence,

we can then draw the conclusion that our existence is sustained by coming into agreement with what He is speaking over our life right now. I see nowhere in Scripture where God stops speaking His heart and purpose over us. The Bible says in John 1:1, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." Notice that it doesn't say, "Words," It says, "Word." We know through Biblical interpretation that God is speaking of Jesus here, but did you know that He is also speaking about you, too? We are a word spoken directly from the lips of God. That word not only determines who we are and what we are destined to do; it also sustains us in our lifelong journey.

The year 2024 is about coming into agreement with the word God is speaking over your life. In fact, given that the door to 2024 responds to voice commands, the sole path to passing across this threshold is aligning your words with what He is decreeing for you. Agreeing with negativity is not going to get you through the door. Agreeing with your emotions is not going to get you through the door. Agreeing with how God did things in the last season or how God has always done things is not going to get you through the door. Only agreeing with what God is saying right now is going to get you through the door.

There is much victory on the other side of the door. There are miracles. There are breakthroughs. There are victories. Enemies will be dispossessed, and the Promised Land will be possessed. However, none of that will manifest for you if your words disagree with the Father. 2024 is the year for us to align ourselves with what God is saying. 2023 was the most incredible year of my life. I have never experienced a year where everything I put my hand to succeeded. Everything I believed for and asked for came to pass. Every assignment I went on was successful. Every prayer I prayed had an answer. Every challenge I faced had a victory. Every obstacle was overcome. It stands as the most incredible year I've experienced, and I credit my success to two key factors.

First, I sowed the month of January as a first fruits offering to the Lord. I fasted and I prayed. I laid everything on the altar before Him, and I only picked up the items He told me to run with. I tuned my ears to His direction, and I only did what He told me to do. I stayed focused on my assignment, and I didn't get outside His boundaries. If you have never fasted the month of January as a first fruits offering to the Lord, I would suggest doing so. Much increase comes through first fruits offerings, whether you are sowing time, finances, or serving. For more teaching on first fruits, look up Clay Nash Ministries. He has taught me much on this subject.

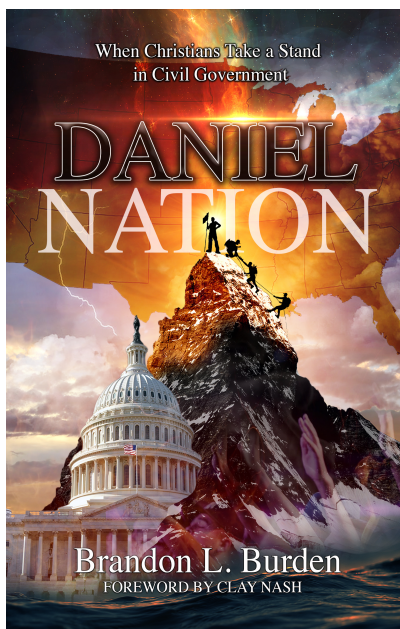
Second, I brought my words into agreement with His word. I stepped out on the word of the Lord given to me by Prophet Clay Nash. I walked in high obedience to His directives. I was led by Holy Spirit. I told my flesh to shut up. I told my mind to come into order. I told my spirit that the Holy Spirit was in charge. I

beat my body into subjection. There were many times when I wanted to speak words out of my flesh. I was faced with many difficulties and many challenging situations in both the church and civil government arenas. Instead of speaking death, however, I bit my tongue. If I couldn't speak life, I didn't say anything at all. I turned my frustration into prayer. Many times, I waited in silence for God to speak. I tuned my ear to His directives. I only spoke when He said I could speak. I only confronted when He said I could confront. I only did what He said I could do. The results were phenomenal!

Last year, I helped seventeen conservative bills pass in our legislature, seven of which protected kids from sexualization. I went toe to toe with leviathan and python spirits and watched them fall. I saw God deal with the root of freemasonry in our state. I watched God take out the root of globalism in our state and nation. I was honored with the Champion of Freedom award and the Texas Conservative Leader award by two prestigious grassroots organizations. I published my first book. I could go on and on. I am not sharing this to brag, but I am sharing this with you because I believe these are the types of breakthroughs and blessings that await you on the other side of the door. God is waiting to do great and mighty exploits through you (Daniel 11:32)! There's nothing God won't do for you, and there's no blessing He will withhold. But you've got to go through the door!

