Search The Quickened Word

** Enter one or more keywords, separated by a comma (keyword, keyword, keyword)*
** EXACT Phrase = Enclose a specific phrase in quotes: "Specific phrase"*
** ANY Search Words = Only some of the keywords found*
** ALL Search Words = Every keyword found*
** Click categories of either Rhema, School or All*

After first search, you may also sort by Relevance as to prioritized keywords
OR Date as to most recently uploaded files.
*Searches are not case sensitive * Searches include stem words*

Search for: persist Submit Results per page: 100

Match: ○ any search words ◉ all search words

Category: All

Search results for: persist in all categories

45 results found.

Refine your search by category: Search Rhema (41) Search School (4)

Sorted by relevance / Sort by date

1. A PARABLE OF PERSISTENCE [Search Rhema]
… Sandy Warner~~ swauthor@usa.net~~ www.thequickenedword.com A PARABLE OF PERSISTENCE [Persistence in Prayer] SANDY RHEMA VISION: I saw my son's keys. HEARD: Teach them to pray. == == == == == == Yesterday my son lost his keys in the house. We rarely lose things in our home, because it is so organized. (One of the reasons is because I can't stand looking for things!) So we turned the house upside down for those keys. All the while I kept saying, "Lord where are the keys?" We went to bed and still no keys. I continued …
Terms matched: 1 - Score: 215 - 26 Feb 2011 - URL: http://www.thequickenedword.com/rhema/PARABLEPERSISTENCE.html

2. {Testimony} Persistence Through Prayer & Hard Work [Search Rhema]
… Sandy Warner~~ swauthor@usa.net~~ www.thequickenedword.com RHEMA 10/10/08: PERSISTENCE THROUGH PRAYER& HARD WORK PIX: I saw a piece of software that had a bunch of special effects applications in it. PIX: I saw the words "software parking lot" HEARD: Beginning to move log jam. INTERP: A

parking lot is a place where you are waiting on God, not moving forward, but waiting. BREAKTHROUGH TODAY! I am researching software to organize the QW school that I will be launching soon. What I heard last night is perfect. Today after at least 6 weeks of software search, downloading and testing out …
Terms matched: 1 - Score: 132 - 25 Feb 2011 - URL: http://www.thequickenedword.com/rhema/PersistenceThroughPrayerHardWork.htm

3. {Parable} Persistent Hunger For His Word [Search Rhema]
… Sandy Warner~~ swauthor@usa.net~~ www.thequickenedword.com RHEMA 6/13/10 PERSISTENT HUNGER FOR HIS WORD HEARD: You are a faithful watchman. Persistent. After My own heart. I will bring you, your food, I promise. PIX: I saw a spinning top. PIX: I saw a kitty cat batting the spinning top. HEARD: Jacob. {Spinning means to wait upon the Lord} {Jacob was persistent and wrestled with God for the blessing. Although he had to learn about boundaries, God loved his passion.} QUICKENED EXPERIENCE 8/14/05 Today while eating lunch we saw a mother bird feed a …
Terms matched: 1 - Score: 121 - 25 Feb 2011 - URL: http://www.thequickenedword.com/rhema/PersistentHungerForHisWord.htm

4. {Teaching} Knocking On Closed Doors [Search Rhema]
… prepared for the days ahead. He has been so insistent that in His unfathomable love He bypassed our tolerances and boundaries in order to wake us up and get our attention. It was like shaking someone awake who has been in a long slumber. This incessant knocking has not been only one way, for we too have been persistently knocking on His doors, trying and testing His tolerance by our same repeated prayers, the same desires, the same heart for Him to answer us with His YES and NOW. We have been like Jacob, wrestling with God to move Him past His boundaries and bring us the blessing. We were saying, You have something …
Terms matched: 1 - Score: 38 - 25 Feb 2011 - URL: http://www.thequickenedword.com/rhema/KnockingOnClosedDoors.htm

5. The Wall and the Angels [Search Rhema]
… 1a1) to stand, take one's stand, be in a standing attitude, stand forth, take a stand, present oneself, attend upon, be or become servant of 1a2) to stand still, stop (moving or doing), cease 1a3) to tarry, delay, remain, continue, abide, endure, persist, be steadfast 1a4) to make a stand, hold one's ground 1a5) to stand upright, remain standing, stand up, rise, be erect, be upright 1a6) to arise, appear, come on the scene, stand forth, appear, rise up or against 1a7) to stand with, take one's stand …
Terms matched: 1 - Score: 34 - 25 Feb 2011 - URL: http://www.thequickenedword.com/rhema/Wallangels.html

6. RhemaIndex [Search Rhema]
… Vision Overcoming The Oppressive Darkness 6/25/10 Testimony In Search Of Jesus' Second Anointing 6/24/10 Word O Gram Prepared 6/19/10 Pix Polishing Our Perspective 6/17/10 Word O Gram Jesus 6/17/10 Vision Putting My Ducks In Order 6/14/10 Parable Persistent Hunger For His Word 6/13/10 Pix Abusive Relationships Facing The Closet 6/11/10 Confirmation Teachable Moments 6/09/10 Sign We'll Take It From Here 6/09/10 Heard Ask. What Are Your Wishes 6/07/10 Inner Audible The Lord's Booming Voice I Will Never Forget You …
Terms matched: 1 - Score: 24 - 6 Mar 2011 - URL: http://www.thequickenedword.com/rhema/Index.htm

7. ALL OF YOU FOR ALL OF ME [Search Rhema]
… . HEARD: She's a survivor. Just My type. Real dictionary, look it up. sur vive sur vive (ser-vìv¹) verb sur vived, sur viv ing, sur vives verb, intransitive To remain alive or in existence. verb, transitive 1. To live longer than; outlive: 2. To live or persist through: plants that can survive frosts. [I was thinking about Him dressing us up in romantic attire for the dinner table.] HEARD: Do you think that's funny? There is no man. I AM a Man. Your Head. Do you see what I mean? There's a difference between the head and the …
Terms matched: 1 - Score: 22 - 6 Mar 2011 - URL: http://www.thequickenedword.com/rhema/AllofYouForAllofMe.htm

8. {Word2Ponder} Blind Bartimaeus [Search Rhema]
… Sandy Warner~~ swauthor@usa.net~~ www.thequickenedword.com WORD TO PONDER: BLIND BARTIMAEUS 9/01/07 Beloved, in your hour of visitation when I AM near, I will put it in your spirit tenacious a persistence to call out until you are heard. The abusive voices of religion and propriety may try to stop you, but trust the unstoppable instinct you have to recognize your season of visitation when mercy is beckoning you.

When you hear My call upon your heart, cast off the old garments of your past, rise up and come to Me. As I extend My favor to listen to your plea for mercy, your unstoppable faith …
Terms matched: 1 - Score: 22 - 25 Feb 2011 - URL: http://www.thequickenedword.com/rhema/BlindBartimaeus.htm

9. {Parable} Once Your Door Opens, Be Willing To Let Go And Move Out [Search Rhema]
… Sandy Warner~~ swauthor@usa.net~~ www.thequickenedword.com ONCE YOUR DOOR OPENS, BE WILLING TO LET GO AND MOVE OUT Today someone emailed me the story about a man who was alerted by a mother duck that her babies were in danger. She grabbed his pant leg in persistence until he finally followed her to a storm sewer grate. He got help and rescued her babies. Once they were all out, she took them safely to water. It is a wonderful story found here: http://uhoh.org/vancouver_sun_ducks.htm It is quickened to me as a parable, that when the prison door opens, be willing to be lifted up and out …
Terms matched: 1 - Score: 22 - 25 Feb 2011 - URL: http://www.thequickenedword.com/rhema/OnceYourDoorOpensBeWillingToLetGoAndMoveOut.htm

10. Return to Your Resting Place [Search Rhema]
… He told me I was striving. I then saw the large letter E that one sees on an eye chart when taking an eye exam. Then the same letter was on its back in bed, with its focus straight up in the air! I loved that vision and felt the Lord was telling me to keep my same persistent focus on Him as a watchman, but do it resting and not striving with Him about His timing. Several years later I had a second vision where I saw a bed mattress upended. It was standing on its end, leaning against a wall. In 1989 Grandma Anna also heard the Lord say that our mattress had been …
Terms matched: 1 - Score: 22 - 25 Feb 2011 - URL: http://www.thequickenedword.com/rhema/resting.html

11. {Testimony} The Lady Who Would Not Quit [Search Rhema]
… husband who had his arm around her as she would take one step forward with her right side, then lift her left hip and kind of hurl her leg and foot forward for another step. Her foot was not facing forward, it would wobble all over the place and each hurl was totally exhausting for her. She was persistent and did not give up. I refused to pass by her in order to get into the prayer line; it was a holy moment to walk behind her. And therefore all the people behind me could not pass either, since I walked one step behind her on her right, so the 3 of us filled the aisle …
Terms matched: 1 - Score: 22 - 25 Feb 2011 - URL: http://www.thequickenedword.com/rhema/TheLadyWhoWouldNotQuit.htm

12. {Many Confirmations} Time To Mount Your Horse [Search Rhema]
… your natural capacity to spend. I AM so very proud of you for refusing to quit; you stayed with it until I closed the door. Good job, My faithful ones. Good job for leaning on Me, trusting in My Word, following through even when it hurt. You did not give up, but you persisted and hung on; your tenacious grip was so strong that even when you were wounded and no longer able to move, you still hung onto your sword. I will pour back in to you exactly to the degree that you poured out. I will refill and restore you and give you strength to mount up once again. …
Terms matched: 1 - Score: 20 - 25 Feb 2011 - URL: http://www.thequickenedword.com/rhema/TimeToMountYourHorse.htm

13. {Visions} Doves On The Eggs [Search Rhema]
… to face the outside world. This process is not something I do for you, because if I were to do so, the strength you need to face your surroundings would not be fully developed. I need your cooperation to bring you to birth. I promise you My help and protection, but you must be willing and persistent to break your own yokes. You will know it's time when you grow so big that you can no longer stay within your established borders. You will know it's time when you want to come out. You will know it's time when everything in you says, "Yes! It is time!" And when it is …
Terms matched: 1 - Score: 20 - 25 Feb 2011 - URL: http://www.thequickenedword.com/rhema/DovesOnTheEggs.htm

14. {Revelation} Seasons Changes From Knocking To Ringing [Search Rhema]
… prepared for the days ahead. He has been so insistent that in His unfathomable love He bypassed our tolerances and boundaries in order to wake us up and get our attention. It was like shaking someone awake who has been in a long slumber. This incessant knocking has not been only one way, for we too have been

persistently knocking on His doors, trying and testing His tolerance by our same repeated prayers, the same desires, the same heart for Him to answer us with His YES and NOW. We have been like Jacob, wrestling with God to move Him past His boundaries and bring us the blessing. We were saying, "You have …
Terms matched: 1 - Score: 20 - 25 Feb 2011 - URL: http://www.thequickenedword.com/rhema/SeasonsChangesFromKnockingToRinging.htm

15. {Word o' Gram} What Is Courage? [Search Rhema]
… have here? PIX: I saw myself burying and hiding my head on a desk because I could not face a situation that I was dealing with. WORD O' GRAM: COURAGE Courage is to cast down fear, Overlook the boundary, Understate the risk, and Reach beyond the obstacle. A courageous heart has Grit to persist and Endure in daring circumstances. Lord Your love is the power that fuels us with the courage to move beyond our limitations. Please increase our measure of love. Josh 1:9 NKJV Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the LORD your God is …
Terms matched: 1 - Score: 20 - 25 Feb 2011 - URL: http://www.thequickenedword.com/rhema/WhatIsCourage.htm

16. Out Of The Mud And Moving Forward To Breakthrough [Search Rhema]
… not an easy thing being a turtle. Lot of times hiding under their shell. Moves slowly but reaches his course. He is so glad he isn't last nights' guacamole. It's amazing how he changes his clothes underneath his shell. Quite a commotion! GRANDMA ANNA RHEMA HEARD: Much gain in the heavenlies because of the persistence. Strong faith brought reverberations. You're hearing Me. Not upside down like you think. Believe. Much depends upon your faith in hearing. Continue to push through and listen. It's all right little one. Do not fear. Not hearing static. My voice. No worldly care attached. Live in My Spirit. Doing …
Terms matched: 1 - Score: 20 - 2 Mar 2011 - URL: http://www.thequickenedword.com/rhema/OutOfTheMudAndMovingForwardToBreakthrough.htm

17. Cllicker Reminder [Search Rhema]
… HEARD: She's a survivor. Just My type. Look it up in the real dictionary. sur vive sur vive (ser-vìv[1]) verb sur vived, sur viv ing, sur vives verb, intransitive To remain alive or in existence. verb, transitive 1. To live longer than; outlive: 2. To live or persist through: plants that can survive frosts. I HEARD: It's all over now. Finished. VISION: I saw a clicker click to the next page. EXPERIENCE: I again experienced the involuntary click of my clicker finger when I saw this. I love it when that happens, as I am reminded that He lives inside …
Terms matched: 1 - Score: 19 - 25 Feb 2011 - URL: http://www.thequickenedword.com/rhema/clickremind.html

18. ROCK HARD FAITH [Search Rhema]
… "Save the kingdom. See it through her eyes. Rock hard faith. Belly up. Turtle shell support you. Rule the world upside down. In my pocket found a key." == == == == == == GRANDMA ANNA RHEMA HEARD: Much gain in the heavenlies because of the persistence. Strong faith brought reverberations. You're hearing Me. Not upside down like you think. Believe. Much depends upon your faith in hearing. Continue to push through and listen. It's all right little one. Do not fear. Not hearing static. My voice. No worldly care attached. Live in My Spirit. Doing …
Terms matched: 1 - Score: 19 - 25 Feb 2011 - URL: http://www.thequickenedword.com/rhema/ROCKHARDFAITH.HTML

19. MASSIVE PET ROCKS [Search Rhema]
… since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses [who have borne testimony to the Truth], let us strip off and throw aside every encumbrance (unnecessary weight) and that sin which so readily (deftly and cleverly) clings to and entangles us, and let us run with patient endurance and steady and active persistence the appointed course of the race that is set before us, looking away [from all that will distract] to Jesus, Who is the Leader and the Source of our faith [giving the first incentive for our belief] and is also its Finisher [bringing it to maturity and perfection]. CONFIRMATION: The following are …
Terms matched: 1 - Score: 19 - 5 Mar 2011 - URL: http://www.thequickenedword.com/rhema/MassivePetRocks.htm

20. Soaking in His Presence [Search Rhema]
… James 1:17-18 NKJV Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning. == == == == == == SANDY COMMENTS: This is a good example of how we are to be tenacious and persistent in our pursuits of the Lord. I literally experienced

this wonderful ministry without going to an expensive conference, without standing in line or sitting all day in uncomfortable chairs. I experienced this wonderful touch in my own bed at home! Praise Him! The Holy Spirit said prior to this experience, to follow the anointing to where …
Terms matched: 1 - Score: 19 - 25 Feb 2011 - URL: http://www.thequickenedword.com/rhema/SOAKING.HTML

21. To Love the Son [Search Rhema]
… the son. The auctioneer pounded his gavel. "We will start the bidding with this picture of the son. Who will bid for this picture?" There was silence. Then a voice in the back of the room shouted. "We want to see the famous paintings. Skip this one." But the auctioneer persisted. "Will someone bid for this painting? Who will start the bidding? $100, $200?" Another voice shouted angrily. "We didn't come to see this painting. We came to see the Van Gogh's, the Rembrandt's. Get on with the real bids!" But still the auctioneer continued. " …
Terms matched: 1 - Score: 19 - 25 Feb 2011 - URL: http://www.thequickenedword.com/rhema/Son.html

22. {Parable} Take A Second Look And Dig Deeper [Search Rhema]
… something I have done into your life. The enemy kills, steals and robs and this makes you worn out and weary in your labors. I want abundance and goodness for you. Because of your sufferings, there are times when you have not caught on to what I intended from My goodness. If you are willing to persist in your search for understanding, I will lead you deeper into the truths that are not readily available on the surface. Return dear one in your search, launch out into the deep. My good treasures are there waiting to be found. Once in your grasp of understanding, you will know and feel things from a different …
Terms matched: 1 - Score: 19 - 25 Feb 2011 - URL: http://www.thequickenedword.com/rhema/TakeASecondLookAndDigDeeper.htm

23. {Parable} At The End Of A Wild Rapid [Search Rhema]
… since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses [who have borne testimony to the Truth], let us strip off and throw aside every encumbrance (unnecessary weight) and that sin which so readily (deftly and cleverly) clings to and entangles us, and let us run with patient endurance and steady and active persistence the appointed course of the race that is set before us, looking away [from all that will distract] to Jesus, Who is the Leader and the Source of our faith [giving the first incentive for our belief] and is also its Finisher [bringing it to maturity and perfection]. == == = …
Terms matched: 1 - Score: 19 - 25 Feb 2011 - URL: http://www.thequickenedword.com/rhema/AtTheEndOfAWildRapid.htm

24. {Answer to Prayer} Virgins: I Will Draw You At Midnight [Search Rhema]
… in tongues, worshipping with a pure heart and clear conscience, calling upon My Name as you seek Me with all diligence! Your lamps burn brightly with the passion that I have torched. You have been in earnest and your lamps will not go out dear ones, for you have already bought your oil through much perseverance and persistence to seek, ask and knock. Matt 25:1-13 NKJV "Then the kingdom of heaven shall be likened to ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. 2 Now five of them were wise, and five were foolish. 3 Those who were foolish took their lamps and took no oil with them, …
Terms matched: 1 - Score: 19 - 25 Feb 2011 - URL: http://www.thequickenedword.com/rhema/VirginsIWillDrawYouAtMidnight.htm

25. {Experience & Angel} Peace Be Still [Search Rhema]
… in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us. WORD TO PONDER: PEACE BE STILL 10/06/10 My own have gone through the fiery furnace. I have never left you for even a second, precious ones! Thank you for trusting Me, and clinging onto My Word and promises. Your persistence to not let go and give up has accomplished much more than you know. Even now I AM commanding Peace to your storm. Let My peace rule and reign in your hearts, settling with finality all questions that arise in your minds. Rom 5:3-5 NKJV And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing …
Terms matched: 1 - Score: 19 - 25 Feb 2011 - URL: http://www.thequickenedword.com/rhema/PeaceBeStill.htm

26. {Pix & Prayer} What You Say Now Will Affect Your Future [Search Rhema]
… God, that you may obey His voice, and that you may cling to Him, for He is your life and the length of your days; Prov 29:18 KJV Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he. PRAYER: Forgive us Lord, where we have persistently strayed and walked in disobedience by closing our eyes

to Your Word. Grant us the ability to repent and change, by opening our blind eyes in Jesus Name. Please open our eyes that they may be no longer closed and under the judgment of blindness. Oh Lord grant us vision and sight. Grant us vision and insight …
Terms matched: 1 - Score: 19 - 25 Feb 2011 - URL: http://www.thequickenedword.com/rhema/WhatYouSayNowWillAffectYourFuture.htm

27. Soul Dreams [Search School]
… hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account. If we listen, the Holy Spirit can use dreams of the soul to penetrate those dark areas. He will then encourage us to deal with those exposed truths in our daily circumstances. He is very persistent and will not give up on us. If you find yourself having recurring dreams of some type or another, it is a possibility the Holy Spirit is knocking on your door to help you grow and overcome. The Lord has no desire to browbeat us with our weaknesses. He will not send us gifts that condemn and make …
Terms matched: 1 - Score: 19 - 25 Feb 2011 - URL: http://www.thequickenedword.info/classes/WhereGodSpeaks/Dreams/SoulDreams.htm

28. To Knock and To Open [Search Rhema]
… over all your progeny. I have settled you right where you belong. Your dwelling place, no matter where or when is right here with Me. I AM keeping you safe beyond the reach of the wicked one. And I will keep your progeny safe. The door will open for all you love, because of your persistent intercession. Rev 3:20 NKJV Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me. Matt 7:7-9 NKJV Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock …
Terms matched: 1 - Score: 19 - 25 Feb 2011 - URL: http://www.thequickenedword.com/rhema/ToKnockandToOpen.htm

