

OUR FINEST HOUR

A LIVING WORD ACADEMY OF LIGHT PUBLICATION



In This Issue

- 1 The Feast of Tabernacles
Neville Johnson
- 6 Proceed to the Next New Level
Bobby Conner
- 8 Awakening to Destiny
Paul Keith Davis
- 12 This is the Hour of Your Promise
Bruce Allen
- 14 As Long as he Sought the Lord
Kent Mattox
- 17 The Bride Has Made Herself Ready
Joe Sweet
- 22 Run The Race Set Before You
Sadhu Sundar Selvaraj
- 27 The Old Paths
C.H Spurgeon
Watchman Nee
Oswald J. Smith

Letter From The Editor

Welcome to our second addition of "Our Finest Hour"

As we begin a new year we will see and experience unprecedented change. The unstable Chinese economy and its recent stock market crash continues to destabilise the worlds markets. Russia continues to flex her muscles seeking to establish new bases in the Middle East and the South China Sea. The effect of this on the US economy, along with all of the economies of this world will continue to accelerate as we move further in 2016. The fall of oil prices will also contribute a slide into recession. There are many factors now in play that will eventually lead to an economic meltdown. God clearly said that everything that can be shaken will be shaken, however this will result in the rise of the Kingdom of God in this earth like never before. Our focus should not be on the end of the world. We are not coming to the end of the world, but to a new beginning for this world. A great harvest of souls is about to begin and a fantastic new world under the lordship of Jesus is now on the horizon which will last for another thousand years. I trust that this issue of Our Finest Hour will bless you.

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THE ACADEMY OF LIGHT

A VISION FOR THE END TIMES

THE FEAST OF TABERNACLES

There is a doctrine or teaching out among the body of Christ that teaches that the Old Testament does not apply to us today

BEFORE WE GO ANY FURTHER ON THIS TOPIC WHICH IS AN OLD TESTAMENT FEAST HAVING EXTRAORDINARY IMPLICATIONS FOR THIS PRESENT DAY, WE NEED TO LOOK AT A DECEPTION THAT IS INFILTRATING INTO THE BODY OF CHRIST TODAY.

There is a doctrine or teaching out among the body of Christ that teaches that the Old Testament does not apply to us today. This deception is gathering some momentum and needs to be addressed.

Most of this false teaching arose out of another deception, that of the Hyper Grace movement. This teaching is so false and destructive that it could easily be classified as heresy. We need to look at this before we get into what God is saying to us today about the Feast of Tabernacles.

The Apostle Paul wrote this to Timothy who

only had the Old Testament to read, as the New Testament would not be written and circulated for around another 50 years.

2 Timothy 3:15-17 and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, (The Old Testament) which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

Paul is saying that all scripture - not just the New Testament - but also the Old Testament scripture is profitable to us to us for sound doctrine and instruction in righteousness

Paul went on to say that the Old Testament is important to us in order for us to be complete, properly and thoroughly equipped

for the service of the Lord. It is important to understand when Paul wrote this there was no New Testament.

The early Church did not have the New Testament

The early church was the most powerful example of what true Christianity should look like. It was said that this church turned the world upside down.

Acts 17:5-6 But the Jews who were not persuaded, becoming envious, took some of the evil men from the marketplace, and gathering a mob, set all the city in an uproar and attacked the house of Jason, and sought to bring them out to the people. But when they did not find them, they dragged Jason and some brethren to the rulers of the city, crying out, "These who have turned the world upside down have come here too."

They did this without having a New Testament. For one to say that the Old Testament has no relevance to us today is absurd, and this kind of incompetent foolishness could only come from a planned deception of the devil.

Let's look at the facts

The Gospel of Matthew has over fifty quotes from the Old Testament and was written sometime after 60 AD give or take a few years

The Gospel of Mark was written after 60 AD

The Gospel of Luke was written around 58 AD
The Gospel of John was written sometime after 60 AD

The Apostle Paul was martyred around 64 AD and his epistles were written around 58-63 AD. The Book of Revelation was written around 96 AD after the fall of Jerusalem.

Pauls Epistles along with the Gospels were not circulated and generally made available until 90 AD.

The whole of the cannon of scripture was not brought together and compiled until 170 AD

The first "cannon" was the Moratorium Canon, compiled in A.D. 170, which included all of the New Testament books except Hebrews, James, and 3 John. The Council of Laodicea (A.D. 363) concluded that only the Old Testament (along with the Apocrypha) and the 27 books of the New Testament were to be read in the churches. The Councils of Hippo

(A.D. 393) and Carthage (A.D. 397) reaffirmed the same 27 books as authoritative.

The first generation of the early church did not have a New Testament

This may come as a surprise to some but history validates this. As a vibrant Christian church they only had access to the Old Testament. They had never heard of or had access to the Book of Revelation. Their understanding of the end times came from the Old Testament. To say that the Old Testament has no relevance and instruction for us today would be not only contrary to the scriptures but comes from a plot hatched in hell.

We cannot adequately understand the New Testament until we understand the Old Testament. The second is built upon the first. We cannot fully understand our born again experience without understanding the Old Testament teaching on the Feast of Passover

Psalms 119:160 The entirety of Your word is truth, And every one of Your righteous judgements endures forever.

This brings us to the Feast of Tabernacles

This Old Testament feast explains what we can expect the end-time church to be like. With this in mind we need to understand the prophetic implications of the Old Testament Feast of Tabernacles.

As we saw in the last issue we are moving from Pentecost to the Feast of Tabernacles. While the Pentecost experience is wonderful and absolutely necessary in our continuing ongoing relationship with the Lord and the service that He has called us into, there is much more that God has for us in these End-Times. In order to be fruitful and affective in these final days we need to move on further in God.

Moving on from Pentecost to Tabernacles is what God is calling us to in this new season

One of the ways that we can understand more about the Feast of Tabernacles is to observe what happened in the Old Testament during this feast, and also to see what Jesus said while observing the Feast of Tabernacles. We understand Passover by observing what took place during the first Passover which Israel kept in Egypt. Now we need to understand the Feast of Tabernacles from both the old



and New Testament perspective.

Leviticus chapter twenty three speaks about the Feast of Tabernacles this way

Leviticus 23:40-42 And ye shall take you on the first day the boughs of goodly trees, branches of palm trees, and the boughs of thick trees, and willows of the brook; and ye shall rejoice before the LORD your God seven days. And ye shall keep it a feast unto the LORD seven days in the year. It shall be a statute for ever in your generations: ye shall celebrate it in the seventh month. Ye shall dwell in booths seven days; all that are Israelites born shall dwell in booths:

Here we have a picture of the unity of Gods people

Every Israelite had to leave his home and live in humble little booths which they built with the branches of willows trees. This coming together has far reaching ramifications. The Church has long history of bitter division and disunity.

Jesus clearly said that the world will not come to know Him until the church, the body of Christ comes into unity. This is necessary for the final harvest to be reaped.

John 17:11 And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me that they may be one, as we are.

John 17:20-21 Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.

The world will not know who Jesus is until at least a portion of the body of Christ comes into Unity.

Right here we have a problem, the church is so divided in doctrine and in many other ways it would seem impossible that real true unity could happen. However the scriptures tell us this.

Genesis 18:14 "Is anything too hard for the LORD?"

Matthew 19:26b But Jesus looked at them and said to them, "With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

There will be a company in these last days who will be of one mind and heart. This can only be accomplished by experiencing the unity which the Feast of Tabernacles talks about. This unity or union has firstly to become a reality of you walking in union with Jesus. The body of Christ can only come into unity as we come into unity first with Jesus. This union with the Lord is foundational and essential for a group of people to come into unity. This compatibility or unity between you and Jesus is grounded in love, God is love and Jesus is love. Love expresses itself when at all times we seek the highest possible Good for everyone without exception. When we deny ourselves and put others first, denying our own comforts and our own ambition to bless others, there must be no jealousy, anger, resentment or bitterness towards others. In other words we are like Jesus. There will come a union between these people the world or the church has never seen before.

James 3:16 For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work.

James 4:1 From whence come wars and fighting's among you, come they not hence even of your lusts that war in your members?

Unity cannot be organized, Christians will find likeminded people, this finding of each other who are like minded with pure hearts is happening now. This is not just so with people but also with churches.

Isaiah 52:8 Your watchmen shall lift up their voices, With their voices they shall sing together; For they shall see eye to eye when the LORD brings back Zion.