Prophetically, God is calling us to a higher level than we have ever walked. We have no choice but to go through the door in 2024 because the times demand it. This is our moment in history. We were born for such a time as this. Let's go through the door and ascend to levels we've never walked in. Let's never look back because our future is so great. God has incredible and powerful things prepared for us. I believe in you, and the Father does, too!

(Brandon Burden wears many hats—a Christian leader, pastor, businessman, and conservative activist. Brandon's fervor lies in empowering individuals to embody Christ's voice in society, reclaiming cultural ground relinquished by the church. He champions the synergy between apostolic and prophetic ministries joining hands with dedicated grassroots patriots as instrumental in reshaping America's future. He envisions a collaborative approach between faith and activism—a formula, he believes, capable of toppling oppressive forces and reclaiming America for God. To connect with Brandon, kindly reach out to him via email at brandon@danielnation.com, or give him a call at (214) 649-0623. Facebook: www.facebook.com/DanielNationPBC. He eagerly awaits your connection! Please check out Brandon's resources at www.danielnation.com. Here's the link where you can purchase his book amazon.com/author/BrandonLBurden)





“Who do you say that I am?” (Matt. 16:15)

Do you want to know who you are? I mean, the “real” you?

I’ve noticed in more recent years that the Lord reveals to me hidden wisdom in scripture by highlighting to me what a verse or passage does *not* say. I don’t know about you, but in my life it’s very easy to read scripture through a modern, cultural, religious, and even personal filter. All my learned deficiencies and unresolved childhood insecurities become the fuel for my search. I desperately look in the Bible trying to answer the question, “who am I?”

I “know” too much sometimes. There is something about the living nature of scripture that if I come to the Word with a pressing personal need or in search of a confirmation for my bias, somehow I’ll find an answer. The richness of the Word can easily get lost in favor of the need for some personal revelation that gives me a sense of security over my own life, identity and purpose, and the story I’m living in. This only happens when my “self” becomes the filter, instead of Jesus.

But, as I’d like to show you, when I remove myself as the center of attention of scripture, I experience the person and presence of Jesus in a way that meets the need of a longing soul... then keeps going, beyond that basic need into something more, something much deeper and richer.

The Idol of the Ideal Self

As an American, I’ve been taught that the goal of life is to become my best self, whatever that means. And if you think about it, the way we do this is to imagine there is a future version of ourselves - who is fitter, stronger, happier, better looking, richer, etc. - and then place that person in front of us as our vision. If we’re just willing to do the work, and we’re certain this year we will finally be able to, then we will become our ideal, best self, and life will be grand. We’ll give God all the glory, too. And the scary thing about that approach is that I can find verse after verse that confirms how amazing I am, that seems to confirm my pursuit. This has been my approach year after year, but all that started to crumble with a simple revelation found in that one question Jesus asks Peter. **“Who do**

you say that I am?" (Matt. 16:15)

As I read this recently, for about the hundredth time, I felt the question being asked of me. "Brian, who do you say that I am?" The answer to that question, in my life up to this point at least, has always been something like, "You're Jesus, the one who knows *who I am* and will tell me who I am if I ask enough." And it sounds right, even spiritual. Knock, seek, ask, right?

By then, I came across the passage in Acts 9:5 when Saul, someone quite secure in his identity, meets Jesus on the road to Damascus. The unfiltered response to the voice in the blinding light tumbles out of the suddenly shattered reality of Saul's inner world. "Who are you, Lord?" "I am Jesus, the one you are persecuting." And so begins an immediate shift into a slow transformation of a zealous "God-defender" into a sheep that knows his master's voice. In that moment on that dusty road as he lay on the ground encountering the real and risen Messiah, all at once his heart's greatest desire was fulfilled, and I imagine it was at the same time devastating to his internal world and the story he had built his whole life upon.

Saul surrendered. He knew he had no choice; not really. And then he proceeded to become exactly who he really was in Christ, not because he was trying, but because he asked the right question. "Who are you, Lord?" What's interesting is that the more Paul grew in Christ and the larger his ministry got, his view of himself became smaller and smaller. He considered himself the least of all the apostles (1 Cor. 15:9), then the least of all the saints (Eph. 3:9), then the worst of all sinners (1 Tim. 1:15). He was so enamored by Jesus, he thought about himself less and less, and when he did, the glory of Christ swallowed up his self perception. Jesus can do a lot with someone like that. And this is where we must start. This new year, let's read the scripture and look for *Him*, no longer ourselves. Old Testament. New Testament. Like Paul, you will find him "according to the scriptures"...and find yourself in Him. Nowhere else.