29. {Healing} Getting Past Trauma To Participate In Your Own Miracle [Search Rhema]
… stretched out his hand. Nahman washed in the river Jordan 7 times. Elijah stretched on top of the dead boy. Israel marched around Jericho 7 times. The man stretched out his withered hand. David slung his stone at Goliath. Noah built an ark. Rahab placed a scarlet cord in her window. The blind man persistently cried out for mercy. Peter stepped out of the boat. The disciples cast their net on the other side. The little boy offered his 5 loaves and 2 fishes. So dear one, what do you need to stretch in order to move into your miracle? Josh 8:18-19 NKJV Then the LORD said to Joshua, " …
Terms matched: 1 - Score: 19 - 25 Feb 2011 - URL: http://www.thequickenedword.com/rhema/GettingPastTraumaToParticipateInYourOwnMiracle.htm

30. angelswarfare [Search Rhema]
… weapons of My authority. Keep your shields of faith high and quench the fiery darts with My Word. Command the evil forces to retreat in the Mighty Name of Jesus. Loose the angels to go forth and fight. Use the battering rams of praise, worship and speaking My Name. Each blow causes a retreat. Be persistent and use your weapons over and over again, and the strongholds will fall. You will see victories all around you as you are willing to stand guard when I call you to do so. Be on the alert. I give you times of rest and times of war. Learn to discern them and you will learn to …
Terms matched: 1 - Score: 18 - 25 Feb 2011 - URL: http://www.thequickenedword.com/rhema/angelswarfare.html

31. Gold Dust and Mother Lode [Search Rhema]
… manifestation of His power is stronger. I firmly believe that we have a door of opportunity opened to us at this very hour. He is drawing us closer to Him in preparation for what is to come. This is not a time to take the increases of His golden glory for granted, rather it is a time to persistently climb up stream, and dig deep until we find His mother lode. It's waiting. He's waiting! His gold rush is coming and He is asking us, "Do we want the gold dust or the Mother Lode?" ~~ ~~ ~~ ~~ ~~ ~~ ~~ Words from the The …
Terms matched: 1 - Score: 18 - 25 Feb 2011 - URL: http://www.thequickenedword.com/rhema/GoldDust.html

32. Friendship Required Towards Healing [Search Rhema]
… work together to make their plan work. Fifth, these friends had to agree that nothing would stop them from getting their friend to Jesus. I believe that what the church needs today are more friends that will go the

distance for a friend in need. They need to be willing to overcome fear of man's opinions, be persistent, and be willing to be held responsible for any mess that accrues in reaching Jesus. "Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends." (John 15:13 NKJV) Lovingly, Wayne& Sandy Warner ~~ ~~ ~~ ~~ ~~ ~~ ~~ ~~ …
Terms matched: 1 - Score: 18 - 25 Feb 2011 - URL: http://www.thequickenedword.com/rhema/Friendship.html

33. THE PLOWMAN AND THE REAPER [Search Rhema]
… almost still- now there is much work to do to make up for lost time. I have moved forward and sped up events. This is like My train building up steam and building up power. I am building up time's momentum and this shall bring the transition of change into swifter resolutions. Yes this will require your persistence and tenacity to hang on straight to breakthrough, but this also means that your breakthroughs are within reach if you do not give up and you are willing to press through to resolution. These are the days of prayer. It is time to adjust your anticipation and your level of expectation. Hopelessness be gone! PRAY about all …
Terms matched: 1 - Score: 18 - 25 Feb 2011 - URL: http://www.thequickenedword.com/rhema/reaper.HTML

34. DAFFODIL GLORY [Search Rhema]
… In the fullness of time I shall multiply it all for My glory. As you look back from whence you came, you shall know without a doubt, that no matter what, I have done far beyond what you could ever ask or think. Always remember that when your life comes into blossom, that it came from persistent time on your spiritual knees. 1 Cor 2:9 KJV But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. RETURN TO RHEMA INDEX …
Terms matched: 1 - Score: 18 - 25 Feb 2011 - URL: http://www.thequickenedword.com/rhema/DAFFODILGLORY.html

35. PERFECT, COMPLETED FAITH [Search Rhema]
… since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses [who have borne testimony to the Truth], let us strip off and throw aside every encumbrance (unnecessary weight) and that sin which so readily (deftly and cleverly) clings to and entangles us, and let us run with patient endurance and steady and active persistence the appointed course of the race that is set before us, Looking away [from all that will distract] to Jesus, Who is the Leader and the Source of our faith [giving the first incentive for our belief] and is also its Finisher [bringing it to maturity and perfection]. He, for the joy …
Terms matched: 1 - Score: 18 - 25 Feb 2011 - URL: http://www.thequickenedword.com/rhema/PERFECTCOMPLETEDFAITH.HTML

36. THE CLIMB OF FAITH [Search Rhema]
… all the world. Come unto Me all who have hungry hearts. Seek Me with all your heart. Climb My holy hill and indeed, you shall see My face. Love Me with all your mind, your will, your heart, your strength. With everything in you, climb to Me. Higher and higher, persistently and tenaciously one foot in front of the other, climb My hill. You will learn the great secret as you climb. The higher you come into My Presence, the weaker your own independence and personal strength will be. You will find there is no life outside of total clinging to Me. Dear ones, the tenacity …
Terms matched: 1 - Score: 18 - 25 Feb 2011 - URL: http://www.thequickenedword.com/rhema/THECLIMBOFFAITH.HTML

37. To Fly Like an Eagle [Search Rhema]
… to face the outside world. This process is not something I do for you, because if I were to do so, the strength you need to face your surroundings would not be fully developed. I need your cooperation to bring you to birth. I promise you My help and protection, but you must be willing and persistent to break your own yokes. You will know it ? s time when you grow so big that you can no longer stay within your established borders. You will know it ? s time when you want to come out. You will know it ? s time when everything in you says, "Yes! It is time …
Terms matched: 1 - Score: 18 - 25 Feb 2011 - URL: http://www.thequickenedword.com/rhema/eagles.html

38. Standing in the Gap [Search Rhema]
… weapons of My authority. Keep your shields of faith high and quench the fiery darts with My Word. Command the evil forces to retreat in the Mighty Name of Jesus. Loose the angels to go forth and fight. Use the battering

rams of praise, worship and speaking My Name. Each blow causes a retreat. Be persistent and use your weapons over and over again, and the strongholds will fall. You will see victories all around you as you are willing to stand guard when I call you to do so. Be on the alert. I give you times of rest and times of war. Learn to discern them and you will learn to …
Terms matched: 1 - Score: 17 - 25 Feb 2011 - URL: http://www.thequickenedword.com/rhema/weeps.htm

39. Learning to Prophesy Parables [Search School]
… is not first, but the natural, and afterward the spiritual. A parable is a like a hidden symbol that in our life means something literal but it can mean something different to us in our spiritual languages. They are hidden stories. Jesus told many parables. The sower and the seed, the fig tree, the persistent widow, the mustard seed, etc: Ps 78:2, Ezek 17:2, Ezek 24:3, Matt 13:18, Matt 13:24, Matt 13:31, Matt 13:33, Matt 13:34, Matt 13:36, Matt 15:15, Matt 21:33, Matt 24:32, Mark 4:10, Mark 4:13, Mark 4:30, Mark 4:34, Mark 7:17, Mark 12:12, …
Terms matched: 1 - Score: 11 - 25 Feb 2011 - URL: http://www.thequickenedword.info/classes/WhereGodSpeaks/Mouths/LessonProphesyingParables.htm

40. {Walk w/ Me} Importunity For Bread [Search Rhema]
… of demonic hindrances. It is a constant battle and I long for the day I have His open portal straight to the 3 rd heaven, to freely come and go unhindered. Luke 11:8 AMP I tell you, although he will not get up and supply him anything because he is his friend, yet because of his shameless persistence and insistence he will get up and give him as much as he needs. Isa 53:11-12 NKJV He shall see the labor of His soul, and be satisfied. By His knowledge My righteous Servant shall justify many, For He shall bear their iniquities. Therefore I will divide Him a portion with the great, And He shall …
Terms matched: 1 - Score: 11 - 25 Feb 2011 - URL: http://www.thequickenedword.com/rhema/ImportunityForBread.htm

41. Pennies From Heaven [Search Rhema]
… the Lord's Word to her, that she was called and sent and it was at her feet, and she was meant to have the penny as a reminder. She debated, but finally accepted the penny and that was that. As I left the conversation, the Holy Spirit quickened to me that this gal had been quite persistent because the Lord was telling me that I was sent and it was my penny. I received it in my heart as a special gift from the Lord, and then I promptly forgot about it. == == == == == == A STRONGER PROMPT A few weeks later I was on a prophetic …
Terms matched: 1 - Score: 11 - 25 Feb 2011 - URL: http://www.thequickenedword.com/rhema/pennies.HTML

42. Class Interpretation of the Year of the Face [Search School]
… Boyle audition on 'Britain's Got Talent' and to see the expression on the judges' faces when she began to sing was priceless. When our children want our attention, they ask that we look at them- they wait until we look at them. If we do not look at them immediately, they get louder and more persistent until we do. One of the Hebrew translations of Exodus 20:3, "You shall have no other gods before Me" actually means "You shall have no other gods before My Face." In a relationship of intimacy there is only face-to-face, and nothing veiled, nothing else blocking the two people looking at each other with …
Terms matched: 1 - Score: 9 - 25 Feb 2011 - URL: http://www.thequickenedword.info/classes/WhatGodSpeaks/Interpreting/ClassInterpFace.htm

43. Surrendered [Search School]
… I went on and on, and on and on, (you know what I mean) for a specific reason, how do you think it would make Him feel? Think how you'd feel if someone wanted something from you, and wouldn't let up until you said yes! That is striving. There is a place for persistence. But it is not meant to be with the attitude of butting our heads against Him. [A Pastor friend said something cute in a sermon: the difference between a sheep and a goat is that the goat is always saying, "but, but, but."] Demanding Him to give answers and guidance is …
Terms matched: 1 - Score: 8 - 25 Feb 2011 - URL: http://www.thequickenedword.info/classes/HowGodSpeaks/Climate/Surrendered.htm

44. The Dove Company [Search Rhema]
… to face the outside world. This process is not something I do for you, because if I were to do so, the strength you need to face your surroundings would not be fully developed. I need your cooperation to bring you to birth. I

promise you My help and protection, but you must be willing and persistent to break your own yokes. You will know it's time when you grow so big that you can no longer stay within your established borders. You will know it's time when you want to come out. You will know it's time when everything in you says, "Yes! It is time!" And when it is …

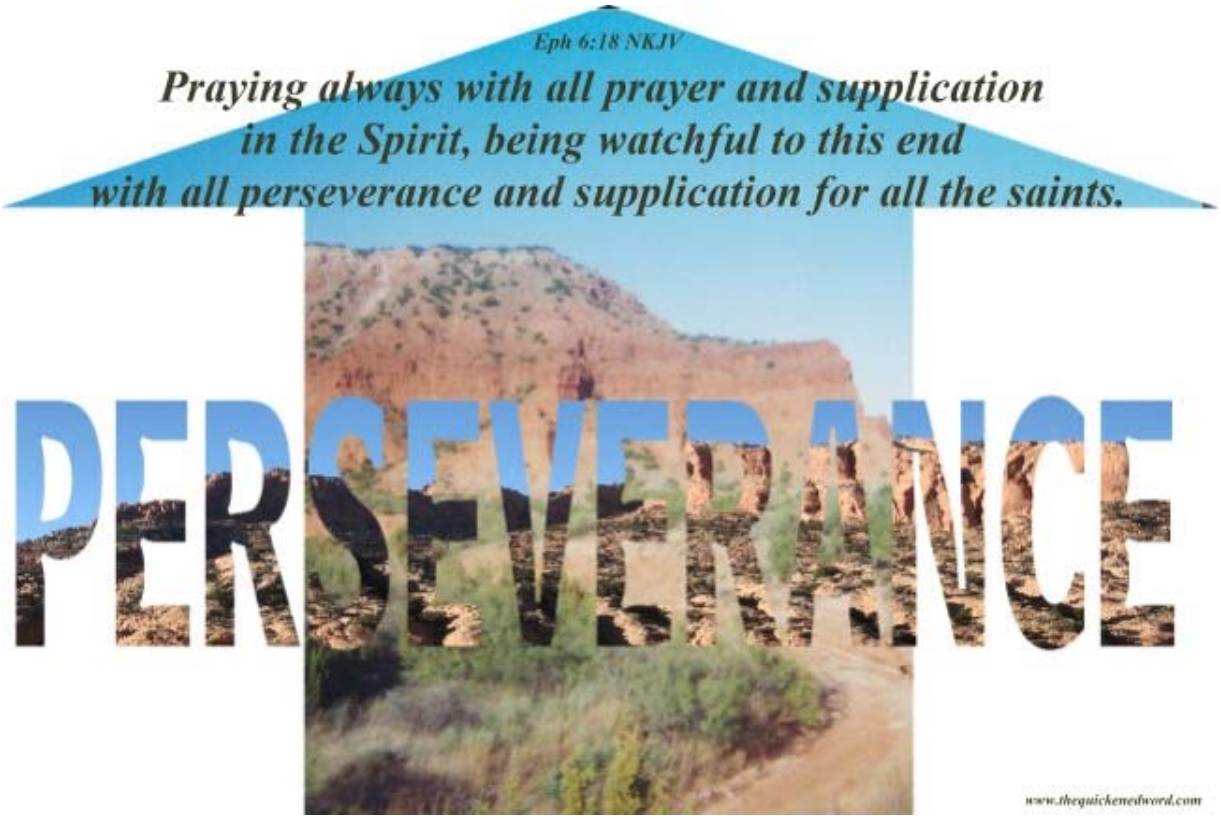
Terms matched: 1 - Score: 8 - 6 Mar 2011 - URL: http://www.thequickenedword.com/rhema/TheDoveCompany.htm

45. Discernment Separting the Holy From the Profane [Search Rhema]

… , I saw that all those who had belonged unto the kingdom of the evil one and had accepted his evil reign watched the destruction of this man of great evil. But even this great destruction did not cause them to repent, turn back to God, or come to their rightful King. Rather, I saw that they persisted continually in their same ways until at last they, too, were destroyed in the same way. The sons of light, now set free, were no longer persecuted or hindered. 6. SPYING ON THE ENEMY'S WAR ROOM A Word to intercessors through Rance Ramsey, Port Lavaca, TX Rance's email: ranceramsey@usa.net April …

Terms matched: 1 - Score: 7 - 25 Feb 2011 - URL: http://www.thequickenedword.com/rhema/discern.html

Jesus Christ is the Way, the Truth, the Life ... and He died for you.



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A PARABLE OF PERSISTENCE

[Persistence in Prayer]

SANDY RHEMA

VISION: I saw my son's keys.

HEARD: Teach them to pray.

==========

Yesterday my son lost his keys in the house. We rarely lose things in our home, because it is so organized. (One of the reasons is because I can't stand looking for things!) So we turned the house upside down for those keys. All the while I kept saying, "Lord where are the keys?" We went to bed and still no keys. I continued to

pray and asked the Lord if He would either tell me or show me a vision of where they were. As a result, the above is what I saw and heard! That was not exactly what I had in mind, but the Lord wanted an object lesson instead.

This morning as our son was getting ready for school, not only did he not find his keys, but he couldn't find his watch either. He said he would be lost at school without his watch and went to school in the mulli-grubs.

I woke up feeling like I was fighting a bug or the flu, but it was time to pick up the house. As I glanced at my table, there was an old outdated tape recorder and some tapes that did not belong on it. Because I felt so yucky, I didn't want to put it all away, but neither did I want to leave the mess on the table because it bothered me.

I took the recorder and put it on the kitchen counter. Then I looked at it on the counter and said, "That's stupid to clean the table and then clutter my counter!" So I dragged myself into the next room closer to our storage closet and dumped it on that table. I looked at that table and said, "You are almost there, just put it away!" I walked into the storage closet and dumped the old recorder into the box with the old earphone paraphernalia and recorder cords.

For some strange reason as I was doing it, I thought to myself, "Wouldn't it be terrible to dump this in the box, never looking inside the box, and all the time my son's keys are in there???" So even though I felt so weak and sickly, I lifted the box down from the high shelf and glanced at the contents. I saw no keys.

As I was starting to put the box back, I thought, "What if his keys are at the bottom of the box, and I stopped too short?" So I lifted the earphones and cords and there were the keys just waiting to be found! How they got there I did not know. I was quite amazed that the Lord has coaxed me one halting step at a time towards the bottom of that box.

This was most definitely a story of persistence. I could have stopped anywhere along the way, and every step was an overcoming one, because I felt so weak and sick. It was not an easy task, but in spite of myself, the Lord answered my prayers and drew me the whole way. I wondered how long it would have been if I had just dumped the recorder in the box without looking. It could have been months till we used that box again.

I told Wayne the story at lunch about finding the keys, and that now our son had also lost his watch. We prayed again. When he came home from school, he saw the keys hanging from the kitchen counter knob, where we usually paste little notes to him. He was grinning ear to ear and thanking the Lord. When he entered his bedroom, the Lord directed his eyes and they fell upon the crack between his storage chest and bed. You guessed it… his watch. As he came out a few minutes later, very happy, Wayne related a very exciting story!!!

Earlier he came in and asked me where his measuring tape was. I didn't know, and was feeling very wiped out and laying down so he searched by himself. Evidently he went into his shop a second time and said, "Lord the enemy is stealing from us and this needs to stop right now!" As soon as he said this, he looked down and saw the corner of his measuring tape sticking out of a place he had already searched.

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CONCLUSION

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{Words to Ponder are summaries of His quickened Words}

WORD TO PONDER: PERSISTENCE RECOVERS ALL

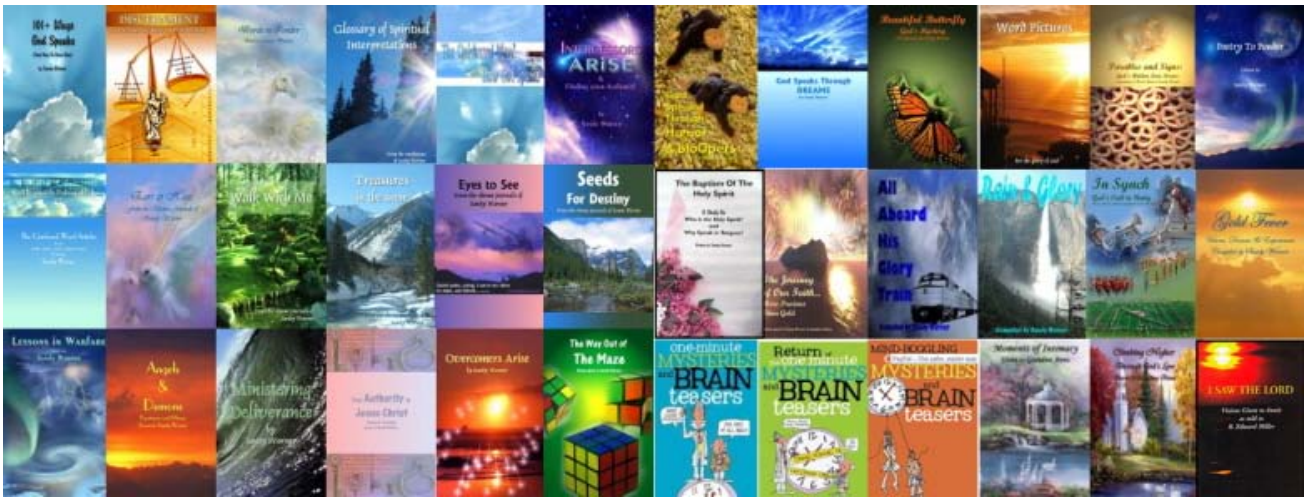
Beloved ones, I know you are weary and frustrated with your losses. I AM drawing you to get your focus off your misery and begin to exercise through prayer, the rights I have given you. It is time to learn how to recover what has been stolen.

Ask Me for help to restore your losses. I seek and find that which is lost. Join Me! Be persistent in your faith until you get your rewards. Do not stop short of your goal, do not settle for less. Begin to put your foot down and command that what the enemy has stolen be returned.

Dear ones, I know you are weary, hurting and discouraged. Let go of the outdated tapes that repeat in your mind. Put the past behind you and don't give up. Be persistent. With one foot in front of the other, overcome one step at a time. Keep going, you are almost there. As you trust Me to answer your prayers, I will draw you along the right path in spite of yourself. If you do not give up, you shall recover all.