In Hebrews chapter twelve The Apostle Paul speaks of stages of maturity the church will or can move through. He describes the final stage of reaching this maturity as coming to a place called Zion. This place is equivalent to entering into the Feast of Tabernacles. Isaiah 52:8 makes reference to a people who will see eye to eye. This is a unity in heart between groups of Christians who are walking in understanding and wisdom and have a heart



like Gods own heart. This unity is the first part of the Feast of Tabernacles that we are to enter into. There are many Christians who are finding those of like mind and understanding that have a heart to fulfil Gods plan and purposes in the few years we have left. Many of these are hidden but will soon find others with the same heart. They are becoming an army as well as a bride or help-mate for the Lord. The final battle between good and evil is beginning and God will have a people with one mind and heart who will present Jesus to a world that is sinking into a quagmire of confusion and evil. As the Prophet Isaiah prophesied that these people will arise and shine with truth and light bringing hope to a dying world.

We are not coming to the end of the world, we are coming to a new beginning for this planet and its people, which will finally usher in a thousand years of peace as this world once again will become a paradise. This world is now in a spiral of death throes as evil increases and wickedness abounds. We are now living at the end of the 6th day.

*2 Peter 3:7-9 But the heavens and the earth which are now preserved by the same word, are reserved for fire until the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men. But, beloved, **do not forget this one thing**, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.*

The Apostle Peter spoke about Gods prophetic time clock by emphasising that one day is as one thousand years. He emphasised the importance of this by saying *do not forget this one thing*. In other words he is saying this is very important don't forget it, as we approach the end of the 6th day, or one thousand years from Adam. The 7th day will usher in the millennium reign of Jesus in this earth.

The rampant confusion in the world and in much of the church today comes from the spirit of Babylon, Babylon meaning confusion. God is calling out a company of people, an army and a bride that will finish the plans and purposes of God and bring heaven to earth. This will be a unified people which the prophet

Joel spoke about. However those who have a heart after the Lord and a desire to be like Him, will begin to walk in more and more light and truth and become equipped with weapons **and** power that will be much greater than the early church had.

These are those who Joel spoke of

Joel 2:7-11 They run like mighty men, They climb the wall like men of war; Every one marches in formation, And they do not break ranks. They do not push one another; Every one marches in his own column. Though they lunge between the weapons, They are not cut down. They run to and fro in the city, They run on the wall; They climb into the houses, They enter at the windows like a thief. The earth quakes before them, The heavens tremble; The sun and moon grow dark, And the stars diminish their brightness. The LORD gives voice before His army, For His camp is very great; For strong is the One who executes His word. For the day of the LORD is great and very terrible; Who can endure it?

We have been privileged to be in this earth at a time when the true church will experience its finest hour. You are alive and living in this time and have the opportunity to be part of the greatest demonstration of the Lords power and nature this earth has ever seen. This is not a time to be hanging on till Jesus returns, it is not a time to hold the fort. It is a time to gear up for the greatest battle this planet has ever experienced, ushering in a new world of unimaginable glory and peace.

Focussed Determination

As we enter a new year we must get our priorities in order. We must, as the scriptures say "press on to the high calling" We must long for a heart like the heart of God. David was a man after Gods own heart. What is Gods heart like?

Isaiah 58:6-14 "Is this not the fast that I have chosen: To loose the bonds of wickedness, To undo the heavy burdens, To let the oppressed go free, And that you break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, And that you bring to your house the poor who are cast out; When you see the naked, that you cover him, And not hide yourself from your own flesh? Then your light shall break forth like the morning, Your healing shall



spring forth speedily, And your righteousness shall go before you; The glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; You shall cry, and He will say, 'Here I am.' "If you take away the yoke from your midst, The pointing of the finger, and speaking wickedness, If you extend your soul to the hungry And satisfy the afflicted soul, Then your light shall dawn in the darkness, And your darkness shall be as the noonday. The LORD will guide you continually, And satisfy your soul in drought, And strengthen your bones; You shall be like a watered garden, And like a spring of water, whose waters do not fail. 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. "If you turn away your foot from the Sabbath, From doing your pleasure on My holy day, And call the Sabbath a delight, The holy day of the LORD honourable, And shall honor Him, not doing your own ways, Nor finding your own pleasure, Nor speaking your own words, Then you shall delight yourself in the LORD; And I will cause you to ride on the high hills of the earth, And feed you with the heritage of Jacob your father. The mouth of the LORD has spoken." Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, That it cannot save; Nor His ear heavy, That it cannot hear.

The cross must become a reality in our lives. It will be a people who have died and laid down their lives who will have the power to

win this final battle.

Matthew 16:24 Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.

It is not about us, it is about the Lord and His inheritance in this earth. It is about Jesus becoming Lord and King over this earth. The cross must become a focal point in our lives, it speaks of death to self. We will overcome the enemy in this battle **by the blood of the Lamb** (The sacrifice of the Lamb) speaking of laying down our lives. **By the word of our testimony** (we must have a testimony by proving that we can trust the Lord with our lives) **and did not love their lives even to death.** These are the ones whom the cross truly is part of their testimony Revelation 12.11

The first and initial part of Feast of Tabernacles is found in a people who have the same mind and heart, a people whom the cross is part of their nature, a people who want to see the Lord possess His inheritance of souls in this final hour and see Him become King of this earth. Whether we live or die, we are the lord's. We will find these people and churches finding each other and being prepared as an army that will bring new life and peace to this troubled planet.

THE BEST IS YET TO COME AND IT IS NOW ON THE HORIZON



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proceed to the next NEW LEVEL

The Spirit of God is stirring our souls and awaking our hearts
to seek deeper depths and higher heights

In a profound encounter, the Spirit of God said, "It is time to go to the next new level!"

I was instructed to prepare a remnant of Believers to position themselves to advance to the next new level. I said, "Lord, I don't like the word *remnant*, it seems too selective." He replied, "Don't misunderstand; this invitation of advancement is open to all who will obey. Gender or age makes no difference, it is an issue of the heart." **All are called but few will come!**

Divine Dissatisfaction Producing a Holy Hunger!

The Spirit of God is fanning the flame of discontentment within the heart of many. We can't remain satisfied and contented with our lack of power and spiritual authority; a cry of desperation must burst forth. "Enough is enough!" Ask yourself this question: **Am I willing to pay the price to seek the Lord for promotion? This will be a season of swift acceleration and advancement if we put**

God first.

We are instructed to seek the Lord while He is near (see **Isaiah 55:6**). We are reminded that we only find the Lord when we search with all our heart (see Jeremiah 29:12-13). If we make seeking Him and His Kingdom our top priority, He will take care of everything else (see **Matthew 6:33**).

There is a wonderful grace offered for us to advance in the times of adversity! The invitation is extended to all saints; however, by a lack of commitment many will disqualify themselves. **This is a time to be desperate for the revealed glory of God. One of the marks of these overcomers will be hunger and complete dissatisfaction with business as usual.**

This holy hunger will drive us to seek the Lord on a much more increased level. Jesus states, **"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for**



righteousness, for they shall be filled.” The Amplified Bible reveals, “those who hunger and thirst for righteousness (uprightness and right standing with God)...shall be completely satisfied!” (Matthew 5:6).

It's time to remove all lids of limitations off and believe God for big things (see **Ephesians 3:20-21**). One way not to miss God's new thing is don't think it is already here. Yes, we are so thankful and grateful for all that God is doing, yet there is much more. The promise is that the whole earth shall be filled with the knowledge of God's glory (see **Numbers 14:21 and Habakkuk 2:14**).

The Spirit of God is stirring our souls and awaking our hearts to seek deeper depths and higher heights. This is the time for you to go all out for Christ and the Kingdom of God. Don't hold back; surrender yourself completely to the control and guidance of the Holy Spirit. The statement is so true: **deep is calling to deep** (see **Psalms 42:7**).

Isaiah 43:19 *Behold, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs forth; do you not perceive and know it and will you not give heed to it? I will even make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.*

Isaiah 48:6-7 *You have heard [these things foretold], now you see this fulfillment. And will you not bear witness to it? I show you specified*

new things from this time forth, even hidden things [kept in reserve], which you have not known. They are created now [called into being by the prophetic word], and not long ago; and before today you have never heard of them, lest you should say, “Behold, I knew them!”

We do not have time to delay, the Spirit of Truth is preparing a remnant to proceed to the next new level; we must advance and make progress (see **Ephesians 5:14-15**). In this next new level, we will begin to grasp a higher, clearer insight into the majesty of the Master. Prepare to behold the living Lord Jesus in a much clearer way. It is time to taste the hidden manna reserved for overcomers revealed in **Revelation 2:17**:

“He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give some of the hidden manna to eat. And I will give him a white stone, and on the stone a new name written which no one knows except him who receives it.”