That I may know Him.

All of Paul's goals and dreams became outflows of the only real, worthwhile pursuit of the human heart. He wanted to get to Spain (the known end of the world), to reach the Gentiles, to write to the church and shepherd them (1 Cor. 11:1) and lead them, because all of it was an outflow of this: *that I may know Him... Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ and **be found in Him**, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith; **that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection**, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death, if, by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead. Philippians 3:8-11*

Resurrection: the True New Beginning

Do you know why we love new beginnings, new years? Because we all have a desire in us for resurrection. The same spirit that raised Christ from the dead

dwells in you, after all.. and for a reason. But some deceptive spirit of the age has done its best to steer that desire toward self-attainment. “Know thyself,” the famous philosopher Socrates said. Paul discovered something deeper. *Know Him*. Yes, we desperately need to know who we are in this hour, but we will never find it, ironically, by searching for ourselves. Finding yourself can only happen on the path of Jesus’ fresh footprints. The Kingdom is upside down: you find yourself when you are following Him. You find your life when you lose it, let go of it, stop trying to save it.

On this narrow road we may suffer, but suffering is okay when you discover it is the result of the only worthy aim of your life. Paul was the “man in the arena” because he saw Jesus. He asked the right question “Who are you, Lord?” and Jesus was faithful to answer. We would have no trouble going through the wilderness if we knew the promised land of knowing Him that awaited us. *“Whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.” (Matt. 16:25)* You will “find yourself” only when you begin to devote your life to knowing Him. You’ll find the question, “Who am I?” seems irrelevant. The only suitable answer to that question is found in the true human question that burst out of Saul’s soul in the defining moment of his life, “Who are You, Lord?” Of course, you may discover at that point that knowing who you are doesn’t matter. Yes, *you* matter, but the place in you that needed to know will have been surrendered to its rightful ruler, Jesus.

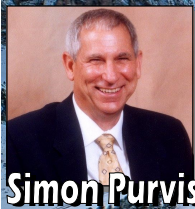
Beloved, now we are the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be; but we know that, when He shall appear, we shall be like Him; for we shall see Him as He is. 1 John 3:2 It has not yet been revealed what we shall be. But we can ask the question. And when we stay with it, keep it the central aim of our lives, we change. We conform. Something begins to kick in the womb of our spirit. Our sonship is taking shape. All that “desire of the heart” stuff begins to make sense. All that is blurry begins to come into focus. Somehow, a conforming happens as the spirit that raised Christ from the dead forms in you “the son that you are,” and it produces a version of you that can finally *see*. We’ll see who we are when we see Him. We’ll see him when we are fully sons, conformed to the image of *the Son*.

Are we waiting for Him to appear so we can be like Him? Or will we allow the spirit of Him who raised Christ from the dead begin to transform us now into the person who looks a whole lot like Jesus when He appears. We must see Him. Like Saul, it will be the most terrifying and desire-fulfilling experience of your life. All that is false will be lost. And you will finally be found.

If you’re ready for a new beginning, then stop trying to attain your “ideal self” and, instead, ask the right question: “Who are you, Lord?”

(Brian Sherman is an Associate Pastor and Home Groups Ministry Leader at Grace Church Willis. He is also Director of Experience Youth Camp (eycamp.org), a week-long summer camp that mobilizes churches throughout Texas each year to provide junior high and high school youth with a life-changing encounter with God. Brian and his wife Hannah live with their daughter in Willis, Texas. To learn more and read his book, [The Gravity of Heaven: Walking in the Reality of Sonship](#), go to bcsherman.com)

The Spirit of God, Gifts and Empowerment



Simon Purvis

In Matthew 12:28, Jesus said, “If I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, surely the Kingdom of God has come upon you.” The Holy Spirit empowered Christ with gifts, gifts of the Holy Spirit to bring forth the authority of God's Kingdom and reveal that the Kingdom of God and the rule of God was here. When He cast those demons out by the power of the Holy Spirit, it said God anointed Jesus Christ of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. In Acts 10:38, it said how God anointed Jesus Christ, and He went around doing good and healing all that were oppressed of the devil. And when He called His 12 disciples to Him, He gave them power or authority over unclean spirits to cast them out and to heal all kinds of sickness and all kinds of diseases. And then Jesus sent out all 12 disciples and commanded them saying, don't go in the way of the Gentiles, and do not enter the city of Samaritans, but rather go to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. And as you go preach the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand. Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons: freely ye received, freely give.