1 Sam 30:3-4,8 NLT

When David and his men saw the ruins and realized what had happened to their families, they wept until they could weep no more….Then David asked the LORD, "Should I chase them? Will I catch them?" And the LORD told him, "Yes, go after them. You will surely recover everything that was taken from you!"



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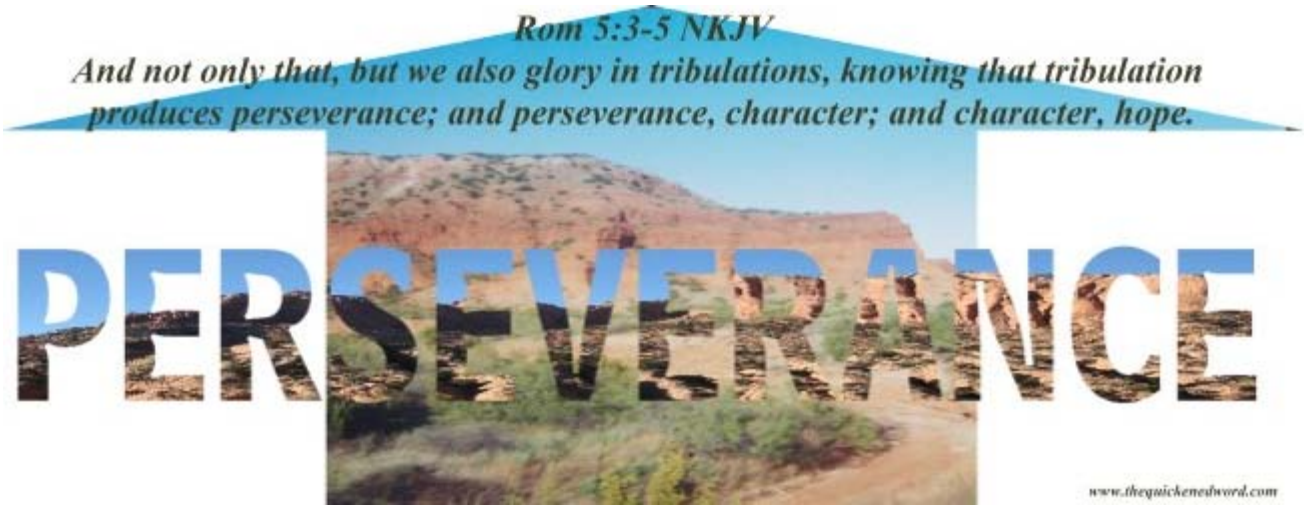
Jesus Christ is the Way, the Truth, the Life ... and He died for you.



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RHEMA 10/10/08: PERSISTENCE THROUGH PRAYER & HARD WORK

PIX: *I saw a piece of software that had a bunch of special effects applications in it.*

PIX: *I saw the words "software parking lot"*

HEARD: *Beginning to move log jam.*

> INTERP: A parking lot is a place where you are waiting on God, not moving forward, but waiting.

BREAKTHROUGH TODAY! I am researching software to organize the QW school that I will be launching soon. What I heard last night is perfect. Today after at least 6 weeks of software search, downloading and testing out piles of software, I finally found one that is perfect for me with many special effects and great price. I am so tired and so relieved! I have agonized in prayer, praying and praying and praying as I downloaded and tested out.... Having hopes that something might work ... only to find glitches in either the software or how it is not compatible with my system or where I need to go.

It has been a very, very long daily process, where I have cried out to the Lord day and night as I have pressed through. I did this same thing in 2005 to find the right package for my forum, and then to build it, and it took me a whole year to do what I just did this 6 weeks. I knew that I did not have a year this time.

What was amazing through this experience is that I was led by His instinctive anointing, where each thing I downloaded taught me a new layer of language in a software field where I was not experienced. The whole thing has been Spirit led where I have gleaned things through how their manuals and forums have expressed themselves, and the Lord has been using this to train me and prepare me for where I will land. Today I had my very first breakthrough in research and choosing a good package. Much more to go, but after 6 solid weeks of work and praying through each step, I am encouraged!

[Lord I am SO happy to have this new software to work with. Thank You so much.]

HEARD: *I wanted you to have it. The Prince of peace. I am establishing you. Walker.*

> *Isa 9:6-7 NKJV*
> *For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and peace There will be no end, Upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, To order it and establish it with judgment and justice From that time forward, even forever.* ***The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.***

WORD TO PONDER: PERSISTENCE THROUGH PRAYER & HARD WORK 10/10/08

Precious ones, thank You for strongly leaning on me in your preparatory stages of moving into a new place. Your faith, your refusal to give up, even your hope that I would bring you the desires of your heart, have blessed Me. I have heeded your prayers for help and sent you training angels to help you learn the language of new fields you have never walked. In so doing, this has been My preparation for your future. When you finally move in to settle, you will have the knowledge and understanding to use what I have given you in expansion and promotion. Your hard work will pray off dear ones, simply pray, pray, pray as you work towards your breakthrough. Never give up, it is not your option. Press on and you shall find your breakthrough!

Luke 11:8-11 NKJV
I say to you, though he will not rise and give to him because he is his friend, yet because of his persistence he will rise and give him as many as he needs. "So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.

> PERFECT TIMING 10/10/08
> I have been working so fast and hard during this “vacation” from scribing. During this time I knew I was a few months ahead in rhema and pending posts coming, but also needed to stay 12 weeks ahead in what is pending on line, waiting to go onto the list. Today after the software breakthrough, I took some time and updated my notes and files and then counted how many posts I had. It was exactly 12 weeks ahead. Wow what an amazing God I serve.

I have been out wandering around in software land for so long. I laughed out loud last night when I saw the vision of many doves roosting on their eggs! It was the Dove Company, waiting on God to hatch their promises. I said well I am glad I didn't miss anything while I was gone! I had a great vacation, but wow was it a total BLUR.

Matt 11:28-30 NKJV
Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."

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Words from the The Quickened Word are excerpts from the journals of Sandy Warner. To better understand how God speaks, read Sandy's book, "101+ Ways God Speaks, And How to Hear Him." Website: www.thequickenedword.com Email: swauthor@usa.net

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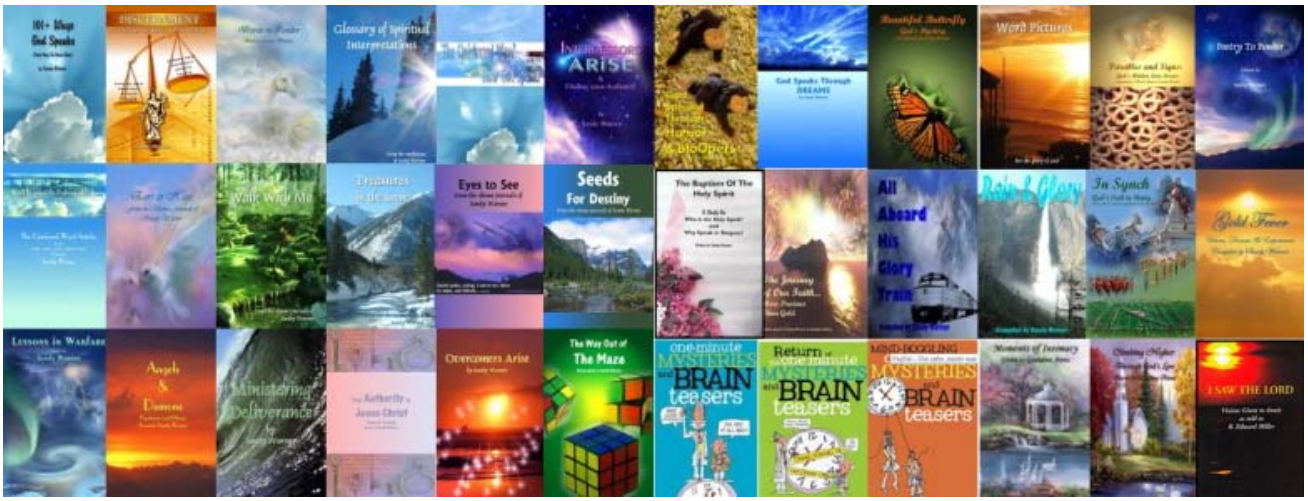

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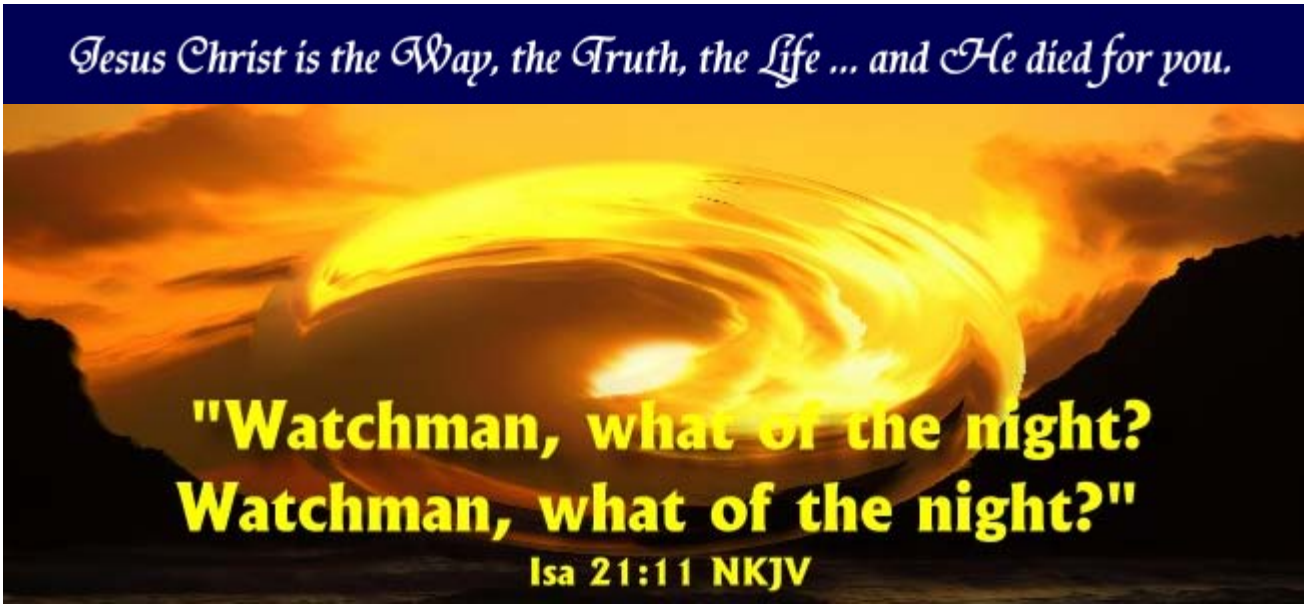

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RHEMA 6/13/10 PERSISTENT HUNGER FOR HIS WORD
HEARD: *You are a faithful watchman. Persistent. After My own heart. I will bring you, your food, I promise.*

PIX: *I saw a spinning top.*
PIX: *I saw a kitty cat batting the spinning top.*

HEARD: *Jacob.*

{Spinning means to wait upon the Lord}

{Jacob was persistent and wrestled with God for the blessing. Although he had to learn about boundaries, God loved his passion.}

QUICKENED EXPERIENCE 8/14/05
Today while eating lunch we saw a mother bird feed a fledgling. They were standing on a branch of our tree. The baby was the same height as the mother bird but he was twice as fat. Every time the mother bird would bring him food, he was flapping his wings so fast they were almost a blur. He was practicing his instinct to flutter in faith while Mama was near. We watched them lean together beak to beak as she shared her meal.

It was a tender moment where I realized that so many mothers and fathers in the Lord are feeding those who are coming up in the ranks. They have no idea

who they are really feeding. They are feeding tomorrow's leaders who are twice the size that they are themselves. They have chosen to serve and raise the young. They have chosen to fulfill the very instinct that God has planted in each of them to do. It is good.

WORD TO PONDER: WHO YOU ARE FEEDING 8/14/05
You mothers and fathers who are feeding those who are coming up in the ranks, you have no idea who you are really feeding. You are feeding tomorrow's leaders who are twice the size that you are yourselves. You have chosen to serve and raise the young. You have chosen to fulfill the very instinct that I have planted in each of you to do. It is good.

Gal 4:19 KJV
My little children, of whom I travail in birth again until Christ be formed in you,

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KNOCKING ON CLOSED DOORS 3/26/08

TEACHING: What is Importunity?

The following scripture is importunity:

Luke 18:1-8 NLT
One day Jesus told his disciples a story to illustrate their need for constant prayer and to show them that they must never give up. 2 "There was a judge in a certain city," he said, "who was a godless man with great contempt for everyone. 3 A widow of that city came to him repeatedly, appealing for justice against someone who had harmed her. 4 The judge ignored her for a while, but eventually she wore him out. 'I fear neither God nor man,' he said to himself, 5'but this woman is driving me crazy. I'm going to see that she gets justice, because she is wearing me out with her constant requests!' " 6 Then the Lord said, "Learn a lesson from this evil judge. 7 Even he rendered a just decision in the end, so don't you think God will surely give justice to his chosen people who plead with him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? 8 I tell you, he will grant justice to them quickly! But when I, the Son of Man, return, how many will I find who have faith?"

The past few years we were in a season of importunity, which was incessant knocking. This was a 2 way reciprocation where God was incessantly knocking upon our doors, calling, wooing, challenging, desperate and intense for us to wake up and become prepared for the days ahead. He has been so insistent that in His unfathomable love He bypassed our tolerances and boundaries in order to wake us

up and get our attention. It was like shaking someone awake who has been in a long slumber.

This incessant knocking has not been only one way, for we too have been persistently knocking on His doors, trying and testing His tolerance by our same repeated prayers, the same desires, the same heart for Him to answer us with His YES and NOW. We have been like Jacob, wrestling with God to move Him past His boundaries and bring us the blessing. We were saying, You have something I want and you are not giving it to me! And God was saying, You have something I want and you are not giving it to Me either!

The word "intercessor" in the Old Testament means to make intercession through impinging importunity.

IMPINGE SYNONYMS: Impose, invade, to fall against; to strike; to dash against; to clash upon. Trespass, affect, bear upon, disturb, encroach, influence, infringe, intrude, invade, make inroads, obtrude, pry, touch, violate.

IMPORTUNITY SYNONYMS: coaxing, dunning, insistence, nagging, persistence, pestering, plaguing, plying, pressing, urgency, urging.

> *Isa 59:16 KJV*
> *And he saw that there was no man, and wondered that there was no intercessor: {# 6293}*
>
> This Hebrew word is translated:
> paga`
> OT:6293 paga` (paw-gah'); a primitive root; to impinge, by accident or violence, or (figuratively) by importunity:
> KJV - come (betwixt), cause to entreat, fall (upon), make intercession, intercessor, intreat, lay, light [upon], meet (together), pray, reach, run.
>
> Sometimes the Lord asks His intercessors to be an advocate and knock on doors on behalf of others. It can be a very humbling and non glorious job. The Lord will use the process to cleanse ones own soul through difficult circumstances and mistakes made. However, true to God's amazing way to using weak instruments, He will use it all as intercession through importunity. In the places where one dies to self will in place of His will, He would multiply all efforts of knocking on closed doors, to advance His kingdom on earth.

WORD TO PONDER: KNOCKING ON CLOSED DOORS 3/26/08
Yes precious ones, knocking on doors is a difficult job. You have walked through shame, and cast down your pride, embracing humility. You have walked through rejection and cast down ambition, embracing My passion. You have walked through innocent trust and disappointment in man's promises and cast down idolatry, embracing Me as your Source. You have walked through angry retorts and cast down fear of man, embracing forgiveness. You have walked through intimidation and cast down judgment, embracing holy boldness. You have walked through misunderstanding and cast down self defense, embracing your Just Judge. You have walked through an advocacy as a fool without dignity. You embraced

considering yourself of no reputation. You have walked through the crushings of hopelessness, despair, loss of fellowship, abandonment, betrayal and much more. You have cast down your body, soul and spirit at My feet to embrace death to self over and over again. In all that you have walked out, you chose to lovingly forgive and be the sacrifice for My call to knock until your job was done.

Even as you were willing to humble yourself to be used as a vessel of dishonor, I will grant you honor where honor is due. I know you did not seek honor, you sought My will above all else and were obedient to the faith I planted within you. Thank you beloved intercessors who have walked the road of importunity.

You have moved the depths of this Papa's heart, that inspite of everything, you still choose to love above all else. Through a multitude of knockings My door is opened and you have yet to fully realize that impact upon earth. Well done, beloved intercessors, enter in to the joy of your Lord.

2 Tim 2:20 KJV
But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honour, and some to dishonour.

2 Sam 6:22 NKJV
And I will be even more undignified than this, and will be humble in my own sight.

1 Cor 13:7 NKJV
Love bears all things, love believes all things, love hopes all things, love endures all things.

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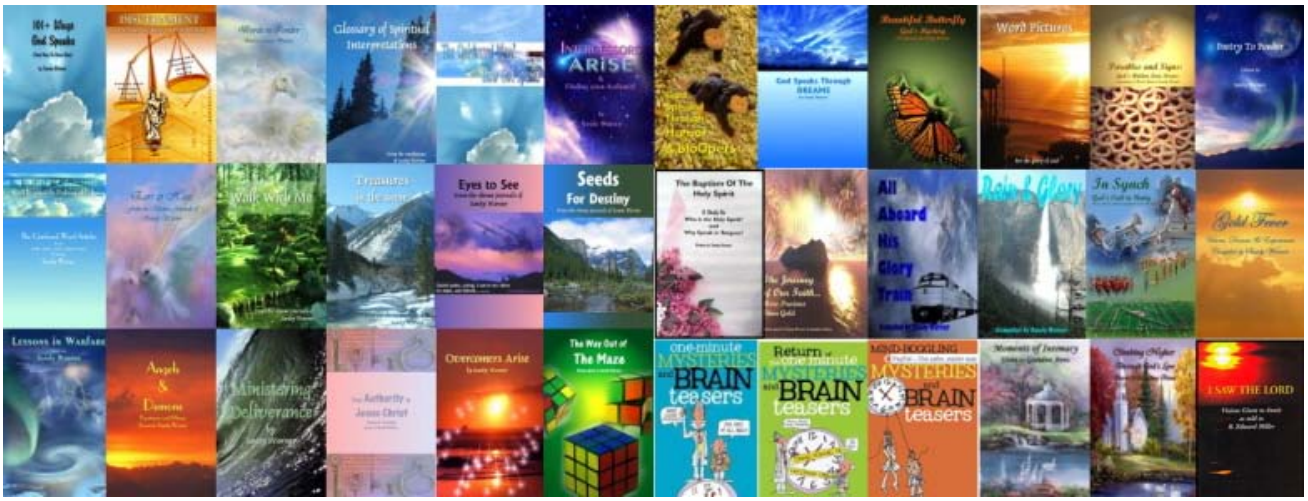

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Jesus Christ is the Way, the Truth, the Life ... and He died for you.

Establish

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THE WALL, THE ANGELS AND REVIVAL

1 vision, 1 dream

5/3/99

Hi Loved Ones,

VISION: Raising a Wall and Releasing the Angels

I had a vision on 4/27/99 and this first part is very hard to describe, but I will try! I was standing and searching the horizon a great distance away. I saw a wall burst forth and I barely had time to exclaim when its issuing was upon me: I saw an "invisible" wall raise up from the ground to the sky. Although not visible to the naked eye, I could see that it had substance as I saw millions of individual particles that were bursting with what looked like "living light." I was looking at this wall from a side view, so I could not see the full front width of the wall, just its height from a narrow side angle bursting from earth upward. Now at the same time I saw the side view of the wall go upwards, I also saw this "living light" move towards me like what a wall of roaring water would do, filling the gaps and the spaces. To put it in other words, at a great distance way, I saw the starting place of this living wall and it rushed in two directions at the same time: perpendicular and horizontal.

Once I got over the shock of seeing this mass of living particles burst forth, I watched it form a barrier from earth to heaven and just stay there. It looked like it was an invisible shield of some sorts, but filled with this living light. I was standing at the end of the wall and could see and experience both sides of this wall.