I pray that 2016 will be filled with the overflowing favor of God upon you and your loved ones. Embrace the promises of God's new day. Expect to see God's mighty power! Never doubt it you are in the kingdom for such a time as this and the kingdom is in you for just such a time as this.



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WHITE DOVE

M I N I S T R I E S

AWAKENING TO DESTINY

Our ultimate personal destiny is to be conformed
to the image of Jesus Christ

The Lord is presently speaking very pointedly about the church's need to move into spiritual maturity. Many people living in this generation have a unique and holy attribute woven into their spiritual DNA. A predetermined virtue provokes us to move beyond the outer court and into a place of Kingdom expression. It is called divine destiny.

Our adversary has worked diligently to release the "spirit of stupor" over the western church. This diabolical scenario blinds our eyes and shields our ears to spiritual truth. It promotes a sense of satisfaction to simply live in a justified state without being incited to greater depths in God. The Lord has saved us and He has also given us a holy calling or a divine destiny. The Scriptures declares that *He has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose*

and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began 2 Timothy 1:9

We as God's covenant people have a function and responsibility while living in this world. If we are content to simply remain in the elementary principles of the faith, we may never achieve the notable destiny and holy calling prescribed for us.

With spiritual maturity we can be entrusted with tremendous virtue and authority necessary to impact our generation with the message of the Kingdom. We are called for this objective.

These blueprints for our lives are already recorded in the archives of Heaven. (Psalms 139:16) It remains up to each of us individually to co-operate with the Lord in their fulfilment.

He Chose Us



Many Christians perceive themselves as explorers who are seeking God. More appropriately, it is God who is seeking us. We did not choose Him, but He has chosen us. Moreover, He is desperate for us to transcend simply being His servants and cultivate a forum for friendship with Him expressed in the adoration of Mary.

Luke 10:41-42 But the Lord answered and said to her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and bothered about so many things; but only one thing is necessary, for Mary has chosen the good part, which shall not be taken away from her."

Perhaps each of us has a little of the Mary and Martha attributes resident within us. The "Martha" mentality is motivated more by the soul (mind-will & emotions) while "Mary" is moved by the spirit. Martha is a servant but Mary discovered friendship with the Lord.

These two mind-sets are both essential but must be maintained in their proper order. Our service to Him is motivated from a place of friendship and the revelation of His desire that we achieve by waiting admiringly upon Him. We have often stated that the Lord is more concerned about what we are "becoming" than what we are "doing." Both are important. However, things are to be accomplished in the Spirit after we become fashioned in His image and bear His nature.

To each is given a measure of faith. Even the faith by which we acquire spiritual blessings is a gift in itself. It is our prayer for a great awakening of our incredible destiny that mobilizes and launches us into friendship with the Lord and fruitfulness in His Kingdom.

Conformed to His Image

Our ultimate personal destiny is to be conformed to the image of Jesus Christ. We are not certain what we will be like in the conclusion of time; but we do know that we will be like Him because we will have seen Him as He is. What an incredible assurance!

1 John 3:2 outlines this promise saying, *Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we will be. We know that when He appears, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is. And everyone who has this hope fixed on Him*

purifies himself, just as He is pure.

The Lord is granting to His people eyes to see and ears to hear the revelation of divine destiny. This realization breaks the spirit of despair and hopelessness. It launches us into an inheritance set-aside for us before the foundation of the world. This grace was purchased at a great cost—the blood of Jesus Christ. We are the "joy" that was set before the Lord for which He willingly endured the cross although He despised its shame.

Many things are now being spoken about the provision for our destiny. This trend will escalate in the days ahead. One of the foremost aspects of identifying our destiny is to also understand the stewardship of spiritual provision essential for its fulfillment.

However, we can only achieve the fullness of our inheritance when we first discover the awareness and personal pursuit of our individual destiny. Each of us has the destiny to be like Jesus and convey His nature.

Understanding Our Calling

The scriptures teach that gaining spiritual understanding provides a valuable tool to preserve and sustain us in our earthly journey. The quest for divine understanding is an expedition for treasures of greater value than gold and silver. With spiritual insight we are able to extract every nugget of wisdom and possibility for advancement allowed by the Holy Spirit.

One of the greatest achievements one can attain is to comprehend our calling and access the allotted provision for it. We have a holy calling and function in God's grand design. Furthermore, we have a spiritual inheritance essential for its realization. The Bible declares that,

Ephesians 1:10-11 In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will.

The spirit of revelation takes us into the heart of God where the treasures of wisdom and knowledge are safeguarded. There we discover the designed destiny pre-ordained for our lives before the world was fashioned. These were established after the counsel of



His will to accomplish His purposes in the earth. The ones who acquire this wisdom discover a great prize.

We have been saved by grace but in addition to our salvation we are assigned a function in God's Kingdom. The Bible symbolically describes us as living stones fitted into place in the construction of a holy temple. Each stone is vital to the overall integrity and effectiveness of the structure. Very often the stones are tested and tried before being placed into their rightful position. In the end, God is glorified and we share in His reward.

Testing of Righteousness

Perhaps there could be many purposes expressed for the testing of Job's righteousness. Clearly, one of the Lord's designs in this endeavour was to bring Job to a place of heightened relationship and authority as His representative on the earth.

Now gird up your loins like a man; I will question you, and you shall answer Me. (Job 38:3)
The Lord admonishes Job to be a man and gird up his loins in the strength of maturity, without fear or trepidation. Job was about to engage the God of the universe. This expression is one used to denote boldness, courage and valour.

In this divine encounter, Job was permitted to see the Lord and clearly discover his own deficiency. This allowed him to be girded more completely with the Lord's strength.

Job 42:5-6 I have heard of You by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees You. Therefore I abhor myself, and repent in dust and ashes.

Job's testing ultimately carried him to a higher plain and sphere of authority before God. He could now be trusted with a greater level of intimate relationship as the Lord's intermediary on the earth. That was his high calling and divine destiny.

The Lord will always have a witness on the earth to declare His righteousness and testify against an evil and perverse generation. God's messengers are to beckon lost and misguided people to repentance. It is this marriage between heaven and earth that will release both the kindness and severity of God.

The Holy Spirit resting in the hearts of His people will testify of His righteousness and bring conviction to the world concerning sin.

The Friends of God

The Lord has identified those who occupy this unique position as "His friends." What an incredible honour to be called the friend of God; yet also a great responsibility that goes with the commission of leadership and intercession. Jesus told His disciples,

John 15:15 No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you.

The Lord's friends are able to stand in this post with power and authority because of the refinement that has taken place in their lives. Intimate fellowship results from the testing of righteousness. It allows us to peer into the very heart of God to obtain understanding of His nature and character.

Scripture describes Daniel as one greatly beloved. This was true, at least in part, because of his heart for the nation and his willingness to stand in the gap for his people. He humbled himself in an attitude of repentance and foresight for the future. He presented supplications on behalf of those of his age, prior generations and the generation of destiny that would see the restoration of God's temple.

The example of Daniel is a prophetic foreshadowing of our role today. In this manner, divine purposes are birthed in the earth through words anointed with Spirit and Life and expressed from a position of righteousness.

The Father has chosen the church as Heaven's instrument to unfold His great redemptive plan. To fulfil our highest purpose, we too must discover that cherished and honourable position as the "Lord's friends."

Justice and Mercy

Resident in the Father's heart is both mercy and justice. Justice calls for God's judgments to be established in the earth. Yet, His heart also yearns to release mercy when



His representatives stand before Him as mediators between heaven and earth. Like Moses, we remind Him of His loving-kindness and longsuffering nature.

Those with the unique distinction as “friends” are the ones who have come to possess His divine nature and holy character. It is the role of the Lord’s friends to remind Him of His great promises to each generation. The unveiling of mercy will stay His hand of judgment giving a space for repentance.

It is always the enemy’s desire to boast that the Lord was able to bring His people out of slavery but not carry them in to the promise. The Lord’s friends continually petition the throne of grace with the promises of God and the expression of His divine attributes of loving-kindness and mercy.

The friends of God will occupy this place of intercession on behalf of their generation,

not because of any merits of their own, but because of His great compassion. From this position of favour we are allowed to intercede for others by calling upon the grace of God to grant hearts of repentance for the lost. This will lead them to the knowledge of the truth that they may escape the snare of the devil, having been held captive by him to do his will. According to the Scriptures,

Job 33:23-24 If there is a messenger for him, a mediator, one among a thousand, to show man His uprightness, Then He is gracious to him, and says, 'Deliver him from going down to the Pit; I have found a ransom'

We have a great opportunity in this hour to enter God’s promises made to this generation and to those who have gone before us. A call to maturity is being heralded and God’s grace is being extended to help us move into divine destiny.