In Old Covenant times, the Holy Spirit came down on the prophets, on the judges, and upon the kings to bring God's Kingdom into the earth. Israel was the steward of the Kingdom of God. And so you see God's rule in the Old Covenant through seven gifts of the Holy Spirit. So, Jesus operated under those seven gifts of the Holy Spirit, as did all the Old Covenant prophets and priests and kings. And then on the day of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit was poured out, all seven gifts were poured out plus two more, (which was diversity of tongues and interpretation of tongues.) This was all Divine evidence to show the Holy Spirit had come. The gifts of the Holy Spirit are to empower God's covenant people to demonstrate God's rule is in this earth and that He is in charge. We demonstrate His power and can therefore say the Kingdom of God is at hand and is here now. And 1Co 12:7 tells us that to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit to profit all. Every one of us should be involved in this. It's not just for apostles or prophets, it's for the body of Christ. For one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues and to another interpretation of tongues.

Howard Carter, during WWI founded a Bible school and began a 30 year study of the gifts of the Spirit of which Paul said he did not want us ignorant. Howard wondered why so little had been written about the importance of the gifts and why so little was known throughout the church. So, Howard Carter was a pioneer and sought out a simple definition of each one of the gifts. He celebrated

the preacher, Charles Spurgeon and told this story as an example. Charles Spurgeon built a house for elderly people and loved to visit them. In one visit he noticed a slip of paper framed on a wall. He asked the old lady the meaning of the keepsake. She said she had kept it to remind her of an old gentleman that she served as a nurse for many years. He had been very appreciative for her work and could not thank her enough for all that she'd done for him as he lay dying. He wrote his name on a piece of paper and handed it to her so she had it framed. And whenever she looked at it, the old lady said it reminded her of the kindly old gentleman. Mr. Spurgeon requested that he might borrow the paper and pursued her to remove it from the frame. He hurried to the bank with it. He asked if they knew anything about it. They told him they had been wondering to whom the old gentleman had left all his money! There were hundreds of thousands pounds. And Howard Carter was making the point that we as Christians so many times live like we're in poverty while the riches of heaven are available to us. All the workings of the gifts of the Spirit are available to the Church. And Paul said he did not want us to be ignorant of them!

These are some of Carter's definitions: The gift of the word of wisdom is a supernatural revelation from God of His mind and purpose, and it has a future tense to it. The gift of the word of knowledge is a supernatural revelation from God of a fact or event. It's something that has already happened. The gift of discerning of spirits is a supernatural revelation from God of the presence or activity of the spiritual world. It's not just demons but of any activity of the spiritual world. Howard Carter broke them up in these categories, gifts of revelations, gifts of power and gifts of inspiration. The word of wisdom, the word of knowledge and discerning of spirits was for revelation. The gifts of power were the gift of faith, the working of miracles and healings. He said, the gift of faith is a supernatural power given by God, protecting from harm and danger. The gift of the working of miracles is supernatural power, producing signs and wonders. The gift of healing is a supernatural power given by God, removing disease and infirmities. The gifts of inspiration are the gift of prophecy that is a supernatural utterance inspired by God in a known tongue. The gift of diversities of tongues is a supernatural utterance inspired by God in an unknown tongue. The gift of the interpretation of tongues is a supernatural utterance inspired by God interpreting the unknown tongue.

There were seven of the nine gifts of the Spirit working in the Old Covenant in prophets, judges and kings, like Elisha, Samson and Gideon. When the Lord told Abraham about Sodom and Gomorrah that word of wisdom came with a future aspect and was protection for him. Gifts of the Holy Spirit were working in King David, evident in his life and the Psalms he wrote.