On the right side of the wall I saw this airport runway filled with a large group of white hang glider planes with no motors. All were white hang gliders, but each were slightly different. Some were smaller, some larger, some had special shapes, but all made no noise. As though by command, like a huge flock of birds, I saw them swoop down

the runway a few feet apart from one another. Now this was very intimidating because they were at one end of the runway, I was standing at the end of the runway, and they were coming towards me!

As I experienced this, I could actually feel my faith level. I watched them in mass coming toward me and I knew they were going to lift off and not run me over! As I watched many take off safely, I saw one smaller plane coming toward me and I began to doubt that it was going to make it without running me over! I felt like I was a "gonner." At the exact moment I lost my peace and began to doubt, that little plane lifted off the runway and started to wobble, wavering up and down in mid air. I saw that it was suspended between crashing and flying and realized the connection between my faith and its ability to fly so I stood firm that it was to rise and go forth. As I watched the plane respond to my standing firmly so that my faith did not wobble, I understood while still in the vision that these white hang glider planes were angels being sent forth.

On the other side of the wall of light, (to the left) I felt the compelling, almost gravitational pull of an evil force trying to drag me into a murky river to drown me. I fought it in Jesus Name and understood that in order to be safe from this evil magnetic pull, I had to follow my conscience very carefully and this would keep me on the right side of the wall.

When I came out of the vision I understood the wall of living light represented the wall of protection built by those standing in the gap, and the angels were being loosed to go forth along side of this wall. The angels' abilities were directly related to our level of faith. The wall was a barrier of protection for the angels to go forth, separated from the demonic forces. Our faith level is directly tied to our life choices and whether we instinctively know if we are pleasing our Father in how we live moment to moment.

"And I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand (05975) in the gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none." (Eze 22:3)

The word "stand" [05975 `amad {aw-mad'}] in the Hebrew means: 1) to stand, remain, endure, take one's stand 1a) (Qal) 1a1) to stand, take one's stand, be in a standing attitude, stand forth, take a stand, present oneself, attend upon, be or become servant of 1a2) to stand still, stop (moving or doing), cease 1a3) to tarry, delay, remain, continue, abide, endure, persist, be steadfast 1a4) to make a stand, hold one's ground 1a5) to stand upright, remain standing, stand up, rise, be erect, be upright 1a6) to arise, appear, come on the scene, stand forth, appear, rise up or against 1a7) to stand with, take one's stand, be appointed, grow flat, grow insipid 1b) (Hiphil) 1b1) to station, set 1b2) to cause to stand firm, maintain 1b3) to cause to stand up, cause to set up, erect 1b4) to present (one) before (king) 1b5) to appoint, ordain, establish 1c) (Hophal) to be presented, be caused to stand, be stood before.

This standing is an active place of faith, whereby we endure and persist in the breach. For those who are involved in warfare, they know it is impossible to stand against a demonic force if they are not heavily armed, especially with the favor of God. Always we war in the name of Jesus and under the covering of His blood, but there is also a place of favor that allows us to stand boldly. When we have displeased the Lord in some way during the day, we hear/see about it at night as the enemy is

the first to put us on trial for such! If we want to STAND in the gap, we have got to follow our conscience and please the Lord in our daily choices. Otherwise we DOUBT and this directly affects the angels and also the erection of the wall beginning to circle around the world.

The following is a dream given to Grandma Anna, on 4/12/99. I did not hear of her dream until today.

DREAM: The Lord Hovers Over Generation X

A very strange looking white glider plane kept circling the valley. It was brilliant white and looked like an old fashioned glider plane made out of lots of pieces with much open work on the wings and tail. It had wings as long as a big air liner. I was watching it with interest. I had no sense of alarm. It was as though I knew its mission. I said to someone, "It wants us to get used to it before it lands."

Instead of landing in the meadow, it landed in the forest area where there were a lot of stumps. I wondered how it was able to navigate through them with such huge wings. The place where it landed was in the new location of the County Juvenile Jail and facility in our town.

Possible Interpretation: I have a strong sense that this glider represents a move of the Holy Spirit upon the youth. Perhaps this huge glider plane was an angel sent with a mission to sweep upon the youth who have been felled for one reason or another. First the Lord is going to strongly manifest His Presence and get everybody used to the idea that He is among us. Then He is going to land "big time," maneuvering around the stumps. Generation X is going to get blessed! This move of the Holy Spirit is not going to look like the previous moves of revival. This time the Holy Spirit's methods are going to take some getting used to by everyone.

KJV Job 14:7-9 "For there is hope of a tree, if it be cut down, that it will sprout again, and that the tender branch thereof will not cease. Though the root thereof wax old in the earth, and the stock thereof die in the ground; Yet through the scent of water it will bud, and bring forth boughs like a plant."

The night before this dream, I heard the Lord's voice say, "Rocked with revival. A great refrain." Musically speaking, a refrain is the repetition (or circling) of a phrase or verse within a song or poem, especially at the end of each stanza. This reminded me of the plane's circling, getting us used to seeing it before it landed. The Lord may be saying that He is going to bring more wonders into our midst before He comes with power to deliver Generation X.

[end of Anna rhema]

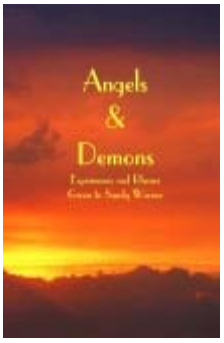
NOTE FROM SANDY:

I believe the vision and the dream are connected. World-wide, we are crying out for massive revival, His glory, and for the final harvest, while the Lord is hovering over us. He is circling, preparing us, and wooing us. His circling (waiting, tarrying) is building a wall of righteousness against evil, and filling the gaps so that the enemy cannot penetrate a line of defenses. In the process, He is getting us used to His Presence and suddenly He will descend upon the stumps of our cut off, rebellious

lives and the lives of our children, and rock us with revival! Generation X (especially those that have been Xed out from society) are going to get a second chance and be taken for the ride of their lives! Lord, prepare our hearts and COME LORD, COME!

Lovingly,

Sandy



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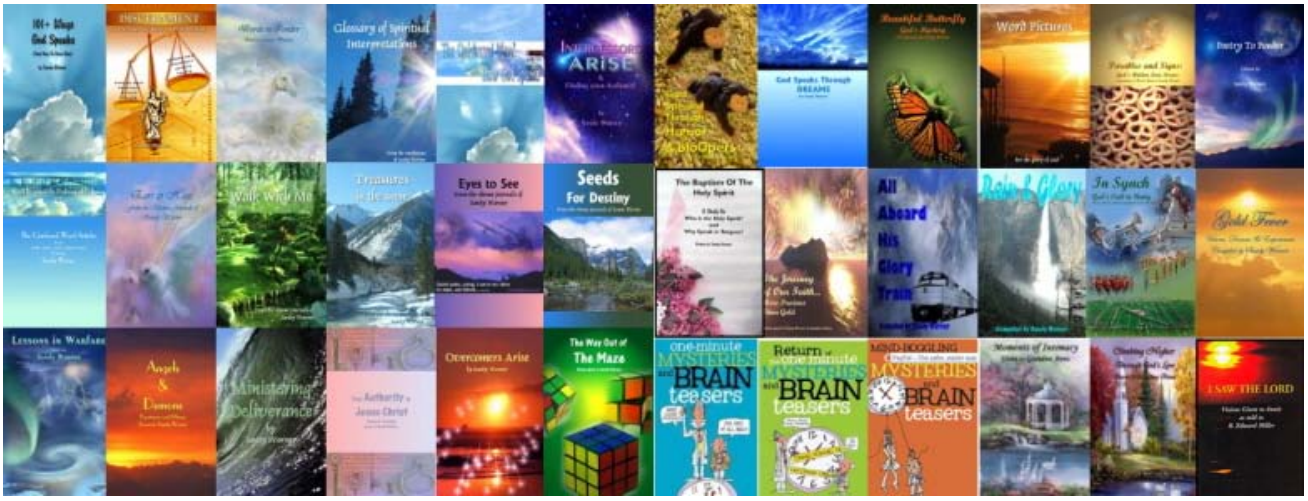

RETURN TO RHEMA INDEX

Sandy Warner ~ ~ swauthor@usa.net ~ ~ www.thequickenedword.com

RHEMA 6/4/97: COMPOSITE ONENESS: ALL OF YOU FOR ALL OF ME

HEARD: *In the midst of difficult circumstances. Renewal. Prophet Joel. This is that. This is really happening.*

HEARD: *I adorn you. After the day is done she comes into dinner in an evening gown. It's very romantic. My bride. Mother of them all.*

HEARD: *She looked older. Run a fever. My love. Stop this. You're beautiful, no matter what. Greet people with a smile. I love you. I'm telling you the truth.*

HEARD: *She's a survivor. Just My type. Real dictionary, look it up.*

> sur•vive
> sur•vive (ser-vìv[1]) verb
> sur•vived, sur•viv•ing, sur•vives verb, intransitive
> To remain alive or in existence.
>
> verb, transitive
> 1. To live longer than; outlive:
> 2. To live or persist through: plants that can survive frosts.

[I was thinking about Him dressing us up in romantic attire for the dinner table.]

HEARD: *Do you think that's funny? There is no man. I AM a Man. Your Head. Do*

you see what I mean? There's a difference between the head and the oil.

INTERP: Jesus is the Head, the Holy Spirit is the Oil.]

[Lord I don't want one or the other, I want both!]

HEARD: *Composite. Anything you want.*

PIX: *I saw the action of clicking to the next page.*

PROPHETIC GESTURE: *I had the instinctual click/ twitch of my clicker finger as I saw the computer mouse click to the next page.! I love it when that happens, as I am reminded that He lives inside!*

HEARD: *All of you for all of Me. The kingdom.*

COMMENT ABOUT COMPOSITE
In the printing business, when someone has requested more than one color, we create the different color separations, plus what is called a composite. The composite is the combination, a blending of both so that the printer knows what it will look like when all the colors are combined.

WORD TO PONDER: BLENDED 9/5/91
We are one. You and I. You will begin to recognize this as I confirm your ways. I pour Myself into you and blended, we reach out together.

Did you think I wanted puppets for sons? Yes, willing and movable vessels. But not wooden. It is YOU I desire, ALL of you. Have you ever thought I actually LIKE you? I gave you a personality as unique as your fingerprint. No one can match your mold. Together, we blend and touch others.

I do not want to strip you as you seek to do My will. As you empty yourself and wait, you forget I MADE you human. I could have made you an angel, but I made you a living person and send you to other living people. Together we will move. Words are lifeless without My Spirit. You speak it, I quicken it. I go before you and prepare hearts. We will work together.

"...For the Lord delighteth in thee, and thy land shall be married." (Isaiah 62:4)

WORD TO PONDER: SONGS IN THE WILDERNESS 2/22/98
Your songs are precious to Me. I hear the longings of your heart as I woo you into My arms. One by one, I watch the passions in your life drift away as you turn your heart toward Me. Step by step, My Spirit calls to you, and you leave other loves behind.

Even so, I ask you a question. You obey Me, you serve Me, but do you love Me? Your obedience pleases Me. Your service is responsible and even your sacrifice is faithful. But do you love Me? "Of course I love you!" you reply. Even still, I ask, "Do you love Me?"

Our union is not complete until you call Me Husband, instead of Master. I want

to share a love that only comes through an undivided passionate heart… a heart of yearning, a heart of unquenchable longing to be satisfied. A heart that comes back for more and more and more and more, still wanting more. I want all of you. Do you want all of Me? How much do you want? How much is too much?

For Myself, I want ALL of you. Sing Me another song and let's dance the wind together. Listen to My Spirit call you with the wooing of My heart.

"Therefore, behold, I will allure her, and bring her into the wilderness, and speak comfortably unto her. 15 And I will give her her vineyards from thence, and the valley of Achor for a door of hope: and she shall sing there, as in the days of her youth, and as in the day when she came up out of the land of Egypt. 16 And it shall be at that day, saith the LORD, that thou shalt call Me Ishi ; and shalt call Me no more Baali . 17 For I will take away the names of Baalim out of her mouth, and they shall no more be remembered by their name. 19 And I will betroth thee unto Me for ever; yea, I will betroth thee unto Me in righteousness, and in judgment, and in lovingkindness, and in mercies. 20 I will even betroth thee unto Me in faithfulness: and thou shalt know the LORD. " (Hosea 2:14-17, 19-20)

WORD TO PONDER: TO TOUCH YOU 10/06/04
My dear, dear Bride. I want you. I want all of you. With great anticipation I have waited for the consummation of our mutual love. With longings too deep to be expressed, I have patiently waited all these years for you to overcome your fears and be set free to receive the fullest expressions of My love for you. I have held back and waited. I have yearned over you that you would come to a place to be able to receive. All of Me.

Sometimes I yearn to touch you with infinite tenderness as I am stirred by your gentle spirit. And sometimes when the intensity of waiting mounts, I come upon you suddenly, as an explosion of expression. There are so many places I long to take you in our journey of togetherness. Do not hold your heart back from Me. Trust Me that I only want the best for you and I long to give you the fullest expression of My love. Tangible and pure is My holy Presence as it comes upon you with refreshing waves of liquid love. Let My tangible anointing flood your being like the tides of the oceans that come and go. Then let My anointing build up like molten lava that bursts it lids upon impact. Violent in nature, but only violent through love. Break free dear Bride. All of you for all of Me.

Song 8:6-7 NKJV
Set me as a seal upon your heart, As a seal upon your arm; For love is as strong as death, Jealousy as cruel as the grave; Its flames are flames of fire, A most vehement flame. Many waters cannot quench love, Nor can the floods drown it. If a man would give for love all the wealth of his house, It would be utterly despised.

RHEMA 1/16/07 DANCING WITH HIM

HEARD: *I will help you sort things through. I need to tell you something. I hope you understand, but you need to regroup.*

PARABLE: I was fixing myself to get comfortable to go to sleep and said to myself, "Once you are settled, you will feel better." I knew this was the Lord speaking through me.

HEARD: *Brilliant. Right on time. To understand. Sweetheart, you and I danced together. It was Me, the Holy Spirit.*

Why didnt I see that? You did and you acknowledged it. From whence you came, all the way back to the beginning.

COMMENTS ABOUT DANCING: In the mid 80's the Lord gave me several visions where I was “dancing” in the sky. I could hear His music playing in heaven and my body, soul and spirit were responding to the music with everything in me. I was freely flying in the sky and moving my body in full expression of what I was feeling the Holy Spirit saying through the music. My movements were just like an ice skater does in ice dancing with a partner.

In a couple of the visions, I was actually going through the letters of the alphabet, forming them in the sky. Later He told me He was teaching me His language and showing me one letter at a time, as I experienced these things in my body, soul and spirit. I wrote the book 101+ Ways God Speaks as a result.

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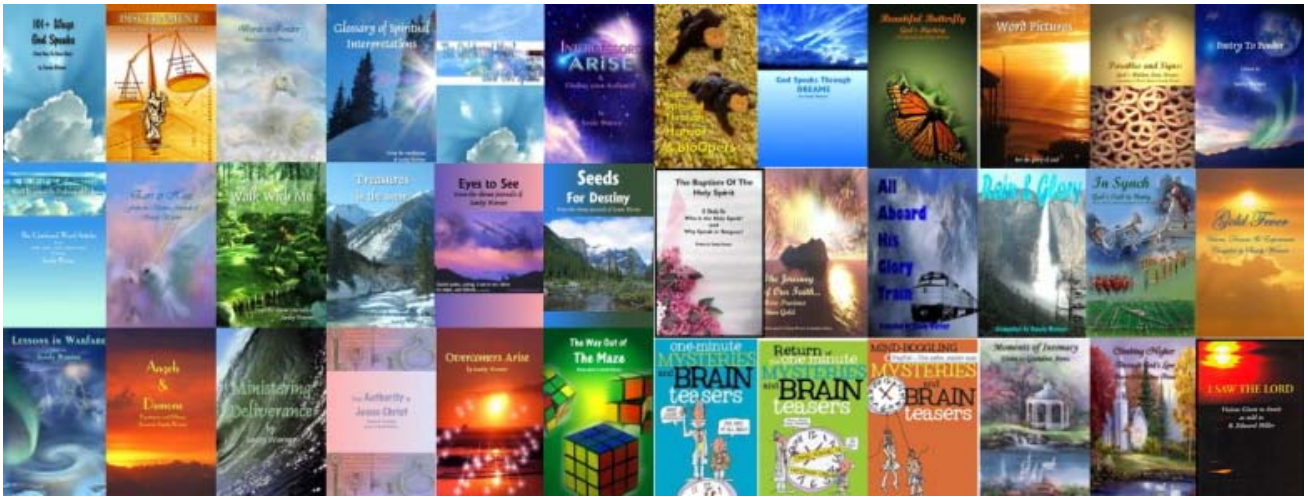

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Sandy Warner ~ ~ swauthor@usa.net ~ ~ www.thequickenedword.com

WORD TO PONDER: BLIND BARTIMAEUS 9/01/07

Beloved, in your hour of visitation when I AM near, I will put it in your spirit tenacious a persistence to call out until you are heard. The abusive voices of religion and propriety may try to stop you, but trust the unstoppable instinct you have to recognize your season of visitation when mercy is beckoning you. When you hear My call upon your heart, cast off the old garments of your past, rise up and come to Me. As I extend My favor to listen to your plea for mercy, your unstoppable faith will grant your request.

Mark 10:52 NKJV

Now they came to Jericho. As He went out of Jericho with His disciples and a great multitude, blind Bartimaeus, the son of Timaeus, sat by the road begging. And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" Then many warned him to be quiet; but he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" So Jesus stood still and commanded him to be called. Then they called the blind man, saying to him, "Be of good cheer. Rise, He is calling you." And throwing aside his garment, he rose and came to

Jesus. So Jesus answered and said to him, "What do you want Me to do for you?" The blind man said to Him, "Rabboni, that I may receive my sight." Then Jesus said to him, "Go your way; your faith has made you well." And immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus on the road.

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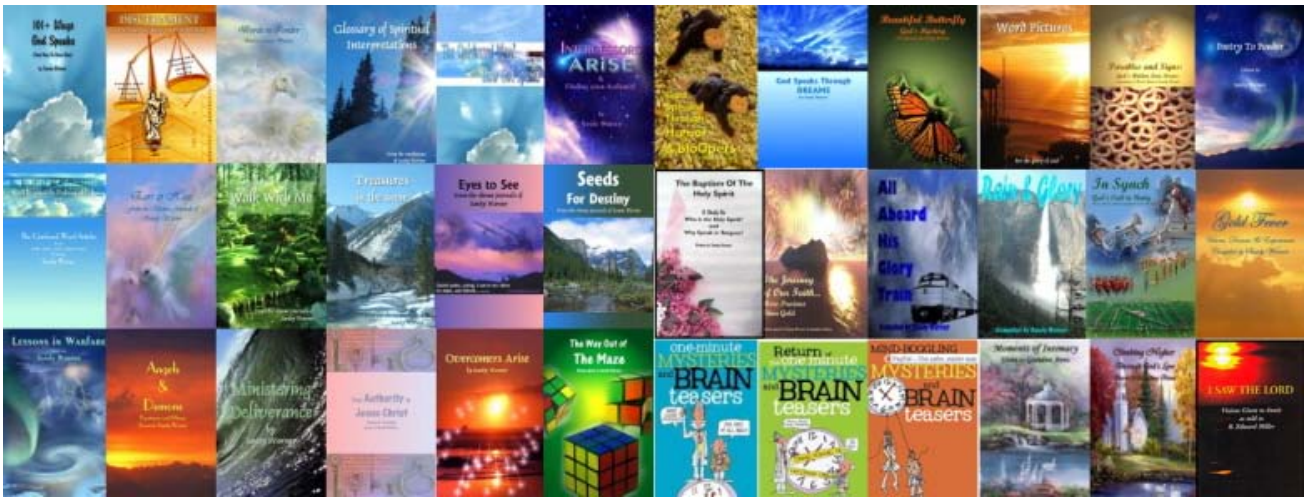

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Jesus Christ is the Way, the Truth, the Life ... and He died for you.