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THIS IS THE HOUR OF YOUR PROMISE

Now is the time for all who have been standing in faith for that
“new thing” that has been so elusive

Isaiah 60:1-2 “*Arise, Shine, for your light has come and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For behold, darkness covers the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the Lord shall arise upon you, and His glory shall be seen upon you.*”

This year of 2016 is fraught with prophetic fulfillment as no other year has been. On the horizon, within sight we are seeing the aligning of nations in preparation of the Psalm 83 war. We are seeing the threat of terrorism rear its ugly head within nations that once thought they were well insulated from such diabolical deeds. We are seeing the failure of leadership in our governments and the wholesale selling out to the spirit of perversion and apostasy at an astonishing speed.

In the face of this, the year began with falling markets throughout the world which has only increased since the beginning of the year. Banks are warning investors to pull their monies out of markets because a crash is coming. The once thriving international

market of trade and consumerism has come to a screeching halt as people are fearful of what they sense coming. For the first time in history over 85% of all cargo ships are sitting empty and anchored offshore - carrying no goods to the nations.

If it sounds like I'm painting a bleak picture - I am - for the world! As believers in covenant with Messiah we are about to see the most astonishing demonstration and manifestation of the presence and glory of God that has ever been witnessed in human history.

We have been clearly hearing that in the midst of judgment His glory will be revealed and the Spirit of the Lord is saying that for those who are endeavoring to walk in intimacy with Him, this is the year of Isaiah 60 coming to reality in their lives!

Too often in today's lukewarm seeker sensitive approach to the gospel Christians refuse to believe that the Lord is a covenant keeping God and that actions have consequences. They devoutly state that a loving God would



not bring judgment and that His only purpose is to release blessing and prosperity.

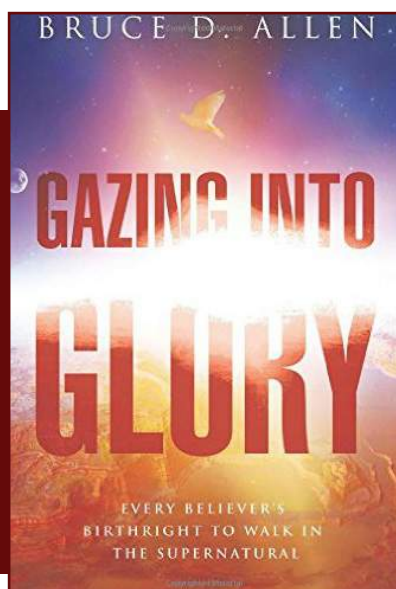
The sad truth is this spirit of delusion has set up a large majority of the church for a very rude awakening! Scripture has always portrayed a righteous holy God that judge's rebellion and sin. Yes, He is merciful, and yes, He is loving, and it is because of this very fact that judgment comes - to bring us back to our senses and to the standard of His holiness.

Profound insights that will challenge religious paradigms will be released in this hour - with the full understanding of what "as it is in heaven so shall it be on earth" really means! There is a unique synergy that is taking place between heaven and earth and that interaction will

manifest as God's people move into the revelation of His glory this year. We are about to see our light coming and His glory resting upon us to such an extent that the nations will take note of this unusual manifestation of the coming forth of the mature sons of God.

Now is the time for all who have been standing in faith for that "new thing" that has been so elusive to be realized. The Spirit of the Lord is saying, "No longer shall it tarry, but now it shall spring forth."

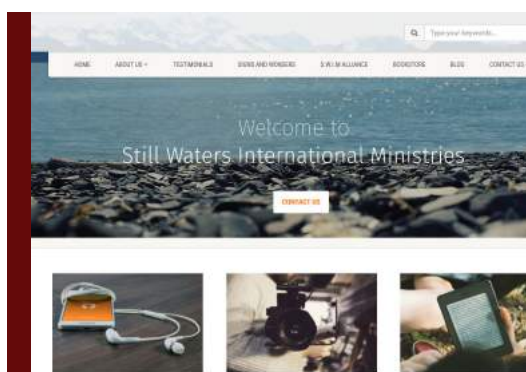
I want to encourage all who have grown weary and discouraged in hoping and standing to see the fulfillment of their promises - this is the hour of your promise springing forth!



Gazing Into Glory reveals the Lord's intent for spiritual manifestations to become your normal Christian experience. Resting on solid biblical support and built on modern-day, real-life supernatural experiences, you too will discover the true essence of the glory of God.

There has been a growing hunger and passion in the hearts of God's people-birthed by the Holy Spirit-to more fully walk in the spirit and access in a more specific way all that the Word indicates is yours.

You are encouraged to use Gazing Into Glory as a roadmap as your journey into the lifestyle and mindset that God destined for you to enjoy. By expounding upon the power and benefits of the glory of God, the scriptural manifestations of God's glory become more than parables-they embrace you.



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KENT MATTOX



As Long as he Sought the Lord

As we frequently seek out God and daily live in His Presence, we began to feel comfortable

Mankind needs God. It is obvious that on our own we certainly have more questions than answers. You only have to watch the news to know that, we as a human race, have really made a mess of things. We need God's intervention in everything that is taking place in the earth today.

And the way we reach Him is through prayer. When people pray, God listens and takes action, and today there is a desperate need for intervention from above.

When our church, Word Alive International Outreach was launched, the Lord gave us a very specific scripture to build upon. 2 Chronicles 26:5 literally became our foundational scripture and we began to build based upon its very clear direction,

2 Chronicles 26:5 "He sought God in the days of Zechariah, who had understanding in the

visions of God: and as long as he sought the Lord, God made him prosper."

It was amazing to see God work supernaturally in our midst. We launched our church with about eight people, with no advertising or promotion, and God built the church. We realized that whatever our endeavors may be the key would be to seek God and through Him we would prosper.

In the first year we saw healing, deliverance, miracles and many salvations. Within six months there were over 500 people gathering every Sunday to worship and lives were being radically transformed. In those first few months, even though we were still a construction site, our preaching was immature at best, our music was just getting started and we had no children's department God was working. It was an incredible adventure and every day God did something else that captivated and challenged us.



The momentum was astounding yet after the first six months of living under only what can be described as a glory cloud, the Lord instructed us to take the month of July, have no church services, and to treat it as a Sabbath month and let the soil of people's lives rest. As a new pastor I was terrified that with no tithes and offerings coming in there would be a lack of finances if people left, and went to other churches, or stopped going to church period. The Lord assured me that He was in control.

We stepped out in faith and to our surprise we not only survived but thrived. All our needs were supernaturally met and when we started our church services that August the Lord added one-hundred and forty people to the church without any preaching or services during the month of July. It was an amazing launch.

We have been in and out of this type momentum for the last several years. Of course like many others we have had seasons of pruning and times of no growth and difficulties yet God remains faithful to His Word. In this current season the Lord seems to be emphasizing this verse to us again.

2 Chronicles 26:5and as long as he sought the Lord, God made him to prosper.

In preparing a message about seeking the Lord, I looked up the definition for the word "sought," and found the meaning insightful:

1. To resort to, to frequent a place, or tread out a place.
2. To consult, inquire of, seek God or acknowledge.
3. To ask for, require or demand.

As a result my understanding of how to seek God has increased. It looks a bit like this: In my everyday life, just like in yours, there are places we frequent regularly—whether it is church, the dry cleaner's, a grocery store, the gym, or a restaurant. These destinations become part of our weekly routine. As we patronize different places we begin to know those who work there and in turn they recognize us as regular customers. We become acquainted with and comfortable with people as they grow more familiar.

It is just the same in our relationship with our heavenly Father. As we frequently seek out God and daily live in His Presence, we began to feel comfortable and at ease with the Lord. Job 22:21 tells us, "*Acquaint yourself with Him.*" Many of us talk about a God we barely know because we are not daily seeking Him and growing in a deeper relationship and intimacy with Him.

If you have ever walked in the woods you know how easy it is to spot a trail that has been well used. The trees and shrubs are often cut back, the dirt is tightly packed and there is a distinct path. There is something unique about "treading out" a place. The same is true when we began to frequently forge out a path in prayer. We start carving out passage in the spiritual realm and after a while that path becomes visible.

In the beginning it may take more time to invade God's realm but after the spiritual landscape has been cleared and hindrances have been removed by persistently walking this path of prayer, we eventually reach the point when it becomes familiar and well known.

It is this place, in the spirit that we pioneer, in prayer that allows us access to the spirit realm. God rarely moves into our realm, we must move into His. As we do we are able to access His plans, power, and purposes that He has made available for us.