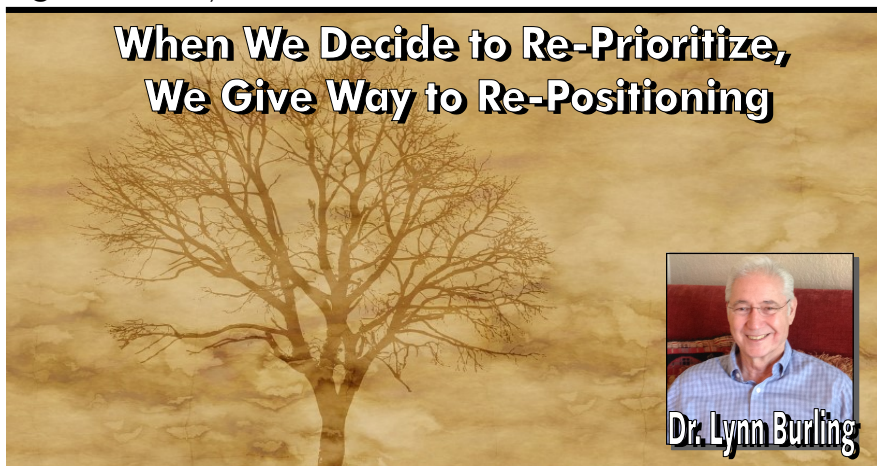
Some of us were raised in a way that we saw all of these gifts working. They hadn't passed away when we were young. In the Latter Rain movement with Jack Coe and different ones, we saw miracles and healings and deliverance. When I went to a Katherine Kuhlman meeting in Houston, I sat near the stage, and under it where I was sitting, there was a little door. There was a man trying to come out that door. He was twisted and he was walking on a cane walker. He could hardly move. He was all bent and bowed and Katherine Kuhlman was talking. She said, "The Spirit of the living God has just breathed into this building." At that mo-

ment, that man's bones started popping and sounded like shots from a 22! Suddenly, that man walked upright and picked up his walker and walked to the other side of that large auditorium. Saints, this is real. I traveled with Lester Sumrall to different nations and saw more in the Philippines. There was a girl, so demon possessed that they locked her in a cell. She had cursed the guards and they'd died. So they had Lester Sumrall come and pray with this girl and he cast the devil out of her and freed her from demon power. They put it in the local newspaper, "THE DEVIL'S DEAD!" There was some strange happening between that girl and those demons, and I won't talk about it anymore, but God wants to. There's something stirring. There's something stirring again, and may God begin pouring out His gifts upon us. We can't do this without the power of the Holy Spirit.

A lot of different groups use 1 Corinthians 13 to point out when that which is perfect comes then that which was in part was done away with. And so they say when the Cannon of Scriptures was fulfilled and the last Apostle died, then the gifts ceased because they were just there to get the church started, but that's just man's opinions. If you've seen the supernatural, the way we have seen the supernatural and the demonstration of the power, then man can't fool you concerning that.

(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. Training is at 10:00am each Sunday. To contact him about speaking engagements or to purchase his 160 page study manual on the Kingdom of God, call Word of Life Teaching Center at 936-639-2000; Email: wol-luf@consolidated.net)

When We Decide to Re-Prioritize, We Give Way to Re-Positioning



It's the same in life as in the Spirit. Do you know we create a good deal of our own problems, and then say to others that we're going through trials and tribulations. It's funny how when we put first things first again, somehow, some way things seem to fall right back in place. Just by understanding and realizing to "revert back" might just fix my problems and guess what? *"Voila!"*, which translated is *"see there"* or *"there you go"* or *"it's finished"* or even *"Tada!"*. Deciding now, for those of us who drifted and have divided priority to Christ, if we will, He will place us back, repositioning us, even for a greater harvest and

finish. Even if and when you decide, a repositioning does not mean trials and tribulations will cease.

SOMEBODY EXPLAIN THIS TO ME!

How does tribulation and God's purpose for His good, work to your advantage under His watchful eye? First, His word never fails, period. Yes, but these trials, troubles and tests are not what I expected. Besides, I'm a king and priest unto God and I should have authority over these things. You may as well get comfortable in your pj's cause we're going to give you many examples that are His to us and our Christian brothers as well as His Ecclesia, including His Five-Fold Ministers. By the end, I pray our understanding of His will being done *in us*, is priority *for us*. Can we opt out? Some will, but the true sons of God are willing, like Paul, who was told up front, that this would be his lot. Yeah, but I'm not Paul! We might do well to read Jesus 'words that say, "In this life (on this side, as servants to Christ), you shall have tribulation". If you ever think you've got it tough in your ministry to others, and you're thinking of giving "it up", remember you've been given a ministry to enjoy. Too many Christians are grudgingly carrying on because they have lost their joy! They don't have the right attitude. They become like Jonah, even when ministry was hitting on all eight cylinders, was hesitant, angry, reluctant, resentful and bitter. "It is too hard to have joy", you say. Well, the captain of your salvation was written about, "And let us run with patience that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the Joy that was set before Him endured the cross despising the shame." We endure "For the Joy set before us!" Have you died yet in your service or resisted unto blood? If we've lost our joy, we've lost our *connectivity* to our Lord.