Sandy Warner ~ ~ swauthor@usa.net ~ ~ www.thequickenedword.com

ONCE YOUR DOOR OPENS, BE WILLING TO LET GO AND MOVE OUT

Today someone emailed me the story about a man who was alerted by a mother duck that her babies were in danger. She grabbed his pant leg in persistence until he finally followed her to a storm sewer grate. He got help and rescued her babies. Once they were all out, she took them safely to water. It is a wonderful story found here:

http://uhoh.org/vancouver_sun_ducks.htm

It is quickened to me as a parable, that when the prison door opens, be willing to be lifted up and out, then follow the Lord into a new place.

LET GO AND MOVE OUT

Many of My own have been stuck within the confines of dwindling resources with limited freedom to change difficult circumstances. They have been waiting to be rescued. The remote places in which they find themselves, is causing them to be cut off from the help they need. There is a window of time, a window of escape opened to find greater expanse, freedom and promotion, but they have to be willing to move to be delivered from the tight and narrow place.

Be willing to let go of the comfort zone and move. Change positions, change locations, change mind-sets. Find your courage and desperation to be willing to move out of the cave dwellings and move through the obstacles in order to find the help that you need for a greater future and greater provision. Natural and spiritual help is coming towards you, but you have to change positions to be in the right place to receive.

2 Kings 7:3-4 NLT
Now there were four men with leprosy sitting at the entrance of the city gates. "Why should we sit here waiting to die?" they asked each other. "We will starve if we stay here, and we will starve if we go back into the city. So we might as well go out and surrender to the Aramean army. If they let us live, so much the better. But if they kill us, we would have died anyway."

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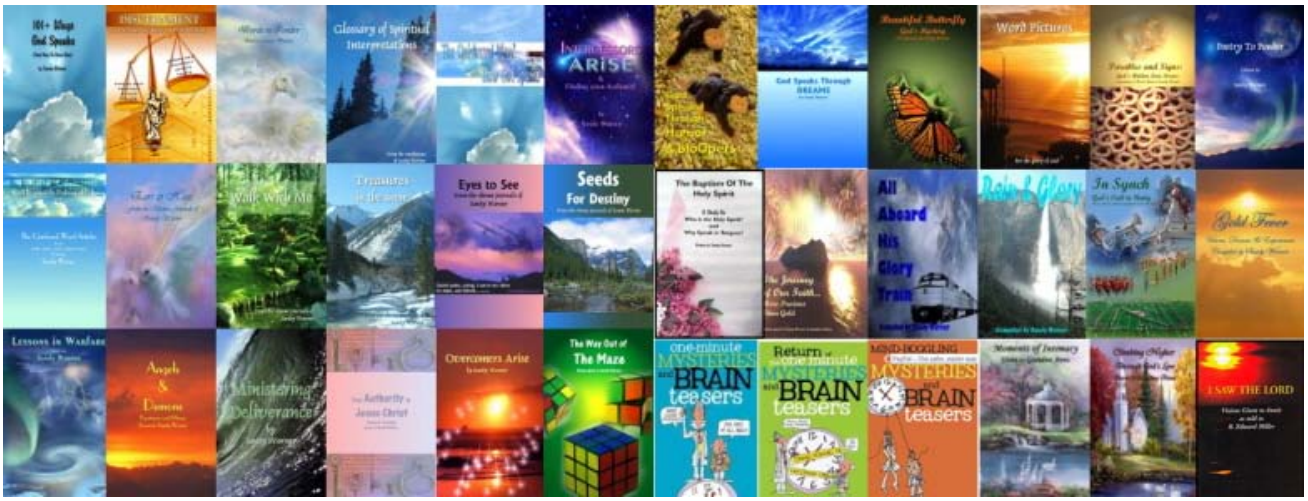

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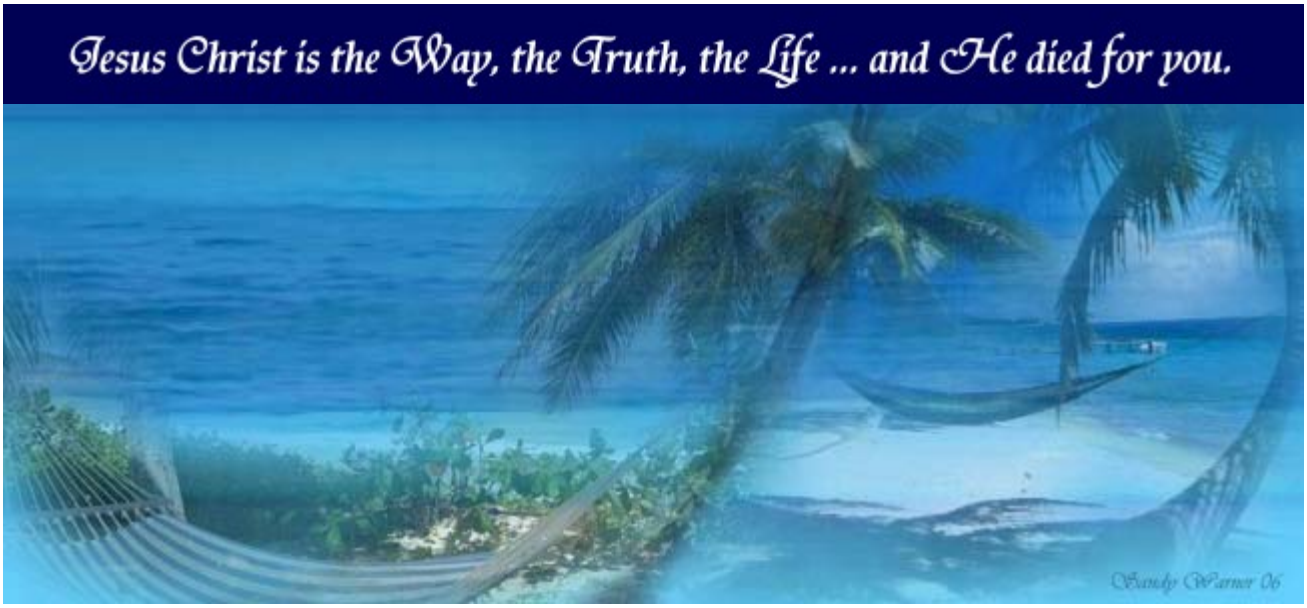

Sandy Warner ~ ~ swauthor@usa.net ~ ~ www.thequickenedword.com

RETURN TO YOUR RESTING PLACE

9/9/01

Hi Loved Ones,

Remember a few weeks ago when I sent out The Quickened Word with three sentences in it?

"When all else fails...DON'T QUIT. Remember Moses. He was once a basket case too. :)"

I had such a good time with that Word. It hit me between the eyes when I first read it (on a magnetic sign.) I laughed when I read it, then I laughed and laughed and laughed. At the time I wondered and thought, "Me thinks I laugh too quickly!"

Well, it must have struck a lot of people because I got more responses from that "Word" than most. Some thought it hilarious. Others wrote me thinking they had only received three lines and wondered if I could please send it again. That only made me laugh harder. :)

FORGOTTEN OUR RESTING PLACE

For some time now I have been hearing the Lord tell me, "You have forgotten your resting place." I knew it was true. This year I have identified a lot with Moses' bouncing-baby-basket, riding the rough water in Egypt. (Ex 2:3)

With the Lord speaking to me about this, and with my thinking about writing this post, I walked down the hallway to go to bed. I turned the corner to my room and literally gasped. I saw the pillows, bedspread, blankets, sheets, mattress pad, and foam pad scattered all over the floor! (Sometimes God's Words shout at us, if we will only listen.) That morning when making the bed, I had decided it was time for a new foam pad. My husband left to purchase one and when he returned we had other errands and I forgot about it until I turned that corner.

VISION OF A MATTRESS AND THE LETTER E

In the early 80's I had a vision where I was pacing back and forth in front of my watchman's window at night. I was very anxious and striving about waiting for the promises of the Lord and looking for Him to come to me. He told me I was striving. I then saw the large letter E that one sees on an eye chart when taking an eye exam. Then the same letter was on its back in bed, with its focus straight up in the air! I loved that vision and felt the Lord was telling me to keep my same persistent focus on Him as a watchman, but do it resting and not striving with Him about His timing.

Several years later I had a second vision where I saw a bed mattress upended. It was standing on its end, leaning against a wall. In 1989 Grandma Anna also heard the Lord say that our mattress had been upended and we were to rest standing up. Little did I know we would be "standing" in our rest in Him for 12 years. How does one rest standing up? I am reminded of being in the eye of the storm, where everything may be spinning around and quite chaotic. But inside that eye is a place so secure in the Lord, there is perfect peace and nothing can steal our joy - our assurance. It's a place where we know we are safe, and we do not fear. It is also a place where we do not give an inch to the enemy and allow him any access to plunder our lives.

E FOR EXAMINATION

It was only recently that I remembered that Bobby Conner saw the letter E in his Shepherd's Rod 2001 and one of the words he saw representing the letter E was examination. [Quote page 32: "The Lord stated, I am offering an Encounter that will bring about an Evaluation, that will release an Examination, which will produce an Endorsement that will bring about Evidence of My Enabling and My Empowering, which will result in the Emerging and Establishing of My kingdom."]

[Bobby Conner: http://www.bobbyconner.org/]

In my praying over this post and where we are in the time line, I saw a large magnifying glass and remembered seeing the same magnifying glass in years past. A magnifying glass represents close scrutiny, or examination. To my understanding it has been like a school exam or "test." (Ouch)

UP-ENDED TO EXAMINE OUR FOUNDATIONS

For the past twelve years the body of Christ has been through an arduous testing like the trials of Job. Job had this to say: "I have no peace, no quietness. I have no rest; instead, only trouble comes." (Job 3:26 NLT) "If I think, `My bed will comfort me, and I will try to forget my misery with sleep,' you shatter me with dreams. You terrify me with visions." (Job 7:13-14 NLT and Job 17:13, 33:15, 19)

As a body we have been thoroughly tested the past 12 years. For those of you in pain and woundings, I know that you will agree the past two years have been very difficult, and this year was worse, especially in the area of infirmity. I personally believe this year has been the grand finale and climaxing year of examination. In these 12 years, our lives have gradually become just like that bed: stripped, upended, undone, and turned upside down. The purpose was to get to our foundations in order to discard the old and replace it with the new.

THE END OF JOB'S STRIVING

At the end of Job's story everything in his life had been turned upside down. The Lord had allowed him to be stripped of everything in order to reveal his foundation. Job's final words were: "I know that you can do anything, and no one can stop you. You ask, `Who is this that questions my wisdom with such ignorance?' It is I. And I was talking about things I did not understand, things far too wonderful for me. "You said, `Listen and I will speak! I have some questions for you, and you must answer them.' "I had heard about you before, but now I have seen you with my own eyes. I take back everything I said, and I sit in dust and ashes to show my repentance." (Job 42:2-6 NLT)

What was the Lord allowing to be stripped? One of the most famous quotes in Job is: "Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him: but I will maintain mine own ways before him." (Job 13:15 KJV) Why this verse has been lifted up in the church as a role model, I do not know. The New Living Translation says it this way: "God might kill me, but I cannot wait. I am going to ARGUE my case with him." (And that is an accurate translation of the Hebrew phrase 'I will maintain'.)

Job's final statement was not unlike Psalm 102 where it says, "I eat ashes instead of my food. My tears run down into my drink because of your anger and wrath.

For you have picked me up and thrown me out. My life passes as swiftly as the evening shadows. I am withering like grass. BUT YOU, O LORD, WILL RULE FOREVER. Your fame will endure to every generation." (Ps 102:9-12 NLT)

WHO IS IN CONTROL?

Job, and those tested like Job are finally coming to grips with the fact that God is totally Sovereign, totally powerful, and He does what He wants, when He wants. When we strive with God, we are arguing with Him.

How does one return to belief and thus their resting place? The very bottom line is accepting that God is SOVEREIGN. He created everything, He sees everything, He rules over everything, thus giving permission for evil and also using it for His own purpose. (Isa 45:4-13) He has and is absolute power and authority. Nothing can challenge that fact. He does and always will have the last Word on everything. Every little detail in our life is governed in and through His power and permission. Since we are His children, everything He does and allows is for our good. (Rom 8:28) And even if it is a painful spanking, even if it is judgment, it is because He loves us dearly. (Heb 12) If we have the foundation in our faith that says that God is Sovereign over all good and evil, then we can truly REST in His love, because we belong to Him.

THE FULLNESS OF TIME HAS COME

The scripture tells us that judgment first comes to the house of God. (I Peter 4:17) And after that, the world must go through its fiery furnace. Those who have yielded their flesh and carnality to the Lord through their fiery trials of the past 12 years, have been undergoing preparation and will be delivered from their fiery furnace as gold and silver. They will shine as a light to the trembling and sifting nations. They will be like a covering for those not yet in the storm. (Isa 32:2)

DELIVERANCE FROM FEAR IS VITAL

It is vital that as this fiery transition from the church to the world occurs, that we return to our resting place. If we have our eyes on worldly circumstances and not on the Lord, we will fear. The Lord wants to deliver His church from all fear.

The scripture says that He makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters. (Ps 23:2) Sheep will not lie down if they are afraid. They must be free from sudden, startling dangers and free from tormenting pests. They are free when they see the Shepherd with them and know His personal care.

FEAR IS FAITH IN THE DEVIL

Sometimes when we get wounded from startling events it hurts a part of us that we can not touch, nor can we mend ourselves and fear begins to creep in. Did you know that fear is faith in the devil? And when we fear, we become tormented. "There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love." (1 John 4:18) When someone is tormented, they are in a state of unrest. Sheep can not rest when they are tormented.

UNREST IS UNBELIEF

When the Lord told me I had forgotten my resting place and I started praying for Him to restore it, He revealed my foundational need and led me to Hebrews chapter 4: Unrest is unbelief. I do not have the space to quote this wonderful passage on the rest of God. But it is the promise left for us, to come into His rest for the previous generation was in unrest because of their unbelief.

DELIVERANCE FROM FEAR BESIDE PEACEFUL WATERS

I had an unusual ministry experience recently and I felt it was a sign from the Lord of what He is about to do for His people in this area. During worship service I was quickened to pray for a person. I prayed for the person while playing keyboard, but did not have any personal opportunity. After the service, this person was sitting in a chair in the back. The Holy Spirit reminded me (John 14:26) and I casually went over and laid hands on her, and started singing my prayer over her.

I do not have a great solo voice, it is more of a supporting alto voice and this person is the last person I would have thought of singing over, as she has the most awesome and anointed voice! But the Holy Spirit was washing over me as I started to sing, and so I continued to just sing my prayer over her. It was not a real melody, nothing rhymed, no rhythm, just wandering notes and very simple. It was very peaceful and I just sang how He was sovereign and asked that He give her the grace to lay her burdens down and not carry them any more. I asked that the blood of Jesus wash all over her, and just kind of rambled on with melody and whatever came to my heart to

pray via song. It was no big deal. Finally she crumpled back into her chair against the wall and looked like she was out for a couple minutes. When she came too, she had the most peaceful smile on her face. She radiated the Lord's peace and love. She was obviously touched in her own little world so I said nothing and left to put away my music equipment.

SET FREE

She called me a few days later and told me what happened. The Lord had told her that I was going to pray for her that day and that she would never be the same. So she had been waiting in that chair for me! Evidently for years she always had a panic attack when she paid the bills, and when she called me she had just paid the bills without one. She was very excited! She had been delivered from a spirit of fear!

THE REST OF GOD IS NO SWEAT

This certainly surprised me, because all I did was sing my prayer. I did not take authority, strive, sweat, or carry on. I just sang my heart to the Lord about her in a very simple manner. This made an impression upon me, because the Lord had been telling me for many months that His priests were sweating. In scripture the priests of the Lord were not supposed to sweat. (Ez 44:18) I felt like I had been sweating for a long time, carrying music equipment back and forth, laboring in my prayers, laboring in warfare, and just plain laboring in life. "Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest…" (Heb 4) And somewhere in all the labors, I had forgotten my resting place.

I heard Mahesh Chavda say that he loves it when the anointing shows up in a meeting. (For many years he has been used overseas, in the miraculous.) He said things become so easy that one could say "peanut butter and jelly" and people might fall over and get healed and delivered! That really "stuck" with me as I mediated on that one!

HOW DO WE REST?

Rest in the Lord is just plain trusting in Him…. believing with all our heart that He is sovereign and that He truly loves us and uses everything for His purposes. When we trust Him to that degree, we learn the secret of abiding in His Presence and resting in His LOVE. With a personal God that counts the very hairs on our head, why sweat, why fear? (Matt 10:29,30; 6:25-34) He's big enough to handle every little detail.

Lovingly,

Sandy

PS - As an update to this post, the Lord opened my eyes to the fact that in the past several weeks I personally know of 6 beds (from 5 households) that have had an update in their mattresses. In all of them but one, people are VERY thrilled with their new foundation to their rest. And while I was writing this post my husband was buying some box springs and a frame for our son's room at college for $30. Thirty in scripture means redemption. This was strongly quickened to me that the foundation and resting place for the youth has been redeemed from the fiery furnace and their place has been bought and won for them!

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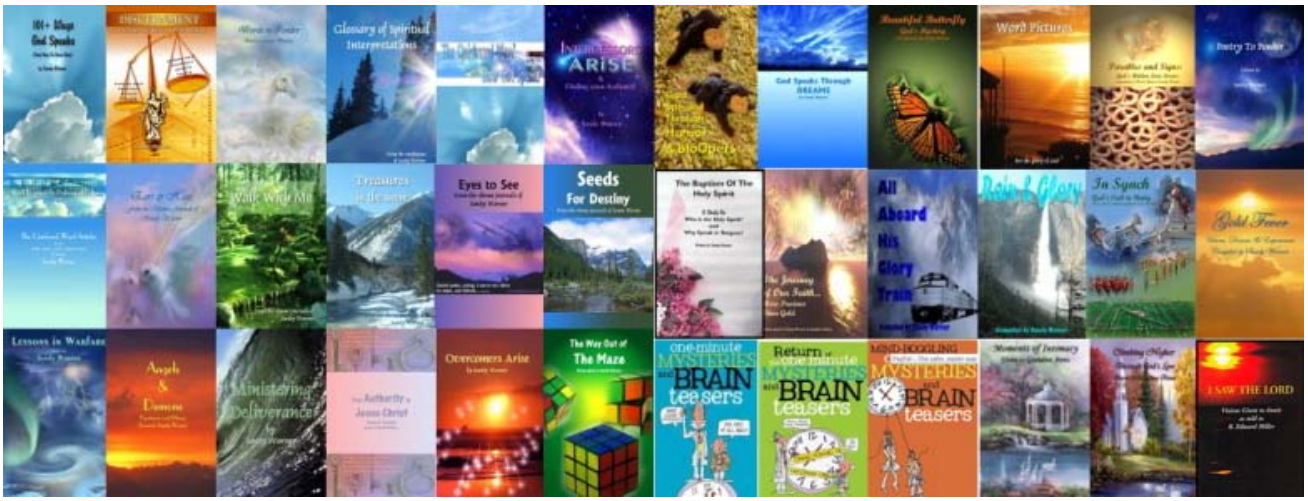

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Jesus Christ is the Way, the Truth, the Life ... and He died for you.

Sandy Warner ~ ~ swauthor@usa.net ~ ~ www.thequickenedword.com

THE LADY WHO WOULD NOT QUIT 3/22/09

During the healing conference I recently attended, they separated the parts of the sanctuary for different needs. Those that had prayer needs about bones were to go to the far corner. So I got up and started my slow progression towards that very long walk. I soon caught up with a lady who was having a terrible time maneuvering. In her right hand was a cane, and that side of her body appeared normal. On the other side was her husband who had his arm around her as she would take one step forward with her right side, then lift her left hip and kind of hurl her leg and foot forward for another step. Her foot was not facing forward, it would wobble all over the place and each hurl was totally exhausting for her. She was persistent and did not give up.

I refused to pass by her in order to get into the prayer line; it was a holy moment to walk behind her. And therefore all the people behind me could not pass either, since I walked one step behind her on her right, so the 3 of us filled the aisle. The whole line of us would take one step forward and then stop. I found myself holding my breath as I watched it take every bit of her strength to move the left side of her body forward. Finally we were about 15' from the prayer team and at that step she kept fumbling and could not get her foot

down. It was dangling and not cooperating and she was putting in so much effort. Finally I heard her cry out, "JESUS HELP ME!" At that moment a man from the prayer team ran and got a chair and brought it to her and she sat down as they stepped forward to pray for her.