I Corinthians 2:9-12 describe His purpose for us, "*But as it is written: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him."* But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God.

Jeremiah 29:11 lays out His plan for us to find Him, "For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a



hope."

This is a very often quoted verse and one of my favorites but I believe many of us never actually see all the benefits of it because we do not read the next two verses: "Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart."

Yes God does have a plan, purpose and provision for our lives but we only realize it and receive it as we seek Him for it. When I realized this a fire and passion began to burn within me to seek the Lord like never before. Hebrews 11:6 lays it out for us,

Hebrews 11:6 "But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him."

God definitely rewards us when we diligently seek Him. I believe that the word diligent affirms this thought of frequency in prayer of 'treading out,' our path in the spirit. During this process this scripture took on a whole new meaning for me as I realized that Psalm 119:105 describes God's intentions for His word, "Your word is a lamp to my feet, and a light to my path."

His word will show us our prayer path in the spirit and bring about God's provision in our lives. Proverbs 3:6 encourages us to, "In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will direct our path." Two words in this passage

are significant: "ways," and "acknowledge." The word "ways," (Hebrew: derek) means "a road, a course, or a mode of action. It suggests specific opportunities a person may encounter on a recurring basis. The most common "segment of opportunity," we experience regularly is each new day. It is as if this passage suggests that in all our "days," we should acknowledge God and in so doing He will direct our paths.

Of equal significance is the word "acknowledge," (Hebrew: yada). Elsewhere yada is translated "know," meaning to know by observation, investigation, reflection or firsthand experience. But the high level of yada is in "direct, intimate contact." This refers to the life giving intimacy in marriage. Applied to a spiritual context, it suggests an intimacy with God in prayer that conceives and births blessings and victories. Joined to this proverb's text we might conclude that if in all our "days," we maintain yada," (direct, intimate contact with God) God promises to direct our paths toward fruitful, lifegiving endeavors.

....as long as he sought the Lord, God made him to prosper.

There is an urgency to seek the Lord like never before for His is plan, power, and purposes to be fulfilled in our lives and ministries. I pray that the spirit of prayer and supplication will fall upon us by His grace and we will live out the promise of when you seek Me you will find Me, and I will cause you to prosper.

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The Bride

Has Made Herself Ready

A primary agenda of the Holy Spirit is the preparation
of the bride of Christ

As the end of this present age rapidly approaches a growing polarity between good and evil is taking place. As the sons of darkness throughout the earth continue a downward spiral into greater deception and evil, the sons of light are beginning to awaken, arise and shine!

Isaiah 60:1-2 Arise, shine; for your light has come! And the glory of the Lord is risen upon you. 2 For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and deep darkness the people; but the Lord will arise over you, and His glory will be seen upon you.

As the return of the Lord Jesus Christ is drawing near, a primary agenda of the Holy Spirit is the preparation of the bride of Christ. These are the "overcomers" who will reign with Him.

Revelation 19:6-8 And I heard, as it were, the voice of a great multitude, as the sound

of many waters and as the sound of mighty thunderings, saying, "Alleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns! Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready." And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.

In these few remaining years before the Second Coming of the Lord Jesus, we are entering into an intense training season for the bride of Christ as she comes to maturity; even "to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ" (Eph. 4:13). The "fullness of Christ" is astounding, but it will happen on the earth in our day!

For the Joy Set Before Us

Through a recent prophetic experience, I was told by the Lord to help the bride "celebrate" her "prophetic promises" and

her "prophetic destiny". The goodness that God has planned for those who love Him is staggering; it is truly beyond words. Just as the Lord Jesus endured the cross "for the joy that was set before Him" (Heb. 12:2), we too must be strengthened and encouraged with the joy set before us. Keeping our eyes on Jesus we will be energized by the sure prophetic promises and the revealed destiny that He has planned for those who love Him.

Prophetic Destiny of the Overcomers

God's desire is that EVERY ONE of His children know Him and love Him with our whole heart. He desires that ALL would be conformed to the image of Christ (Rom. 8:29) and be "filled with all the fullness of God" (Ephesians 3:19). However, the Lord does make a distinction between those who "overcome" and those who do not. The truth is that all can overcome, by the grace of God, but not all will. Not all Christians will. Everyone is called, but not everyone responds. This distinction is very clear throughout Scripture and specifically when the Lord addressed the seven churches of Asia Minor in Revelation Chapters two and three. The invitation to overcome was made to everyone; to "the churches" plural, not just the local church at the time. These promises are offered to all churches and believers throughout the New Testament age.

Revelation 2:7 "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God."

Revelation 2:11 "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. He who overcomes shall not be hurt by the second death."

Revelation 2:17 "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give some of the hidden manna to eat. And I will give him a white stone, and on the stone a new name written which no one knows except him who receives it."

Revelation 2:26-29 "And he who overcomes, and keeps My works until the end, to him I will give power over the nations 'He shall rule them with a rod of iron; they shall be dashed to pieces like the potter's vessels' as I also have received from My Father;

and I will give him the Morning Star. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches."

Revelation 3:5-6 "He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments, and I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life; but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches."

Revelation 3:12-13 "He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go out no more. I will write on him the name of My God and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God. And I will write on him My new name. "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches."

Revelation 3:21-22 "To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne. "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches."

Revelation 21:7 He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son.

These are fantastic promises!!

The overcomer inherits all things: eating from the tree of Life (Jesus). . . receiving hidden manna (revelation) . . . a white stone; a new name (character and nature). . . power over the nations; ruling with Christ . . . the Morning Star (Jesus) . . . a pillar in the temple of God . . . the name (character and nature) of God and of the City of God written upon you . . . sitting down with the Lord Jesus Christ on His throne!!!

We would do well to meditate on each of these promises, saturating ourselves with a prophetic vision of the future that we may endure for the joy set before us.

Colossians 3:1-4 If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.



We are not to set our mind on earthly things

Philippians 3:18-20 For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ: whose end is destruction, whose god is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame—who set their mind on earthly things. For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ

To See as Mary Sees

In the previously mentioned prophetic encounter where I was told to help His bride "celebrate" her "prophetic promises" and "prophetic destiny", I was also told that the preparing bride must learn and practice some things from the life of Mary, the mother of Jesus.

Luke 1:26-38 "Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And having come in, the angel said to her, "Rejoice, highly favored one, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women!" But when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and considered what manner of greeting this was. Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end." Then Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I do not know a man?" And the angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God. Now indeed, Elizabeth your relative has also conceived a son in her old age; and this is now the sixth month for her who was called barren. For with God nothing will be impossible." Then Mary said, "Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

Mary was told by the angel Gabriel that she

would "bring forth a Son, and shall call His name Jesus". This is the calling of the bride of Christ: to bring forth Christ Jesus in us! Paul travailed in prayer that "Christ would be formed" (Galations 4:19) in the saints. Paul stated that it was "God, who separated me from my mother's womb and called me through His grace, to reveal His Son in me" (Galations. 1:16). Recognizing her own inability to bring forth the Lord Jesus Christ, Mary asked "How can this be, since I do not know a man?"

"The Holy Spirit will come upon you and the power of the Most High shall overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born is to be called the Son of God" was the angel's reply.

Believing God's Word, Mary said "Be it done unto me according to Your Word". Mary trusted that the Holy Spirit would overshadow her and that HE would bring forth Christ in her. She realized that Christ could only be formed in her by the work of God; not by her own ability.

This is a major key in our preparation as overcomers: We must realize that what God has called us to is completely impossible on our own. The degree of love that we are called to walk in cannot be attained by human means. We must be filled with the very life of Christ. Many sincere believers seek to mature in Christ but become discouraged by their progress or lack of progress and then conclude that it is just too hard for them to overcome, so they stop trying. This is a mistake. It is not too hard to overcome. It is impossible!! You cannot do it on your own. How will we be transformed from what we are now into the very image of Christ?

Peter states that it is by believing His promises (as Mary did): "His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us to glory and virtue, by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature. (2 Peter 1:3-4) Mary believed the promise of God (The Holy Spirit will come upon you and the power of the Most High shall overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born is to be called the Son of God) and she said "Be it done

unto me according to your Word". We are to do the same. There are numerous promises in the Word for those who desire to overcome. We must find them, and like Mary, believe them and pray them back to the Lord, saying "Be it done unto me according to Your Word".