Paul said in Romans 9:2, "I have *great heaviness* and *continual sorrow* in my heart.: (Jesus said about Him, "I will show unto Him the things he *must suffer for my sake!*" Paul's personal joy was the spirit of his ministry. When he was in jail, he was **rejoicing**. When beaten with stripes, he was **rejoicing**. When stoned, he was **rejoicing**. When shipwrecked, **he was rejoicing**. When he was hated by his enemies and his brethren, he was **rejoicing**. In prison, a dungeon flooded with feces enough to drown all prisoners, he was there and wrote, *Rejoice*, I say, *rejoice* in the Lord. His rejoicing *had zero to do with his circumstances and everything to do with his relationship, his priorities, his connectivity, and his position to the Lord Jesus*.

Let's talk about Joseph the double-hated of his brothers when they saw his coat, which represented family authority, and because he was called, gifted with dreams and interpretation by God. For God's purposes for him and God, he suffered from his brothers. That was very hurtful, but after all, he flaunted his special gift twice to them, and that wasn't too encouraging. A short while later he's in a pit and sold, even after Reuben's pleading with them. Notice when your *troubles start* and you're in God's plans, even the good fortune you receive doesn't necessarily look like favor! How wonderful to be purchased by Potiphar, a friend and servant to Pharaoh. But even as prosperity seemed to set in for Joseph, major *trials continued*. He was falsely accused of attempted rape and judged guilty and sent to Pharaoh's prison. At that point, **Favor** looked like

another pit, but it was a springboard for his exit! After interpreting his prisoners' two dreams, he was anticipating that his "special giftings" would get him a "get out of jail free" card. But that was two years down the road. Finally, when Pharaoh dreamed two dreams, Joseph was called up and passed the test and was elevated to second in command. To us who read this story, we already know what happens, but Joseph is temporarily reprieved by God's good favor again. Key verse is after dealing with his brothers three times, and they are now seated together, he declares, "I am Joseph." Stunned isn't even a good description. His brothers' mouths were sealed, and they couldn't answer him. As they came near, in verse 4 of Genesis 45, he says, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into slavery." Vs 5, "And now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here for God sent me before you to preserve life!" **Joseph's priorities positioned him and favor and being extremely gifted, he's standing there and he shares his revelation with his brothers that it was God's divine purpose.**

In every circumstance and trial and tribulation, as we maintain our connection with our Lord, the outcome will be for our good and his purposes. *Andrew Bonar said, "We have got more from Paul's prison house than from his visit to the third heaven."* Wow! This was accomplished for us on our behalf, as it was written, "For your sake." Paul even referred to and used the term, "in my flesh," referring to his physical body suffering on behalf of the body of Christ! Paul so identified with Christ's "if they persecuted me, they will also persecute you" revelation? **No, just the fact, Jack!** 2 Tim 3:11, "All who desire to live Godly in Christ Jesus *will be persecuted.*"

I've made my point. For 2024, the Lord gave me one single word, ***Re-Prioritization***. In Greek it means: *again and again, to indicate repetition, regeneration, retrace, revert*. This is a wake-up call to know that His eye is on His sons and daughters to work all things according to His will while we get to make full proof of our ministry. 2 Tim 4:2-5 says to preach the word: "Be instant in season, out of season: Reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long-suffering and doctrine. But watch thou in all things, *endure afflictions*, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of your ministry (*stay unruffled*) in every situation. Re-Prioritization will bring one of the most effective character traits of Christ which is ***Compassion***. Now is the time to put your *Priorities* in order, to be *Positioned* for the best strategies that are ordained on our behalf in 2024.

(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)



As you are able to agree with these declarations (1) you will be built up in your most holy faith (Jude1:20) and (2) you will have a tool to war with that can defeat the enemy in these areas in the coming year.

I am making these declarations to those with whom I have a degree of influence (Paul said, “I stay in my metron (Gk.)” – 2 Cor. 10:13-15; “metron” is a sphere of influence. OR to “whosoever will”.