Last night while I was in bed praying for her, the Lord reminded me that several times I have been in such excruciating pain that I have had to fight off temptations for a wheel chair. I am fighting off a lupus and RA flare and cannot use a walker or cane because I cannot put weight on my shoulders, wrists or hands. So far, during the hours when my meds wear completely off, it's either walking in pain, or the threat of total dependency. This has broken my heart more than once as I have refused to give up, knowing what muscles I have would whither away, should I go that route. Every day I pray the Lord keeps me mobile and walking. Sometimes it is very, very hard.

As I was thinking of this precious lady, I suddenly understood the depth of her cry, "JESUS HELP ME!" I instantly knew that she had refused a wheelchair. And she could have easily had her husband carry her up that isle. I understood that her walk forward to receive deliverance and healing represented each one of us in our greatest moments of weakness.

Paul said that we give more honor to the weakest parts of the body.

> *1 Cor 12:22-23 AMP*
> *But instead, there is [absolute] necessity for the parts of the body that are considered the more weak. And those [parts] of the body which we consider rather ignoble are [the very parts] which we invest with additional honor...*

He has called each of us to face our mountains and overcome them. Sometimes, it takes every bit of our tenacity to hang onto our strength of will not to quit. Nevertheless, what we don't see is what God sees about our efforts.

When we are our weakest and refuse to quit, He calls us the most courageous, valiant, brave and strongest members of His body!!!! When we labor to lean on the Lord in order to move forward past our mountains, we are truly His bravest and most honorable vessels. He treasures us so deeply and is so very, very proud of us!

2 Cor 4:7-11 NKJV
But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us. 8 We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed ; we are perplexed, but not in despair; 9 persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed — 10 always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. 11 For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus' sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh.

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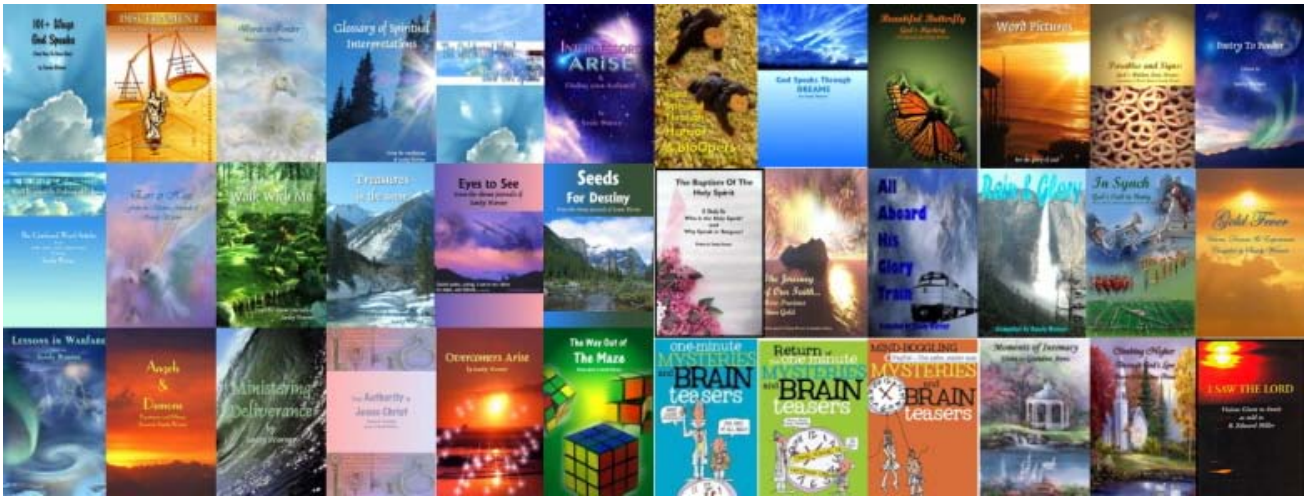

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Sandy Warner ~ ~ swauthor@usa.net ~ ~ www.thequickenedword.com

RHEMA 9/06/09: TIME TO MOUNT YOUR HORSE
HEARD: *Get back on your horse.*

CONFIRMATION QW CLASS: Today someone shared a white horse graphic in our QW prophetic class. It was called Freedom Writers. Her daughter created this awesome graphic.

Here is their website: http://www.runningwithamessage.com/

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CONFIRMATION DUTCH SHEETS GOD TV

Tonight, I was watching a Chuck Pierce conference on God TV. Dutch Sheets came to the platform and said this is the year the Lord is going across the nation with fire. He shared a vision where he saw Jesus on a white horse going from one place to another throwing fire.

RHEMA 9/07/09 TEACHING FROM OTHER CAMPS
HEARD: *I teach you and give you understanding. Advancement. Your alignment with other camps, it is necessary. To broaden your vision. To see the bigger picture.*

UNDERSTANDING: When the Lord said to get back on your horse, He was referring to a vision Wayne saw last month:

RHEMA 8/04/09 TIME FOR ASSESSMENT

WAYNE VISION: Wayne was out on a battle field with those he had ridden with on-white horses. Now they were all off their horses and milling around in the shadows and looking out over the battlefield of those who had fallen. It was dark all around, but there was a beam of light shining down from heaven that was glistening with color and it was spotlighting the one section of those who had fallen.

HEARD: Wayne heard: "*I will continue to lead you into battle."*

COMMENTS; This month (of August) we are in a stopping place of waiting on God. We have closed a very long season. We are assessing our damage, and waiting upon the Lord for His plan to refresh, recover, and strengthen us once again. A very radical change has taken place and we must regroup and reassess our lives in God. We are turning a corner in history. "Wait. Wait, I say, upon the Lord."

Isa 41:10 NKJV
Fear not, for I am with you; Be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, Yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.'

POSTED AT THE FORUM

WORD TO PONDER: TIME TO MOUNT UP 9/06/09
Dear ones, you have gone through a tremendous battle and spent yourselves beyond your natural capacity to spend. I AM so very proud of you for refusing to quit; you stayed with it until I closed the door. Good job, My faithful ones. Good job for leaning on Me, trusting in My Word, following through even when it hurt. You did not give up, but you persisted and hung on; your tenacious grip was so strong that even when you were wounded and no longer able to move, you still hung onto your sword.

I will pour back in to you exactly to the degree that you poured out. I will refill and restore you and give you strength to mount up once again. Beloved, it is time to mount your horse and wait upon Me. Do not look at past battles, sacrifices or loss. What lays before you is a total different landscape with changed boundaries and agenda. I AM only asking you to be willing and yielded to mount your horse once again and look to Me. I AM the Lord of the battle, it is not your battle, it belongs to Me. Keep your eyes focused on Me. As you stay true to Me, you will be given all you need to overcome and conquer a future and a hope in My Name.

1 Sam 17:47 NKJV
Then all this assembly shall know that the LORD does not save with sword and spear; for the battle is the LORD 's, and He will give you into our hands."

2 Chron 20:15-16 NKJV
Do not be afraid nor dismayed because of this great multitude, for the battle is not yours, but God's.

Jer 29:11-12 NKJV
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.

RHEMA 7/06/06 GET BACK ON YOUR HORSE

HEARD: *Rhema. Ground hog. Blessed. I need that timing of yours. Come My daughter, release My Word. It's going well with thee.*

> *Eph 6:2-3 KJV*
> *Honour thy father and mother; (which is the first commandment with promise That it may be well with thee , and thou mayest live long on the earth.*
>
> *2 Chronicles 20:20 NKJV*
> *So they rose early in the morning and went out into the Wilderness of Tekoa; and as they went out, Jehoshaphat stood and said, "Hear me, O Judah and you inhabitants of Jerusalem: Believe in the LORD your God, and you shall be established; believe His prophets, and you shall prosper."*

HEARD: *Fallen. Here we go, she's in the saddle. Shout. The angels rejoice. Come oh barren one, sing.*

PIX: *I saw the keystroke on the keyboard: Control/Insert*

HEARD: *Blessed. It is going well. We carry you. Come holy one, stand up.*

VISION: *I saw the rod of Moses. It was stretched out as over a territory.*

HEARD: *We travel together. Unit. We will not leave you behind.*

Thanks Mom. Trust me, a balancing act. Future how you do it. A little at a time, not all at once. Not a day late, perfect.

Grocery store. We're laughing. Medicine, 75% better. Wings. He's carrying me.

WORD TO PONDER: WHEN YOU FALL OFF YOUR HORSE 7/06/06
Hey Beloved, I know it is hard to fall of your horse and get back up. And we do give you time to recover and yes, even when you feel the need to keep your head buried for a while. But precious, you must breathe and come up for air.

Stand up, dear one and return to obedience of what I have told you. Stand up beloved and climb back on. Honor My prophetic Word over your life, for it will go well with thee.

It is only in serving Me that you will find the grace to overcome all that assails you. Stretch forth the rod I have given you and walk in the authority I have called you to. As you walk the path of your destiny, I AM carrying you upon My own back. It is a balancing act not to fall off, but I AM not running, I AM walking. One day at a time, Precious, simply walk with Me. The angels rejoice as you are willing to get up and move forward. Up and at em', let's go.

Prov 24:16 NKJV
For a righteous man may fall seven times and rise again, but the wicked shall fall by calamity.

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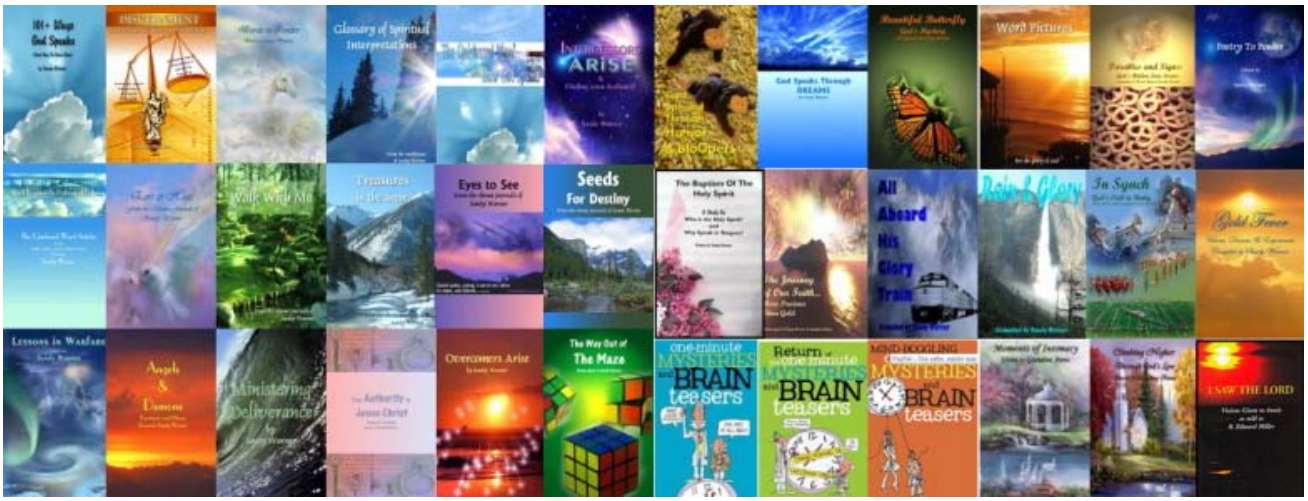

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DOVES ON THE EGGS

RHEMA 10/10/08 KEEPING THE EGGS WARM
PIX: *I saw little circular stainless steel alcoves and there were doves sitting in each one nesting over eggs.*

HEARD: *They are Mine. I am keeping them. Precious and united.*

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RHEMA 10/22/08 PACK EM UP, WE'RE MOVING THE EGGS
HEARD: *Packing the eggs and then we rest. Who'se hatching your egg? You are. You all are. Multiple seeds. Multiple shoulders.*

LIKE AN EGG 4/14/98
Just like an egg, I will bring you to birth. Growing from a tiny state, what I conceive grows in secret behind the shell of My covering. Ordained in perfect seasons, each stage of growth is built upon another until all comes to fruition.

One day I will call forth that which I have created within you. You will begin to break your own walls of confinement and come out of your shell. This requires strength and tenacity to break your own restraints. It requires a courageous heart to face the outside world. This process is not something I do for you, because if I were to do so, the strength you need to face your surroundings would not be fully developed. I need your cooperation to bring you to birth. I promise you My help and protection, but you must be willing and persistent to break your own yokes.

You will know it's time when you grow so big that you can no longer stay within your established borders. You will know it's time when you *want* to come out. You will know it's time when everything in you says, "Yes! … It is time!" And when it is time, you will have the strength and the tenacity to break free.

"And it shall come to pass in that day, that his burden shall be taken away from off thy shoulder, and his yoke from off thy neck, and the yoke shall be destroyed because of the anointing." (Isa 10:27)

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POPPING THE EGG 5/20/05

Yes My love. All those years of delay have been accumulating. You have been sitting on a large nest egg and it has grown larger and more valuable with time. Did you think that when I gave you My promise, and then you had to wait, that I would give you a stone? Never, My love.

Those seeds of My Words in your life, the ones that you held onto, the ones that you brought into your dwelling place, those rich and fertile eggs are like multiplied pearls ready for harvest. Each and every year that you have waited and trusted Me, I have added increased wealth to your basket. Rich and full and overflowing, My abundance is popping out all over. Travail is very painful, it is true. But oh such joy comes when the baby is birthed!

John 16:21-23 AMP
A woman, when she gives birth to a child, has grief (anguish, agony) because her time has come. But when she has delivered the child, she no longer remembers her pain (trouble, anguish) because she is so glad that a man (a child, a human being) has been born into the world. So for the present you are also in sorrow (in distress and depressed); but I will see you again and [then] your hearts will rejoice, and no one can take from you your joy (gladness, delight). And when that time comes, you will ask nothing of Me [you will need to ask Me no questions]. I assure you, most solemnly I tell you, that My Father will grant you whatever you ask in My Name [as presenting all that I AM]. [Ex 3:14.]

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EGG-SPEC-TATIONS 8/11/06

I am forming precious new giftings inside the wombs of those who have waited upon Me for their promises of new joys. Hover over your egg-spectations and keep them warm. Do not leave the nest unguarded. The hope you have in your heart for a new life, role and function is incubating right now. What you expect will look differently when it is made manifest, but you will be given glimpses of it as it secretly grows through its pre-determined stages. Let nothing come through strife or vainglory, let it be birthed naturally. Lay your expectations down as to how all unfolds, but let your egg-spectations be filled with faith, hope and love. Love will never fail you dear one, never.

Rom 8:19-20 NKJV
For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of

the sons of God.

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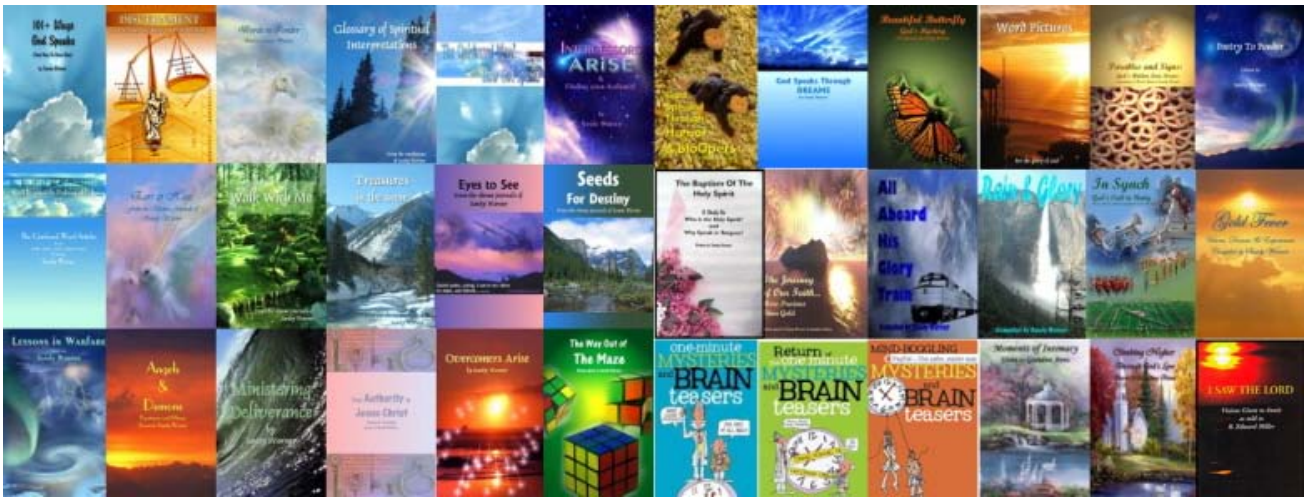

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RHEMA 11/25/07 SEASONS CHANGES FROM KNOCKING TO RINGING

HEARD: *Growing number of concerns. This is that. Faith to trust. Find her among the ruins. The bottom of the pile. It is My burden says the Lord. I will help her. Open it.*

VISION: *I saw 2 pair of shoes in my living room. They were my son's and my shoes that were not in their place or in order. If they had been placed together in a line where we normally take off our shoes in my house, then I would have said they represented holy ground. But instead they had been worn while walking around in my living room, and then afterwards, simply walked out of and left. Wearing shoes represents walking in peace. At some place, they lost their peace and left it behind..*

As I was pondering what this meant, I turned with AH in my son's new book, "One Minute Mysteries." It just came out and is selling like hotcakes, in bookstores, grocery stores, airports, Amazon, Barns and Nobles - all over the place.

MY SON'S 1 MINUTE MYSTERY: The one I turned to was about the tired Grandma that didnt want to answer the door and how she developed a way to filter her guests. She hung a sign by the doorbell that said, "Out of Order." She told her family and friends that it was still working fine. All the strangers read the sign and knocked.

QUICKENED MEMORY: This quickened my memory to something I heard the other day as I was listening to a snipit from Bob Jones where he saw the footsteps of angels walking around in his house. He didnt know if they were from the Lord or not,

and so he rebuked them and they didnt leave. (I smiled at that! How often we rebuke the Lord and welcome demons! We are so blind and cant tell the difference.) Darkness has to flee and since they didnt, Bob asked the Lord to manifest them. So still in the vision, Bob saw the angel footprints walk outside and they rang the doorbell. When Bob answered, they were manifest and gave Bob the Lord's message. Bob mentioned that he didnt know why they went outside and rang the doorbell.

REVELATION: I have had several pieces of rhema lately where I too heard the door bell ring and it was the Lord calling. In my past rhema, I would hear a door knocking and not a door bell when He was trying to rouse me enough from sleep to record His Words. When people knock on a door, it is never one tap. Rather it is quite a few in a row and with force so it can be heard. Then there is a brief wait to see if there is a response, and then if there is no response, the knocking begins again. However when ringing a doorbell, people usually push the button once or twice, and then wait for response. They rarely stand there with the finger on the button and ring it incessantly, unless the person is really rude or in emergency. The difference between a knock and a ring is 1) quantity and 2) volume and 3) force.

UNDERSTANDING: There has been a subtle, but definite real change in our season in nuance and flavor in our relationship with God. The past few years we were in a season of importunity, which was incessant knocking. This was a 2 way reciprocation where God was incessantly knocking upon our doors, calling, wooing, challenging, desperate and intense for us to wake up and become prepared for the days ahead. He has been so insistent that in His unfathomable love He bypassed our tolerances and boundaries in order to wake us up and get our attention. It was like shaking someone awake who has been in a long slumber.

This incessant knocking has not been only one way, for we too have been persistently knocking on His doors, trying and testing His tolerance by our same repeated prayers, the same desires, the same heart for Him to answer us with His YES and NOW. We have been like Jacob, wrestling with God to move Him past His boundaries and bring us the blessing. We were saying, "You have something I want and you are not giving it to me!" And God was saying, "You have something I want and you are not giving it to Me either!"