This may sound simple, but it is exceedingly effective and powerful. Following are some of the general promises of God to transform the believer. As we read these promises, let's remember that the Bible says "But Mary kept all these things and pondered them in her heart." (Luke 2:19) The result of such a lifestyle of meditation on the Word? She brought forth Jesus! Let us do the same. Scripture exhorts believers to "receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls" (James 1:21)

Prophetic Promises

Hebrews 13:20-21 Now may the God of peace who brought up our Lord Jesus from the dead, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you complete in every good work to do His will, working in you what is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

1 Thessalonians 5:23-24 Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful, who also will do it.

Jude 24-25 Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy, To God our Savior, Who alone is wise, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and forever. Amen.

Philippians 1:6 being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ

The four promises above are general promises that we must have abiding in our hearts. There are more specific promises for our transformation. They are Holy Spirit inspired prayers penned by Paul and recorded for our benefit and use. John writes "Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears

us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him." (John 5:14-15)

Specifically, God calls us to abide in Divine love. The maturing of the bride is a growth in this love. Love is defined in 1 John 3:16: "By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down our lives for the brethren."

John 15:12 "This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you."

1 Timothy 1:5 "Now the goal of the commandment is love from a pure heart, from a good conscience, and from sincere faith"

1 John 4:16-17 "And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him. Love is perfected in us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; so that as He is, so are we in this world."

To walk in this kind of love requires "Christ in you, the hope of glory" (Colossians 1:27). There is no other way.

Following are a few prophetic promises that are powerful when believed and prayed back to the Lord. I have experienced tremendous supernatural benefit from holding these in my heart, believing them and praying them back to the Lord. I would encourage you to consider writing down the person(s) or situation(s) that are most difficult for you to walk in love. Then, arming yourselves with these promises, pray them to the Lord. Watch and see what He does. I am sure you will be astonished at how the Holy Spirit rises up in you, rests upon you and fills you with His love, causing Christ to be formed in you. God truly watches over His Word to perform it! (Jeremiah 1:12 – Young's Literal Translation)

1 Thessalonians 3:12-13 And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love to one another and to all, just as we do to you, so that He may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints.



Philippians 1:9-10 And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in knowledge and all discernment, that you may approve the things that are excellent, that you may be sincere and without offense till the day of Christ.

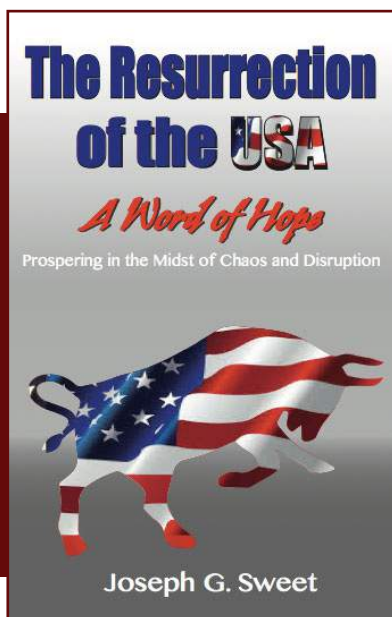
Ephesians 3:16-21 that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, to Him be glory in the church by

Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Let's celebrate (laying hold of) the tremendous prophetic promises of God to fulfill the destiny of the bride.

Faithful is He who calls you. He also will do it! (1 Thessalonians 5:23-24)

With our confidence in Him, may we press forward. "Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. Therefore let us, as many as are mature, have this mind; and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal even this to you." (Philippians 3:13-15)



Resurrection of the USA

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Sadhu Sundar Selvaraj

JESUS



MINISTRIES

Touching the World With God's Healing Love



RUN THE RACE SET BEFORE YOU!

Changes have been decreed between good and bad,
between righteousness and unrighteousness, ...

We live at a time when the whole drama of this earth is engineered and driven by the will of man must soon end, a time when the kingdom of God will begin to reign on this earth. How then should we be at such a time as this? Should we be like little kids always calling out to our mothers for milk? Or should we be sons and daughters of God who understand the mind of the Father in heaven and rise up to do His works?

Let me give an example: When the children of Israel came out of Egypt, God led them as a true caring father through the wilderness. In the Book of Deuteronomy, Moses recounts all the good things that God had done for them. He tells how God bore them on wings like an eagle and carried them all through the wilderness. They were like new born babies, and they had never walked that way before. The wilderness of Egypt were terribly challenging, with no clear paths a great part of the way. But God went before them in a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by

night. Every day God rained down manna—the very food angels eat.

They were little babies, looking up to their Father for all their needs. Their sojourning lasted 40 years. A baby has a lot of growing to do. But when he comes to the age of forty, he is a full-blown adult and is expected to act like one. Coming to the Jordan River after four decades in the wilderness, the people of God were now poised and ready to go across the river. In a few days, Moses would be taken from them by God Himself. They must now take the bold and decisive action of marching into Canaan under the leadership of Joshua to take possession of their Promised Land.

When Moses died, all of Israel sorrowed. But the Lord promised He would be with Joshua as He had been with Moses. They had to confront seven nation groups in their land of promise. The Lord told them to go and fight these fierce inhabitants. Earlier, in Exodus



14, God said that He would fight their battles for them. But here God told them to fight the battles themselves, for they were now supposed to have grown up. What they must do was to put on the armor of God, take the sword in their hands, and go in to possess the land. The Lord would still be with them to fight the war. But they must do the actual fighting.

In the same manner, we the Church have walked a long way now—some 2000 years. Israel walked for forty years. The Promised Land was now immediately in front of Joshua and the Israelites. They needed only to cross the Jordan River and possess their inheritance. We are in that same place now, spiritually. We should not be asking the Lord—“How will you bless me? I am so broken and fearful, and my heart is bleeding.” A forty year old person should not ask like that.

So now we should ask—“What is my Father's will?” The Army of God is rising up to possess the land with the Kingdom in all its power. The Church—the very army of God—must be asking: “What is the Father saying that we should do?” “What are the instructions of our Commander-in-Chief?” “What is the course of action that we must take?”

In our journey with God, all our needs will be provided all the time. In the wilderness, God provided the Israelites with food and water and much more. He protected them from the scorching sun and the icy cold. All the provisions were there. Only one thing we should do—seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness. And all the things we need for our natural lives will be provided for us. Set not your heart on things we need below but on things above. Our goal is to seek first the Kingdom of God.

On Yom Kippur 2013, the Word of the Lord came to us: “New races have begun.” Then again, on December 30, 2013, the Word of the Lord came to me: “Go the next step.” In a field race there are competitors, an umpire/ starter with a gun to signal the start of a race, and clearly defined lanes for the athletes. And so these three—Runners, the Umpire, and the Tracks—are the most important components of a race.

Umpire

The Umpire is the Lord Jesus Himself. He has set

in His heart particular races every individual—apostle, prophet, pastor, teacher, warrior, prophetess, young child, or elderly maiden—should run. All these have been determined in the heart of God. Amos 1:2 shows what the Umpire, the Commander-in-Chief, our dear Lord Jesus Christ, has prepared Himself to do: “And he said: ‘The Lord roars from Zion, And utters His voice from Jerusalem; The pastures of the shepherds mourn, and the top of Carmel withers.’”

What is the difference between “The Lord will roar from Zion” and “He will utter His voice from Jerusalem”?

Zion is where King David set up his capital, the City of David. Jerusalem is where the temple was. From Mount Zion King David would look up towards the temple atop Jerusalem. From Zion, the place where God dwells, the Lord Almighty will roar, sending forth His divine kingly commands. From Jerusalem God will utter His voice. Whenever the Lord Jesus came up to the Temple mount in Jerusalem, He would release His teaching, and make His voice heard.

A lion's roar has several powerful characteristics. Firstly, the roar of a lion can be heard as far as eight kilometers away. Animals even at that far distance would freeze in their tracks. Why is this so? It's because those frightened creatures know that when a lion roars, it is roaring after its prey (Amos 3:4). The roar lets every creature near and far, friendly or unfriendly, know that the lion is rising up for battle to take the life of a prey. When the Lord roars out of Zion, He is sending a signal that He is coming against His prey, which are all the enemies of God. All the works of darkness and the kingdoms of the world shall no longer belong to the devil. The King of Righteousness is coming to take back His kingdom on this earth.

Secondly, the lion roars to establish his leadership (Hosea 11:10). By his roar, the dominant lion is telling all the other lions, “Come, and let's go.” In the same manner, the Lord is saying to His army: “Warriors, prophets, martyrs, rise up! Arise!” He is ready to lead by His roar.

The Lord Jesus is the great lion of Judah (Revelation 5:5). Mount Zion is the place



where God will come to reign for He is called the Son of David. There is a real Mount Zion in heaven, and He is beginning to roar from there. And His Army on earth must begin to rise up to send a signal to the prey—the devil and his army of evil spirits. They know that their end has come. When the Army of God hears the roar, they will know that their Captain is calling them. They will begin to rise up. The Lord will utter His voice from Jerusalem.