The focus I believe I have been given is to help us bring our focus onto matters in our metron that we can impact. The things we can’t touch with our direct involvement and influence, we can touch with PRAYER.

DECLARE”: Job 15:17 — What I have seen I will also declare. Ps 9:11- declare among the people His deeds. Isa 42:9- God promises that before new things spring forth, He will declare them. 48:5-6 — God wants His mercies and gracious acts declared before He does them so it may be known that HE is the God of command and what HE commands, comes to pass.

Use for prayer points in your daily prayer time. DL Moody: “Next to the wonder of seeing my Savior will be, I think, the wonder that I made so little use of the power of prayer.”

(Kid’s Version was written by McKinsey Jones-Children’s Minister at Grace)

I declare that in 2024:

1. HOLY SPIRIT WILL ENABLE US TO BE INSTANT IN SEASON AND OUT OF SEASON. - KIDS: WE DECLARE WE WILL BE A SECRET WEAPON FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT.

Expect the Lord to set up situations for you to receive (1) counsel for living – for knowing what to do when no one else does, (2) counsel for relationships, (3) counsel for finances, (4) counsel for walking out your Kingdom purpose, (5) counsel for working through seemingly impossible circumstances.

Prov. 1:5 Amp -“The wise will hear and increase their learning, and the person of understanding will acquire wise counsel and the skill [to steer his course wisely and lead others to the truth],”

HOWEVER – Rom 10:13 – “WHO SO EVER SHALL CALL UPON THE NAME OF THE LORD SHALL BE SAVED.”

2. THERE WILL BE A CURBING OF GAINSAYING - KIDS: WE DECLARE THAT WE WILL SEE LIES CRUMBLE.

Luke 21:15 KJV – “For I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which all your adversaries shall not be able to gainsay nor resist.” Luke 21:12-15 Msg – “So make up your minds not to prepare beforehand to defend yourselves; ° for I will give you [skillful] word and wisdom which none of your opponents will be able to resist or refute. HOWEVER – Rom 10:13 – “Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

3. WE WILL BEGIN TO SEE NEW FORMS OF “SIGNS AND WONDERS” - KIDS: WE DECLARE THAT WE WILL KNOW WHEN GOD IS UP TO SOMETHING BECAUSE WE STAND ALONE ON THE WORD OF GOD. The B.I.B.L.E.

Almighty God Yahweh will manifest Himself in unprecedented ways. **1 John. 4:1 NKJV** – “Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God...” Notice: John is not saying “test every person” but “test every spirit”. Try the spirits to see if they be of God, no matter what form they manifest themselves in. “TEST”: Does it, do they, align with the WORD OF GOD (the whole counsel of Yahweh-Acts 20:27 — not the present, popular view of a matter) and does it, do they, align with the character of God? **2 Cor. 11:14** – 15a, Douay-Rheims 1899—”And no wonder: for Satan himself TRANSFORMETH himself into an angel of light. 15 Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers be transformed...” (“ministers”: Gk.- “servants”) “TRANSFORM”-Gk.: to change in fashion or appearance. **Rev. 12:9** shows him as the great deceiver. **2 Thess. 2:8-10** – speaks of the lying signs and wonders of satan. HOWEVER – Rom. 10:13 – “Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

4. WE WILL BEGIN TO SEE NEW LEVELS OF SUCCESS IN THE SEVEN MOUNTAINS OF CULTURAL INFLUENCE - KIDS: WE DECLARE THAT KINGDOM INFLUENCERS WILL CLIMB EVEN HIGHER WITH ANGEL BELAYERS. (one who uses a rope to secure a person to an anchor point)

1 Chron. 4:10 GW – Jabez prayed to the God of Israel, “Please bless me and give me more territory. May your power be with me and free me from evil so that I will not be in pain.” God gave him what he prayed for.” Methods and ideas that have not worked before will begin to work. Facilitating-relationships that have not yet come will come. HOWEVER – Rom 10:13 – “Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

5. WE WILL VICTORIOUSLY PRESS THROUGH THE COMING WEEKS AND MONTHS - KIDS: WE DECLARE THAT OUR FAITH IN JESUS KEEPS US STEADY.