> *Luke 18:1-8 NLT*
> *One day Jesus told his disciples a story to illustrate their need for constant prayer and to show them that they must never give up. 2 "There was a judge in a certain city," he said, "who was a godless man with great contempt for everyone. 3 A widow of that city came to him repeatedly, appealing for justice against someone who had harmed her. 4 The judge ignored her for a while, but eventually she wore him out. 'I fear neither God nor man,' he said to himself, 5'but this woman is driving me crazy. I'm going to see that she gets justice, because she is wearing me out with her constant requests!' " 6 Then the Lord said, "Learn a lesson from this evil judge. 7 Even he rendered a just decision in the end, so don't you think God will surely give justice to his chosen people who plead with him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? 8 I tell you, he will grant justice to them quickly! But when I, the Son of Man, return, how many will I find who have faith?"*

APPLICATION: Through the lengthy season, we were striving with God and He was striving with us and if it be possible, we wore down. And that is where we are today, like that tired Grandma who is tired of answering the door having made a firm decision that she detests salesmen. But at the same time we dont want to miss a thing, should it be God calling!

We dont want the enemy or people manipulating to sell us a bill of goods. And we dont want our free will violated in making our choices. We still believe that God is the Truest Gentleman in the form of the Holy Spirit, and His sensitivity is easily grieved and moved away, should we put up hard walls in our hearts that resist His efforts. And yet we also know the fierce and determined love of a Father Who moves past kindness into severity when the season calls for it. So where does that leave us?

After a season of rest on neutral ground, God rings the door bell, we respond and let Him walk around for a while, and then we freeze up and lose our peace, with memories of incessant knocking ringing in our souls like they were just a minute ago. However if we take a step back and absorb the nuance in perspective, He will grant us simple answers to complex issues and re-establish our peace in walking relationship.

WORD TO PONDER: ASK ME TO MANIFEST THE FACE OF MY MESSAGE 11/25/07

Dear ones, after a long and weary season of wrestling with Me, men and demons, you have finally worn down your strivings. The crooked and high places were aligned with low ground and humble hearts came into synch with My purpose. Having suffered the blows of contending, your ground is cracked from breaches in the Spirit. Demonic activity can stir a dust cloud in even a small wind. But all will settle with the rains of My Spirit, as I pour out living water upon you who are thirsty and waiting for Me.

My children, thus far you have been like monkey's scratching your heads without understanding. This time when I visit you with My Word, resist doubting and wincing from memories of yesterday. Dont walk away from My call, dont run away or leave My peace behind. Simply rebuke the enemy's plan to violate your life, his plan can not stand when you use your authority to rebuke his demise. Then turn back to Me asking that My message be made clear and manifest. Ask Me for understanding, for in it are the wells of life. You will find much astonishment and joyful pleasure as I reveal the true face of My message.

Acts 5:38-39 NLT
"So my advice is, leave these men alone. If they are teaching and doing these things merely on their own, it will soon be overthrown. But if it is of God , you will not be able to stop them. You may even find yourselves fighting against God."

Prov 2:8 NKJV
My son, if you receive my words, and treasure my commands within you, so that you incline your ear to wisdom, and apply your heart to understanding ; Yes, if you cry out for discernment, and lift up your voice for understanding , If you seek her as silver, and search for her as for hidden treasures; Then you will understand the fear of the LORD, and find the knowledge of God. For the LORD gives wisdom; from His

mouth come knowledge and understanding ; He stores up sound wisdom for the upright; He is a shield to those who walk uprightly; He guards the paths of justice, and preserves the way of His saints.

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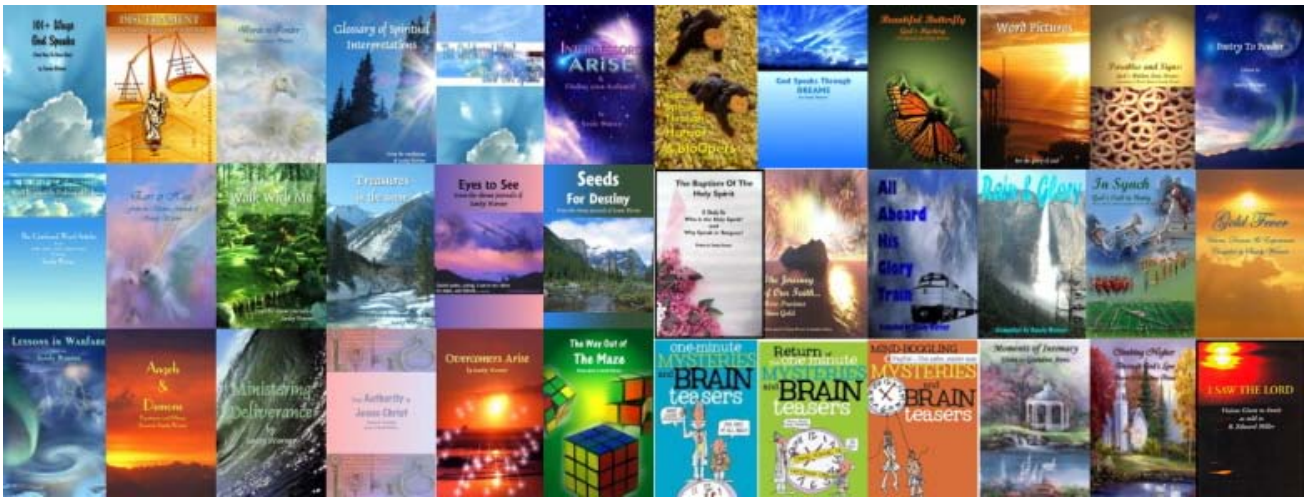

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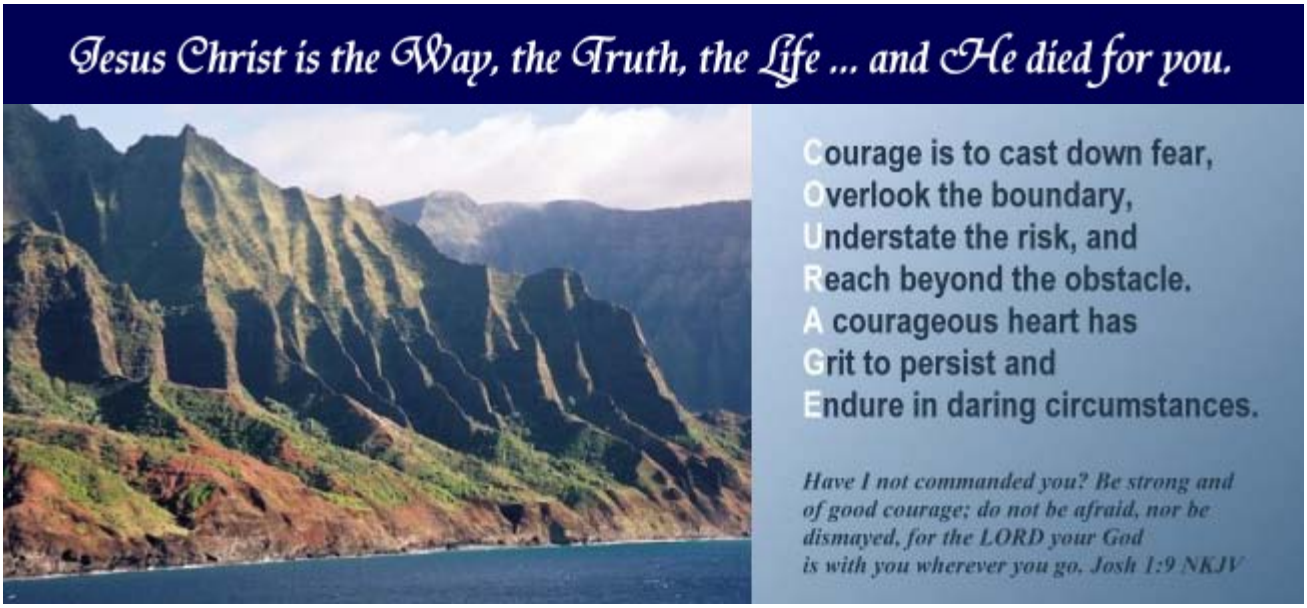

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RHEMA 4/01/08 WHAT IS COURAGE?
HEARD: *Courage. Welcome mat. Lot's of love. What do we have here?*

PIX: *I saw myself burying and hiding my head on a desk because I could not face a situation that I was dealing with.*

WORD O' GRAM: COURAGE

Courage is to cast down fear,
Overlook the boundary,
Understate the risk, and
Reach beyond the obstacle.
A courageous heart has
Grit to persist and
Endure in daring circumstances.

Lord Your love is the power that fuels us with the courage to move beyond our limitations. Please increase our measure of love.

Josh 1:9 NKJV
Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage ; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

Deut 31:6-8 NKJV
Be strong and of good courage , do not fear nor be afraid of them; for the LORD your

God, He is the One who goes with you. He will not leave you nor forsake you." 7 Then Moses called Joshua and said to him in the sight of all Israel, "Be strong and of good courage , for you must go with this people to the land which the LORD has sworn to their fathers to give them, and you shall cause them to inherit it. 8 And the LORD, He is the One who goes before you. He will be with you, He will not leave you nor forsake you; do not fear nor be dismayed."

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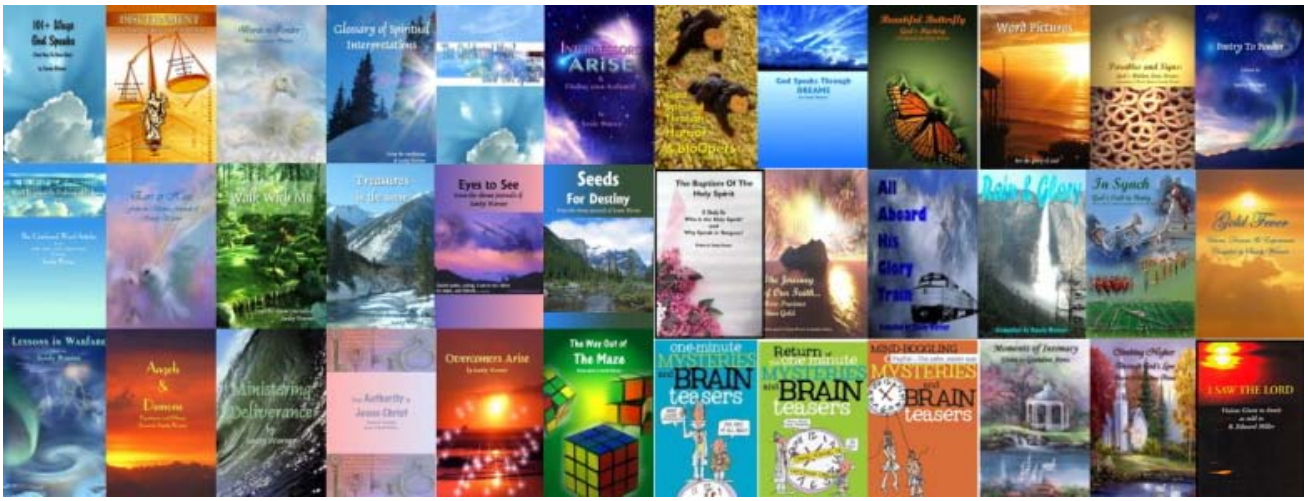

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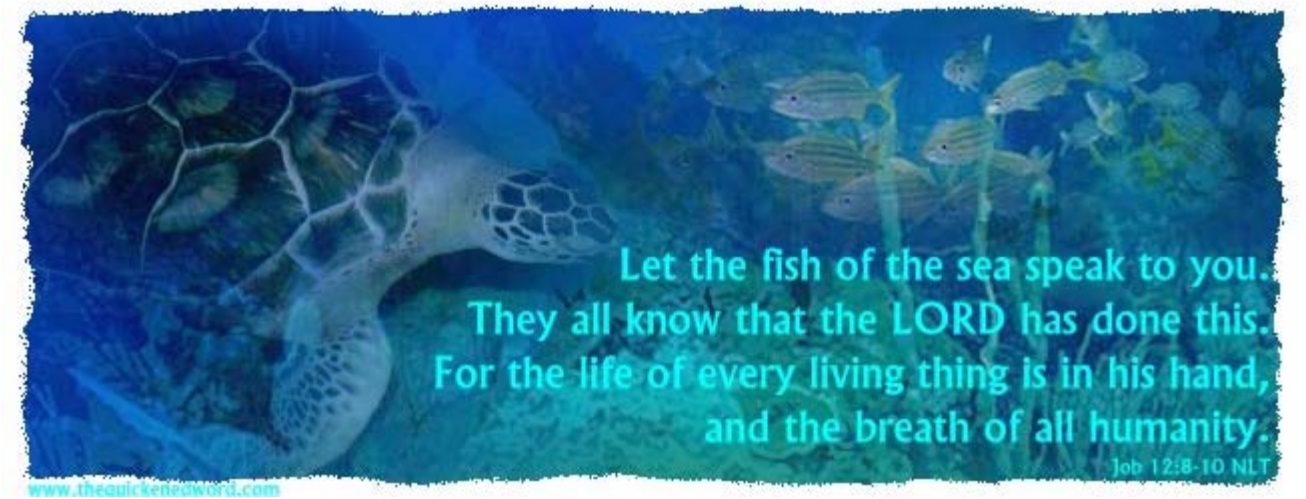

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WORD TO PONDER: OUT OF THE MUD AND MOVING FORWARD TO BREAKTHROUGH 2/06/07

Yes, things have moved forward like a turtle's crawl. And, yes, you have felt broken down and stuck. I am sending My special helpers to turn you over and lift you up out of the mud. I will bring several in time of need to hug you and help you through this time. All that has sucked you dry in famine, buried you in remorse and shame, I want you brought up and out.

You have a small channel to escape for the cool drink that you have longed for. Don't lose old ground that you have already obtained. Do what you can to maintain your portion. Then, even though small, when you feel the quickened channel of My Words open up, don't lag behind but move forward through the process to our special meeting place. I want to rebuild that which has fallen in your life. If you do not quit, I have a breakthrough for you, where that narrow channel will burst through all boundaries in amazing ways.

Ps 30:1-4 NKJV
I will extol You, O LORD, for You have lifted me up, and have not let my foes rejoice over me. O LORD my God, I cried out to You, and You healed me. O LORD, You brought my soul up from the grave; You have kept me alive, that I should not go down to the pit . Sing praise to the LORD, you saints of His, And give thanks at the remembrance of His holy name.

TURNING OVER THE TURTLE

VISION 2/03/07: In the prayer room, one of our intercessors saw 3 of them turning over a large turtle that was stuck in the mud. It took all their effort to turn it over.

RHEMA 2/06/07 COME ON TURTLES, OUT OF THE MUD AND MOVE FORWARD TO BREAKTHROUGH

HEARD: Explore the Words. Come turtle, find My expression that is your due.

UPDATE 2/10/07: Today I read Roland Baker's journey of making a really difficult journey through the mud, pulling the vehicle up and out many times in order to make it to an awesome meeting. It was quickened to me about turning the turtle over from being stuck in the mud. I copied their mud photos and put it in my rhema right here, without seeing what rhema came next.

CONFIRMATION: I added the photos about moving through the mud without knowing what was next in the rhema.

INSERT HARVESTED TURTLE RHEMA

THE TURTLE DREAM 1980's: A good friend of the family had gathered his friends around him and he was giving them farewells and gifts. He turned to me and said he had something special for me. He told me to remember the turtle, because it was the one that won the race, not the hare. Then in the dream I saw a vision of a turtle. When I awoke, my Dad called and told me that this same good friend had just died.

I pondered the turtle and the Lord continued to give me quickened thoughts about this "gift" I had been given. At a later time the Lord also told me that He was going to make me "rock hard." I was not sure what that meant either.

One day I was sitting at a kitchen table with two ladies telling them about these things, and they both said in unison, "Just like the turtle shell!" They were speaking of the term rock hard. It was a divine connection in confirmations, because they too had received visions of the turtle. Then one of them got up from the table and showed me the turtle on her kitchen sink shelf. As we discussed these things, we understood the Lord was wanting to make our wills rock hard, unwavering, and unbending when it came to telling the enemy NO. And the three of us did go through several years of this specific training.

UPSIDE DOWN TURTLE

HEARD 5/27/95: See it through her eyes. Rock hard faith. Belly up. Turtle

shell support you. Rule the world upside down. In my pocket found a key.

SANDY COMMENT: This was the Lord's comment to the fact I was feeling upside down like a turtle on its back and my feet waving in the air! He was saying that I had the authority to change my position by using His keys to the kingdom. Matt 16:19

In my past the Lord told me that He was going to build within me a rock hard faith. At the same time He also brought me rhema having to do with turtles that walk very slow, and carrying a rock hard shell as a protection and refuge. At that time, my son told me the big turtles have no natural enemies, and that is why they grow so big and so old. He said when in danger, they draw in and hide! (I love that) They are also too tough to eat. Rock hard.

The only that can happen to them is you-know-what... they can turn upside down.

That's the awful word called sifting. Belly up!

GRANDMA ANNA 8/29/92 SUPER TURTLES
HEARD: He's redeemed. His time is nigh. Wait for me says Mary. Turtles in the race. Super- Turtles. Can fly. It's not an easy thing being a turtle. Lot of times hiding under their shell. Moves slowly but reaches his course. He is so glad he isn't last nights' guacamole. It's amazing how he changes his clothes underneath his shell. Quite a commotion!

GRANDMA ANNA RHEMA
HEARD: Much gain in the heavenlies because of the persistence. Strong faith brought reverberations. You're hearing Me. Not upside down like you think. Believe. Much depends upon your faith in hearing. Continue to push through and listen.

It's all right little one. Do not fear. Not hearing static. My voice. No worldly care attached. Live in My Spirit. Doing it. Peace. Mine. That's your key.

SANDY RHEMA
HEARD: You've changed. Rock hard faith. Discipline. I am with you.

WORD TO PONDER: ROCK HARD FAITH
You may feel as though you have been tossed upside down by evil storms, but I want you to know that I am pleased with you! I AM teaching you how to stand and to become rock hard in your faith. There are many ways to overcome the evil one and the one above all is your shield of faith. It is growing strong and unyielding. You are fighting the good fight of faith, dear one.

Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love and patience. Remain gentle with all men, but set your face as flint against the enemy. Remember that walking into your promises is occupied one step at a time. If I called you to run full speed, you would collapse exhausted before the finish line. As you learn to

trust Me every day and learn to stand strong against that which defies My Words in your life, you are growing strong enough to maintain your promises once you reach them.

1 Tim 6:11-12 AMP
But as for you, O man of God, flee from all these things; aim at and pursue righteousness (right standing with God and true goodness), godliness (which is the loving fear of God and being Christlike), faith, love, steadfastness (patience), and gentleness of heart. Fight the good fight of the faith; lay hold of the eternal life to which you were summoned and [for which] you confessed the good confession [of faith] before many witnesses.

QUICKENED TURTLE HUMOR
I found the following humorous entry on the Internet and thought it was too cute to pass by. To understand this, is to understand what the Lord goes through in communicating with us!

“My youngest son once thought that God was a turtle. (God is eternal)”

QUICKENED POSTER: Today while walking in the mall, my eyes fell on a sign in the Hallmark store: “Please excuse our dwindled appearance. We are in transition between old and new owners. New merchandise will be coming shortly!” Then I noticed right below the sign were a bunch of Teddy bears wearing graduation caps. Three of them were riding turtles!

INTERP: This was humorous to me as a forerunner who has wanted to get the show on the road! The truth is that the whole class is graduating together into our promotions. The church has been in transition, going through a lengthy stripping. It’s been a long, slow road, but we are graduating!

Eccl 9:11 NLT
I have observed something else in this world of ours. The fastest runner doesn't always win the race.

WORD TO PONDER A PATH SET BEFORE YOU
As you trust Me to prepare the way before you, set your heart at ease and let your steps become a dance from a light heart. For I know the way that you take dear one. Your pathway is charted ahead of you, just like the furrows of mortar between bricks. These bricks are foundation stones well planted in your walk of faith. As you move ahead, you leave a legacy for those you love, to follow with assurance. The mortar is your faith that glues these building bricks together. As you dance upon these faith filled pathways you embrace the knowledge that it is not up to you to set your faith. That is My responsibility to establish your faith and to set you well with a rock solid foundation. So dance My love and do no fret. This is a good work I AM doing in your life. You may not know where you are going, but just follow the road and it will take you where you are to go. Remember that “fast” does not always win. So dance and spin and let your heart go free.

Eccl 9:11 NLT
I have observed something else in this world of ours. The fastest runner doesn't always win the race.

RHEMA 1/24/96 PATIENT TURTLE SCHOOL
HEARD: Examine this. Back to school. Be patient.

PIX: A very large sea turtle, with many miniature turtles clinging on top of her shell.