In December 2007, the Lord asked me to go to Jerusalem to fast and pray for seven days. I locked myself in a house to seek the face of God and to wait on Him. I only ate a meal in the evenings. During those seven days, the Lord made His will known to me: "Organize a conference in Jerusalem where I will come to teach and make My will known to My people. When you conduct the conference, all the people will see Me in their midst walking as the Lion of Judah."

True to His word, 320 people from 22 nations saw the glory of God like a lion walking in their midst. Even people watching the conference live on TV could see the Lord manifested as the Lion of Judah. It was truly awesome. Many heard the roar of a lion, even people watching on TV. Then from 2009 onwards, the Lord Jesus began to make known more secrets of God. On one side, the Lord was roaring from Zion through the live broadcasts. On the other side, He was uttering His voice from Jerusalem. The scripture "The Lord roars from Zion and utters His voice from Jerusalem" literally came to pass.

The Umpire, the Lord Jesus, is now ready to roar. Are you, the Army of God, ready to rise up? When the lion roars, the cubs must be ready to rise up. Lions give birth to lion cubs. A lion does not give birth to timid kittens of domesticated cats.

Track Lanes

In a race, there are lanes marked for running. Every runner of God is appointed a place in God's kingdom. For many years we have been preaching that the Joel 2:28 prophetic anointing has been poured out on the earth. Every age group—little children, youth, senior adults, servants and handmaidens—has a place in the Kingdom of God in these last days. There is no retiree, no weak or useless person in the Kingdom of God. Everyone has

a place marked out for this race. If you have been assigned a place, you must know your place in the race. What race are you called to run?

When God first called me to the ministry in 1979, I went to tell my pastor. He was so happy and helped me to enroll in a Bible College. But I was only there for six months. I ran out of funds and dropped out. From 1980 onwards I sought God. I prayed for one and a half years to receive the Holy Spirit. In 1981 I was baptized in the Holy Spirit.

Then I began to pray fervently for all the nine gifts of the Holy Spirit. At that time I was going to a very traditional denominational church. The pastor asked me to lead the youth group. I exhorted them to be baptized in the Holy Spirit. They all prayed and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit. The pastor did not like that. He told me not to do that anymore. Nevertheless, the youths continued to be stirred up and on fire for the Holy Spirit. My pastor decided he had to remove me from leading the group.

One day the pastor told me that there were vacancies for young pastors in the churches of a certain denomination. Since I had a call to the ministry, he asked if I would like to go to their seminary. I thanked the Lord for the opportunity. A few days later, praying one morning at three o'clock, I felt the presence of an angel standing before me. He said to me, "God has not called you to be a pastor but to be an evangelist."

The following Sunday at church I told the pastor about the angel's words. Puzzled, the pastor looked me up and down. Then he said, "Alright, you can still go to an evangelistic institute for one year's training. When you come back, we will ordain you and you can go to all the churches and lead meetings in our denomination." I was happy to hear that.

A few days later, while again praying at three o'clock in the morning, an angelic being appeared before me and said, "God does not want you to serve under a denomination but to be directly under Him." The following Sunday at church I told my pastor about my experience. He did not receive it kindly and asked me to leave his church.



We need to find our place. Where should we start our race? What is our specific call? Not everyone is called to be a pastor or an evangelist. What is your specific call? You must find out your place in the Kingdom of God. God gives a call and you need to pray and seek Him as to what you should do, and how you should do it. Then once you know, you should prepare yourself for it.

In 1 Corinthians 9:24-27 we read how the apostle Paul prepared himself for the ministry: "Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it. And everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown. Therefore I run thus: not with uncertainty. Thus I fight: not as one who beats the air. But I discipline my body and bring it into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified."

In a race every one runs, but only one wins the prize. So, run that you may win. We need to run our race well. If not, we will be disappointed. In a stadium there are eight lanes. Each runner must run in his own lane. If he accidentally crosses into a different lane, he will be disqualified.

You must prepare yourself for your own race. A runner prepares his body. He cannot afford to be overweight. He needs to be lean and tough through vigorous training. He cannot eat all the food that he likes. The apostle Paul is one who disciplined his body in every way. You too must crucify your old nature in like manner. You cannot have your own fleshy nature any longer. Everything within you must bend to the will of the Almighty God. The apostle Paul refused to allow his body to do what it likes to do: "I beat it - I discipline it and bring it to subjection so it will be well-pleasing to God. If not, I will be disqualified." You may run in the wrong lane and end up disqualified. You may have a great ministry, but if that is not what God has called you to do, it will be for nothing (cp. Matt 7:21-23).

You must know what your call is and prepare for it. A pastor, an evangelist, a martyr, a missionary, whatever your calling is—prepare yourselves. Make yourselves ready by fasting and praying and seeking the mind of God.

When you are adequately prepared, you are ready to run the race.

1 Kings 18:41-46 describes something fascinating. The prophet Elijah is seen running faster than the chariot of Ahab. This incident is a counsel for you to run your race. How? Let's look more closely at the prophet Elijah.

First, Elijah was a man of prayer. He cast himself on the ground and put his face between his knees and sought God (v. 42). There had been no rain for three and a half years. Seven times he prayed ardently. Then the rain came. And it came down hard.

The prophet Elijah did not do anything without first seeking the mind and heart of God. 1 Kings 18:36 records a prayer of his: "*I have done all these things at Your word.*" The manner he built the altar, the manner the bull was cut up, the manner the wood was laid, and the manner twelve water-pots of water were poured on the sacrifice—everything was done according to the word of God. Every step of the ministry he took was not of his own accord.

In these last days, the Lion of Judah has begun to roar. This means He has begun to take a position of leadership to lead His end-time church. The body of Christ should follow. If the Lion has begun to lead, we must learn to follow. We must not run ahead of Him. Seek His mind, seek His will. What does He want you to do? Every step of the way, seek God's will, know God's mind. Then you will never fail. And you will not get into another man's lane and run the wrong race.

Second, when the time came for the prophet Elijah to run "he girded up his loins" (v. 46). This means he tucked his coat under his belt so it would not slow him down. Nothing should stop him now. He secured the belt around his waist and cast himself fully into the hands of the Holy Spirit. The hand of the Lord—the anointing from above—came upon the prophet Elijah. He began to run with supernatural power.

The robe signifies the anointing. 2 Kings 2: 13-14 tells how the Prophet Elijah's mantle fell to the ground as he was caught up in a chariot of fire. Elisha picked up that mantle. As soon as he did that, he received two times the



anointing of Elijah.

The prophet Moses was also given a symbol of the anointing—the rod. But for the prophet Elijah, it was his mantle. We saw how he took the mantle and wrapped it around his waist. What does that mean? Simply this: whether Moses or Elijah or anyone else the Lord anoints for service, the anointing should be subjected to the rulership and kingship of the Lord Jesus Christ. In these last days, we should not run our race being overly dependent on the anointing or on the size of our ministry. All things, even the anointing from heaven, must be subjected to the rulership of the Lord Jesus Christ.

“Run the race that is set before you, looking unto Jesus” (Heb 12:1-2). Put away all things that are pulling you down. If the prophet Elijah had not properly secured his cloak when he was running, it would have slowed him down and hindered him. What is hindering you from committing yourself 100% to God? When the Lord Jesus prayed in Gethsemane, He laid down even his holy flesh before the will of God. What is weighing you down that you cannot run the race set before you? What is the thing that is easily besetting you, causing you to trip up over and over again? You must find out why you are constantly straying from your race.

The answer may be found in Hebrews 12:2. “Looking unto Jesus.” Are we not doing this? Are we looking at building our own kingdom, creating a name for ourselves? Are we pridefully seeking fame for ourselves?

The Scriptures say that though the Lord Jesus thought it not robbery to be equal with God, He made Himself of no reputation” (Phil 2:6-8). Can you lay down your pride? Are you willing to be a servant? If you are not given due recognition, is your ego bruised? When you are not given the proper respect, do you get offended and become hurt?

These are the last days. The Kingdom of God is coming in fast and furious. Your ego should not be puffed up. Rather, it should be subjected to the Lordship of the Lord Jesus. Only then the Hand of God will be able to rest on you and you can run your race like the prophet Elijah. In these last days, the Elijah anointing is going to be poured out in an abundant manner. Your children will prophesy and see visions. Your youth will see visions and prophesy and do great exploits for God. The ministers will prophesy and see visions and do great exploits for God. Even to senior citizens God will give prophetic dreams.