We are going to have to press through diversions, distractions, false flags and misinformation. We must discover the areas where we are operating in fear and get back on God’s Word (the B.I.B.L.E.) HOWEVER – Rom. 10:13 – “Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

6. WE WILL NOT THROW OUT THE BABY WITH THE BATH WATER - KIDS: WE DECLARE WE WILL CHOOSE FREEDOM THROUGH FOR-

GIVENESS.

Many are rethinking their religious experiences and they are deciding to make major decisions attempting to remove pain, disappointments and memories. Taking your own council at such times may not be the wisest thing you have ever done.

PLEASE TAKE CAUTION, CONSIDER WISDOM. And be careful not to use your disdain as an excuse to indulge in decisions and actions that seem enticing which could bring ruin to you and your family and those who may have been watching your life. “BE CAREFUL NOT TO THROW OUT THE BABY WITH THE BATH WATER”

Prov. 13:13 Amp – “Whoever despises the word and counsel [of God] brings destruction upon himself, But he who [reverently] fears and respects the commandment [of God] will be rewarded.” **1 Thess. 5:19-21, Amp** – 19 “Do not quench [subdue, or be unresponsive to the working and guidance of] the [Holy] Spirit. 20 Do not scorn or reject gifts of prophecy or prophecies [spoken revelations—words of instruction or exhortation or warning]. 21 But test all things carefully [so you can recognize what is good]. Hold firmly to that which is good.” **HOWEVER** – Rom. 10:13 – “Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

7. THERE WILL BE MANY RESCUES OF CHILDREN IN 2024 THAT CAN ONLY BE DESCRIBED AS MIRACLES

KIDS: WE DECLARE THAT WE SEE UNLIKELY HEROES RESCUING CHILDREN IN TROUBLE.

There will arise, in secret, groups like the knights of the roundtable who will join forces to defeat evil in behalf of the innocents.

Not only will kidnapped and trafficked children be rescued from those environments but they will be rescued in their own homes.

Rom. 10:11-13 Msg – “Scripture reassures us, ‘No one who trusts God like this—heart and soul—will ever regret it.’ It’s exactly the same no matter what a person’s religious background may be: the same God for all of us, acting the same incredibly generous way to everyone who calls out for help. “Everyone who calls, ‘Help, God!’ gets help.”

HOWEVER – Rom. 10:13 – “Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

(You may watch Marty’s full presentation of the 2024 Declarations by going to this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GNZQXeyMoEA&t=6817s> or by going to Grace Church’s YouTube Channel.)

To download the 2024Declarations slideshow, enter this tiny URL on your phone, iPad or computer: <http://tiny.cc/aeylvz>

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Dates are subject to change. Call before traveling.

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

PLEASE PRAY FOR US

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

Jan.7 * Willis, TX
Prophetic Ministry

Jan.9-14 * Louisa, KY
Marty with ARC

Jan.10 * Louisa, KY
Tabernacle of Praise
Pastors Jimmy & Niki Horn
Marty speaking

Jan.18 * Cypress, TX
Apostolic Meeting
Marty ministering

Jan.21 * Coldspring, TX
Victory Gospel
Pastor Carolyn Aycock
Marty giving the 2024Declarations

Jan.28 * Brenham, TX
Cornerstone Christian Center
Pastor Pat & Bishop Bob Beaty
Marty giving the 2024Declarations
979-830-0404
cornerstonebrenham.org

Mar.6-8 * Willis, TX
17th Annual Kingdom Congress
Theme: "The Kingdom is Within Your Grasp"
Go to this link for all KC2024 info:
martygabler.com/kc2024/

Apr.13 * Killeen, TX
Compass Regional Network
Director: Robin Durham
All day intensive

Website: seecministries.org
Daily Devotions:
martygabler.com
Email: mail@seecministries.org
Facebook: Marty Gabler
SEEC Ministries International
PO Box 298 Coldspring, TX
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Matt.11:12

Mk.1:15

Kingdom Congress 2024

SEEC Ministries International
17th Annual Kingdom Congress
March 6-8, 2024 * NO FEE**

Grace Church Willis, TX just north of Houston

Be Strengthened Encouraged Equipped for 2024

Details: martygabler.com/kc2024/

THE KING AND HIS KINGDOM WILL BE PREACHED AT KC2024

Jim Hodges:

"The question is not how much does the Kingdom advance before the King returns. The question is how much will the Body of Christ pray and participate in the agenda of the Kingdom of God in the culture? An increasing Kingdom that was prophesied by Isaiah demands an anointed, activated, and fearless people of God."



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