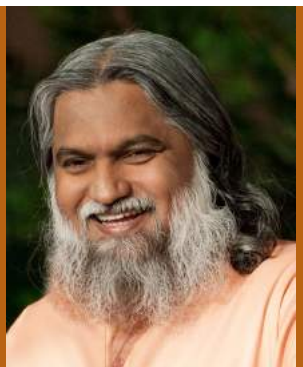
This is the last days' ministry that God has for you. The question is this: Are you ready to run the race? If you are ready, you must lay aside every weight and sin that easily besets you. You need to identify the things that pull you down. You need to run with patience the race that is set before you. You need to seek the face of God concerning how to run the race set before you.

Finally, we should never forget that we must constantly love the Lord Jesus with all our heart and soul. Only then can we run well the race set before us.

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THE OLD PATHS

There is a difference between moving on, and forsaking the truth which many have died to preserve

There are those in the past who have walked with God in a way in which we today can learn from. We in this modern age have tended to think that we have moved on, and this may be true. However, there is a difference between moving on, and forsaking the truth which many have died to preserve. Truth which we still need today - Neville Johnson.

Jeremiah 6:16 Thus says the LORD: "Stand in the ways and see, And ask for the old paths, where the good way is, And walk in it; Then you will find rest for your souls. But they said, 'We will not walk in it.' "Because My people have forgotten Me, They have burned incense to worthless idols. And they have caused themselves to stumble in their ways, from the ancient paths, to walk in pathways and not on a highway,

LIKE THE PROPHET JEREMIAH, Charles G. Finney was anointed of God to "root out" and to "plant" in the Lord's vineyard, (Jer. 1:10). He was a man of intense prayer, purity and passion. "Emptied of self, he was filled with the Holy Spirit. His sermons were chain lightning, flashing conviction into the hearts of the stoutest sceptics. Simple as a child in his utterances, he sometimes startled his hearers

by his unique prayers."

He could thunder the judgments of God upon sin with great liberty and power and then offer the mercy of the gospel with tenderness and tears. Without question he was a prophetic voice to 19th century America. His ministry consistently produced revivals, even in areas considered hardened and unreceptive to the gospel. Finney's autobiography is filled with accounts of powerful manifestations of the Spirit. On one occasion when Finney was preaching in a school house, "suddenly an awful solemnity fell upon the assembly and the congregation fell from their seats, crying for mercy." Finney said, "If I had had a sword in each hand I could not have cut them off as fast as they fell. I think the whole congregation was on their knees or prostrated in two minutes." The crying and weeping of the people was so loud that Finney's exhortation of Christ's mercy could not even be heard.

"Finney seemed so anointed with the Holy Spirit that people were often brought under conviction of sin just by looking at him. When holding meetings at Utica, New York, he visited a large factory. At the sight of him one of the workers, and then another, and then another broke down and wept under a sense

of their sins, and finally so many were sobbing and weeping that the machinery had to be stopped while Finney pointed them to Christ."

Finney seems to have had the power of impressing the conscience of men with the necessity of holy living in such a manner as produced lasting results. "Over eighty-five in every hundred persons professing conversion to Christ in Finney's meetings remained true to God. Whereas seventy percent of those professing Christ in meetings of even so great an evangelist as Moody afterward became backsliders."

C.H. Spurgeon (1834-1892) **British Baptist preacher**

BEHOLD THE DAYS COME, saith the Lord, that the ploughman shall overtake the reaper, and the treader of grapes him that soweth seed; and the mountains shall drop sweet wine, and all the hills shall melt (Amos 9:13, KJV). The harvest is to be so great that, before the reapers can have fully gathered it in, the ploughman shall begin to plough for the next crop.

We read of such marvellous revivals a hundred years ago, but we have since seen a season of lethargy and soul-poverty among the saints. Now I believe God is about to send times of surprising fertility to His church. In these modern times, if one sinner is converted, we rejoice with surprise. However, where we have seen one converted, we may yet see hundreds. Where the Word of God has been powerful to hundreds, it shall be blessed to thousands, and even nations shall be converted to Christ.

There is no reason why we should not see all that God has given to us multiplied a hundredfold. There is sufficient life in the seed of the Lord to produce a far more plentiful crop than any we have yet gathered. God the Holy Ghost is not limited in His power. I believe that our harvest will be so heavy that while we are taking in the harvest, it will be time to sow again. Prayer meetings will be succeeded by the inquiry of souls as to what they shall do to be saved, and before they are finished, it will be time again to preach and again to pray.

We never can be contented with going on

as the churches have been for many years. Even if God sends revival, it will not exonerate us from the awful guilt of having been idle. Let all be saved who live now, but what about those who have been damned while we have been sleeping? Who shall answer for the blood of those men who have been swept into eternity while we have been going on in our religious fashion, content to go along the path of propriety, and walk around the path of dull routine, but never weeping for sinners, never agonizing for souls? Revival has not come before it was much needed.

Watchman Nee (1903-1972)

Watchman Nee started a movement of churches in China in the early 1900s. Wrote many profound books that still are cherished in our modern day church.

WE ARE IN THE LAST HOURS of this dispensation. The hand of the clock is approaching the hour of twelve. It is the dark hour of midnight, but the darkest hour is just before the dawn. The Church is rapidly drifting into a state of apostasy, further and further away from God. Dark forces have been liberated which are producing as evil an effect upon the Church as upon the world.

The Cross of Christ is the light that will illuminate the present darkness. We need a fresh revelation of sin, for it is through sin that we have lost our way, and it is through Christ's death on the Cross that we are won back and restored to God. See I Peter 3. 18" Christ...hath once suffered for sins...that He might bring us to God." The reason why many lose the sense of the sinfulness of sin is that they get away from the reality of Christ's atoning death, for it is only at the Cross that we get a vision of the depths and misery of sin.

Calvary is a revelation of man's hatred to God's authority a hatred which manifested itself in the blackest, darkest deed ever committed. We are told that the Cross is the "Touchstone of Faith"; that is blessedly true! But it is also true that it is the criterion of the human heart. It reveals man in his true character. The Church has lost sight of the Cross, and has therefore lost sight of the awfulness of sin. She has wandered from the place where sin is seen in God's light, and where the soul is led to cry out, "I have crucified my Lord."



What astonishes one in these days is the sin in the Church. How awful it is that Christians can sin and be unmoved by it! God's people are sinning in the heart, sinning in the mind, sinning in the pulpit, sinning in the pew, sinning in spite of Calvary and of all that the Bible reveals of the horror and degradation of sin! Child of God! Go back to Calvary and take the sinner's place. Let the Cross melt the hardness and cause the tears to flow.

Oswald J. Smith (1889-1986) **Wales Was Aflame**

IT WAS 1904. ALL Wales was aflame. The nation had drifted far from God. The spiritual conditions were low indeed. Church attendance was poor. And sin abounded on every side.

Suddenly, like an unexpected tornado, the Spirit of God swept over the land. The Churches were crowded so that multitudes were unable to get in. Meetings lasted from ten in the morning until twelve at night. Three definite services were held each day. Evan Roberts was the human instrument, but there was very little preaching. Singing, testimony, and prayer, were the chief features. There were no hymn books; they had learnt the hymns in childhood. No choir, for everybody sang. No collection; and no advertising.

Nothing had ever come over Wales with such far-reaching results. Infidels were converted, drunkards, thieves, and gamblers saved; and thousands reclaimed to respectability. Confessions of awful sins were heard on every side. Old debts were paid. The theatre had to leave for want of patronage. Mules in the coal mines refused to work, being unused to kindness. In five weeks 20,000 joined the

Churches.

Do We Need It?

Listen! How many of our churches are more than half empty Sunday after Sunday? What a multitude there are who never enter God's house? How many mid-week prayer meetings are alive and prosperous? Where is the hunger for spiritual things? Oh, the shame of it!

And Missions--the lands beyond the seas, heathen darkness--what are we doing? Does the fact that multitudes are perishing ever cause us an anxious thought? Have we grown selfish?

What about the tremendous wealth that God has given us? Take the United States as an example, the richest nation in the world today, and the major portion of her wealth in the hands of professing Christians. And yet the United States spent more on gum in one year than she spent on Missions. How many Christians are giving God even the tenth of what He gives them?

Like The World We Are Becoming

How many professing Christians are living the Christ-life before men? Oh, how like the world we are becoming! How little opposition do we find! Where are the persecutions that were heaped on the Early Church? How easy it is now to be a Christian!

Countless Church Activities

And what of the Ministry? Does the minister grip, convert, and save by his message? How many souls are won through the preaching of the Word? Oh, my friends, we are loaded down with countless Church activities, while the real work of the Church, that of evangelizing the world and winning the lost, is often neglected.