RHEMA 3/8/96 THE SCHOOL OF LOVE
HEARD: Comfort. Growing up, establish. Story. Reach out and grasp the concept. Where we're at. Every Sunday, basically the same thing. Truth.

Feedback. Father what can I do for him, for them?
PIX: I saw my son's body from his feet up to his mouth. He whispered the word "LOVE".

HEARD: To be that turtle

RHEMA 10/1/96 BIRTHING MINISTRY
VISION: I saw a turtle and a florescent skeleton painted on the tummy of this turtle.

HEARD: Where we are now. Through the birth canal.

DREAM PIX: I was painting a pencil facing down inside a birth canal. The canal was a real woman's womb, only it was inside the big turtle.

HEARD: Authentic ministry. Building a leader. Trust. Family loosed.

RHEMA 7/29/98 A WEALTHY TURTLE

HEARD: Adopted. Friendship. A unique bond. Destined.

HEARD: Paragraph.
PIX: I saw a golden turtle.

HEARD: Super sweet. Such grace. Divine streams. Wealth. Dwelling place. A new beginning. I have a plan. Foot prints. A love gift. Open the windows of heaven. Blessings. Level of faith acknowledgment. Mustard seed.

RHEMA 2/7/99 POURING VERY SLOWLY

PIX: I saw a tea pot.

HEARD: Intuitive. Slow like a turtle. He needs a way to go through this. Trust me.

RHEMA 4/26/95: TURTLE CALLING
SAW: I saw someone just opening a door a crack and peeking out. Then I had a picture of the yellow traffic light flashing at a major intersection of traffic. The lights were out and everyone was to be cautious when crossing traffic.

HEARD: Family. They are insecure about who they are. Sandy too. Slow down. Turtle. Worth waiting for. I'm going too fast for you.

[Lord what are we waiting for?]
HEARD: Your calling. The true nature of it. Back on the drawing board.

“Keep back thy servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over Me: then shall I be upright, and I shall be innocent from the great transgression.” (Ps 19:13 KJV)

QUICKENED FACT: Lions don't eat turtles, although the lion cubs certainly try. The strongest asset a turtle has in matching wits against a lion, is to WAIT IT OUT. Eventually the lion gets tired of poking and prodding and leaves.

RHEMA 4/3/05 TURTLES SLOWLY TRANSITIONING TO HEALTH

HEARD: Transition, health. I will help you. We will work on this together. Burden.

PIX: I saw a salt shaker shaking salt.

HEARD SONG: Mercy, mercy, mercy, mercy.

HEARD: Turtles. I am transitioning you. Slowly. Shoulder.

INTERP TURTLE: The Lord has often given me the parable of the children’s story where the slow and steady turtles win the race. He is transitioning us into a healthy place and this will slowly happen one step at a time.

FROM THE RESPONSIBILITY OF AN IRREVOCABLE COVENANT
http://www.thequickenedword.com/salt1.html

Many are questioning whether or not they have somehow messed up so badly

that they have disqualified themselves from either the Lord's blessings, callings, gifts or ministry. Consider the following scripture as I discuss the covenant of salt. "For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable." (Rom 11:29-30 NKJV)

IT TAKES TWO TO AGREE

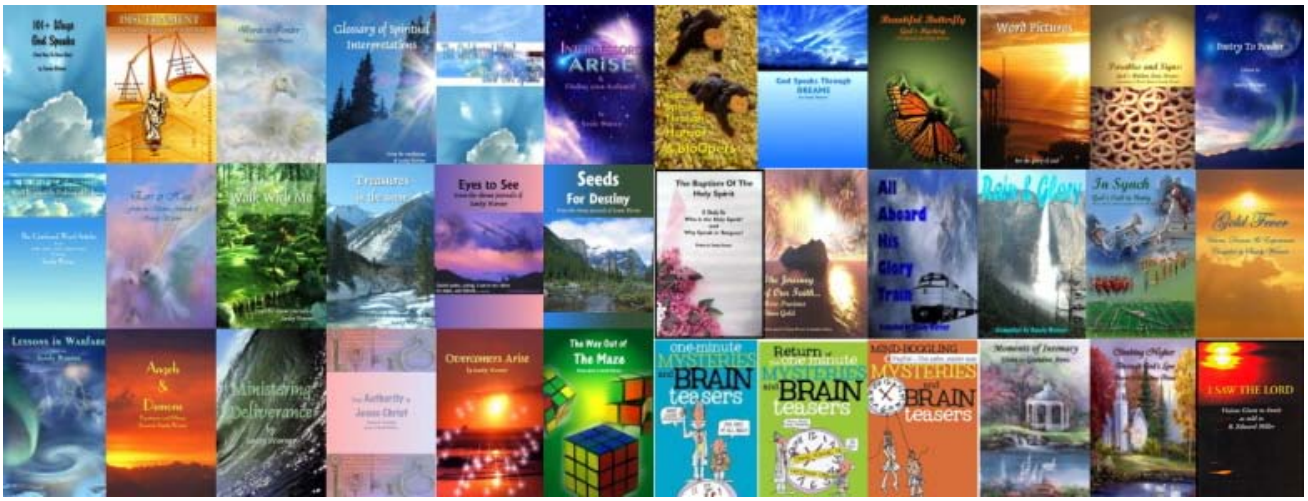
It is said that people used to carry pouches of salt and when they made a promise to one another, they would take a pinch of salt from their bags and place it in the other's bag. The symbol being that is was impossible to retrieve or take back one's own salt, or promise.

When the Lord gave a promise to David that his sons would reign forever, He called it a covenant of salt. (2 Chron 13:5) The word covenant in the English dictionary means, "A binding agreement." In the Hebrew it means, "A covenant, alliance or pledge between men or between God and man." In order for a covenant to take place, there must be an agreement between two people.

Salt was also used as a preservative as well as for its antiseptic qualities. Thus, the covenant of salt represented an agreement that was incorruptible, to be preserved forever.

PROMOTION COMES IN STEPS

PARABLE: If you transplant a plant in too big of a pot, it will not produce fruit the next year.



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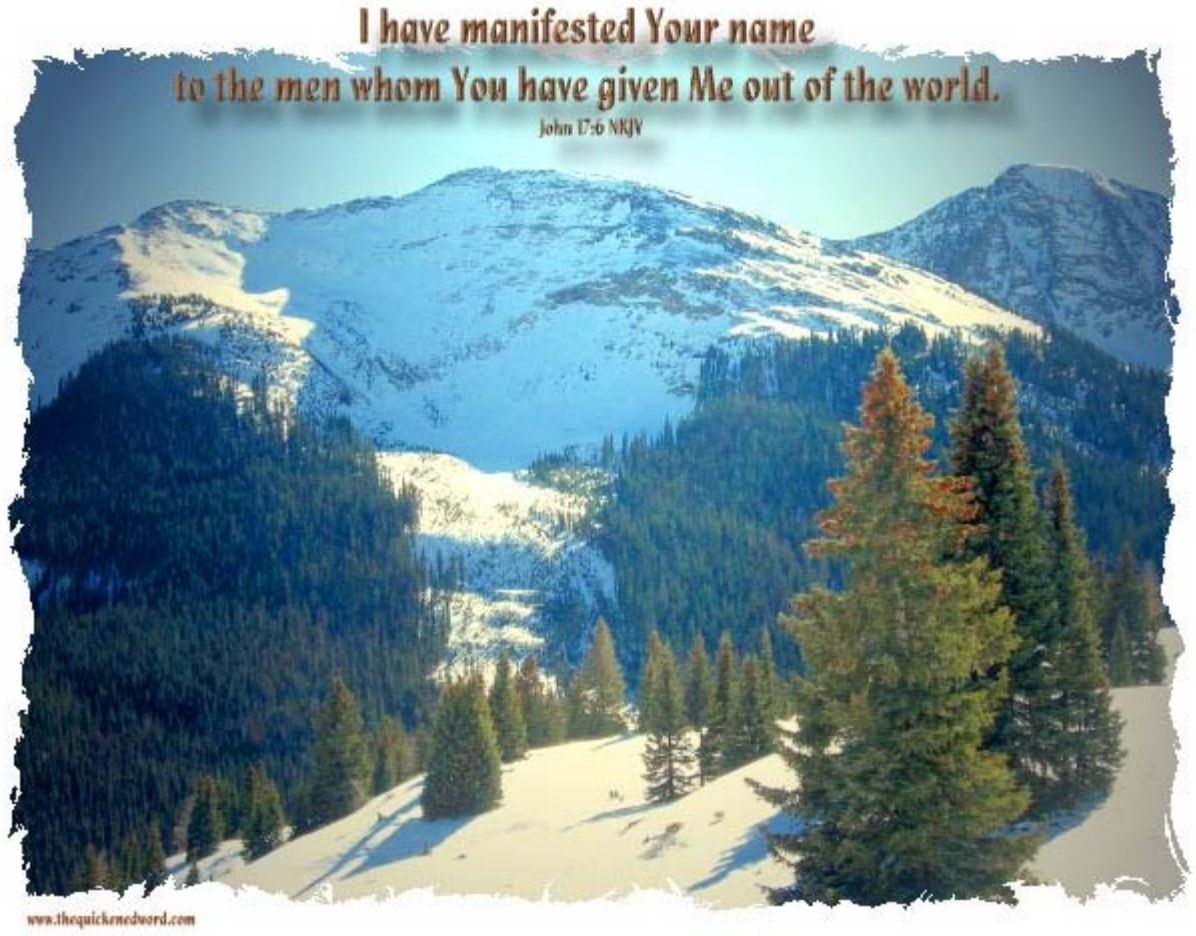
Jesus Christ is the Way, the Truth, the Life ... and He died for you.



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THE CLICKER REMINDER

I HEARD THE LORD SAY: I AM with you.
[My eye then glanced at the clock and it said 11:11]

Luke 11:11-13 NLT
"You fathers--if your children ask for a fish, do you give them a snake instead? Or if they ask for an egg, do you give them a scorpion? Of course not! If you sinful people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him."

VISION: I saw my clicker finger click twice. This is the pointer finger

that I use on the computer mouse button.

EXPERIENCE: Amazing. When I saw this vision of the clicker finger clicking twice, my literal finger, the one I use with my computer mouse actually clicked twice at the same time! Fun!

CONFIRMATION: That vision is a confirmation to what happened last month for the first time. I had been working on the computer and accidentally twitched my mouse finger and the screen jumped ahead 10 pages, then again to another place. This was an involuntary movement of my finger that had never happened before. Just as I was wondering if some strange thing was wrong with my finger, I realized that the pages confirmed the meaningful application to the same verse about 5 times. The Lord lives inside of me with His Holy Spirit! I was to tickled to see this above vision, as He is really confirming that when He says I AM with you, He really means it.

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I HEARD: Even up here you can smell death. I heard it happening. Bomb. Terror on the earth. 911. Trauma.

Psalm 91. It is the Word of the Lord. The Word of the Lord can save your life. The Word of the Lord, give it when you can.

Grounded. Hesitation. Don't hesitate. Sweet one, there's no need to fear. Weakness. Government. It's not about who you are. It's about Who I AM. Stay calm and stay standing.

VISION: I saw a clicker and it clicked on the word, "Strategies."

I HEARD: The Lord is on top of the breach. Spell it. SAFE. S A F E. So proud of you.
==========

I HEARD: She's a survivor. Just My type. Look it up in the real dictionary.

sur·vive
sur·vive (ser-vìv[1]) verb
sur·vived, sur·viv·ing, sur·vives verb, intransitive
To remain alive or in existence.

verb, transitive
1. To live longer than; outlive:
2. To live or persist through: plants that can survive frosts.

I HEARD: It's all over now. Finished.

VISION: I saw a clicker click to the next page.

EXPERIENCE: I again experienced the involuntary click of my clicker

finger when I saw this. I love it when that happens, as I am reminded that He lives inside!

I HEARD: All of you for all of Me. The kingdom.

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CONCLUSION
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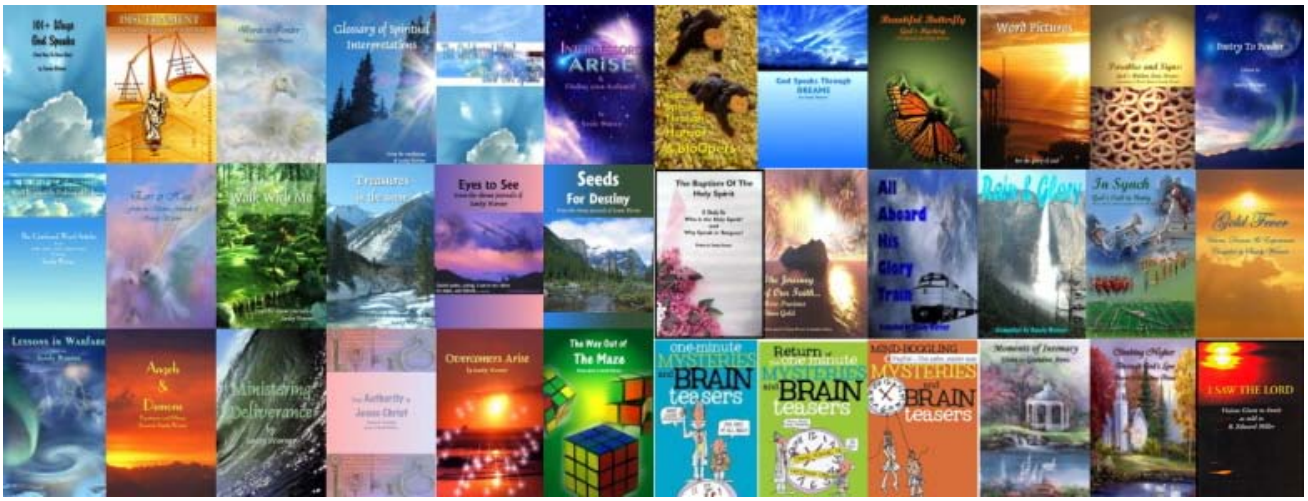
{Words to Ponder are summaries of His quickened Words of prophetic revelation, punched with the word of wisdom and written under inspiration.}

WORD TO PONDER: I AM WITHIN YOU
My bride, she's a survivor. She's perfect for Me in every way. She dwells with Me in the secret place. It is our place of communion, unseen by the world. Though trauma strikes close, she chooses to yield to Me and flee from fear. I have given her My Word, and it will keep her safe. We are not unequally yoked, for even as I overcame, so shall she.

Her past is forever behind her as I move her into the next page of history. She is learning My kingdom principle of exchange: The more she gives herself to Me, the more I give Myself to her. She is learning that it is not about her weakness, but about Who I AM within her. In the process, we become one and My kingdom is established within her.

"The kingdom of God does not come with observation; nor will they say, 'See here!' or 'See there!' For indeed, the kingdom of God is within you." (Luke 17:20-21 NKJV)



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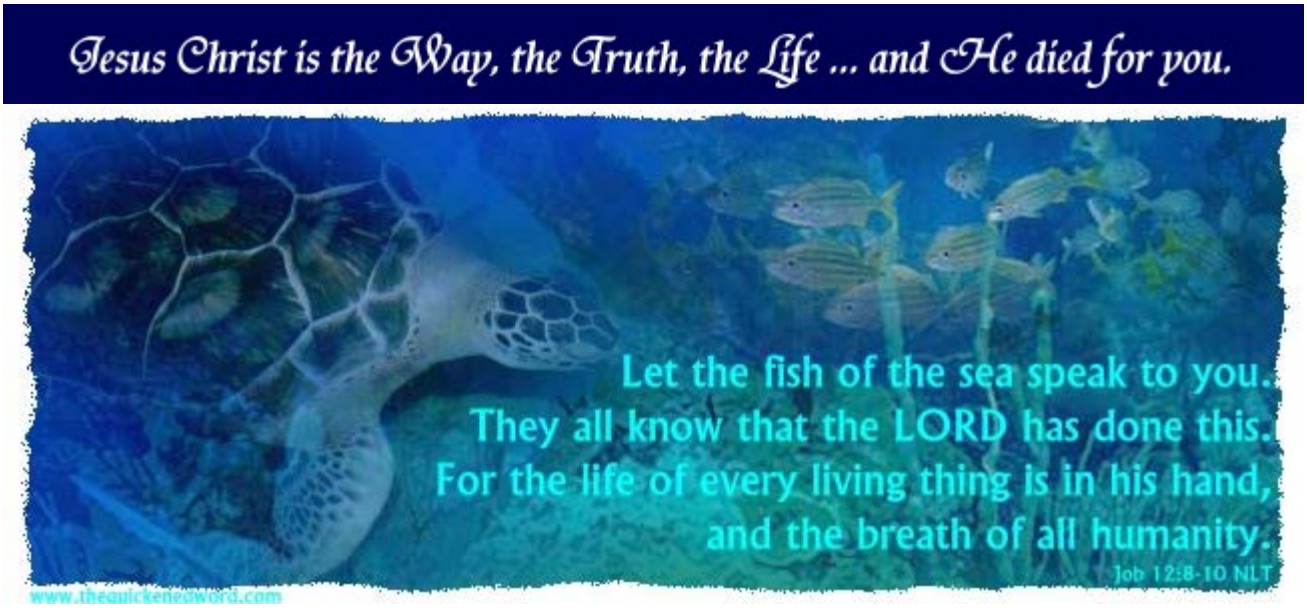

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ROCK HARD FAITH

SANDY RHEMA

HEARD RIDDLE: Save the kingdom. See it through your eyes. Rock hard faith. Belly up. Turtle shell support you. Rule the world upside down. In your pocket found a key."

[This was the Lord's comment to the fact I was feeling upside down like a turtle on its back and my feet waving in the air! He was saying that I had the authority to change my position by using His keys to the kingdom. Matt 16:19]

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THE TURTLE

DREAM: A good friend of the family had gathered his friends around him and he was giving them farewells and gifts. He turned to me and said he had something special for me. He told me to remember the turtle, because it was the one that won the race, not the hare. Then in the dream I saw a vision of a turtle. When I awoke, my Dad called and told me that this same good friend had just died.

I pondered the turtle and the Lord continued to give me quickened thoughts about this "gift" I had been given. At a later time the Lord also told me that He was going to make me "Rock hard." I was not sure what that meant either.

One day I was sitting at a kitchen table with two ladies telling them about these things, and they both said in unison, "Just like the turtle shell!" They were speaking of the term rock hard. It was a divine connection in confirmations, because they too had received visions of the turtle. Then one of them got up from the table and showed me the turtle on her kitchen sink shelf. As we discussed these things, we understood the Lord was wanting to make our wills rock hard, unwavering, and unbending when it came to telling the enemy NO. And the three of us did go through several years of this specific training.

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QUICKENED FACTS

My son told me that big turtles have no natural enemies, and that is why they grow so big and so old. He said when in danger, they draw in and hide! (I love that) They are too tough to eat (devoured). Rock hard! The only thing that can happen to them is you-know-what... upside down on its back, just like the word sifted. Wonderful, just wonderful, just like I feel. "Save the kingdom. See it through her eyes. Rock hard faith. Belly up. Turtle shell support you. Rule the world upside down. In my pocket found a key."

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GRANDMA ANNA RHEMA

HEARD: Much gain in the heavenlies because of the persistence. Strong faith brought reverberations. You're hearing Me. Not upside down like you think. Believe. Much depends upon your faith in hearing. Continue to push through and listen.

It's all right little one. Do not fear. Not hearing static. My voice. No worldly care attached. Live in My Spirit. Doing it. Peace. Mine. That's your key.

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SANDY RHEMA

HEARD: Stronger. In the power of His might. Fighting the good fight of faith.

Eph 6:10-11 KJV

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

1 Tim 6:11-12 AMP

But as for you, O man of God, flee from all these things; aim at and pursue righteousness (right standing with God and true goodness), godliness (which is the loving fear of God and being Christlike), faith, love, steadfastness (patience), and gentleness of heart. Fight the good fight of the faith; lay hold of the eternal life to which you were summoned and [for which] you confessed the good confession [of faith] before many witnesses.

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SANDY RHEMA

HEARD: You've changed. Rock hard faith. Discipline. I am with you.

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CONCLUSION

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{Words to Ponder are summaries of His quickened Words}

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WORD TO PONDER: ROCK HARD FAITH

You may feel as though you have been tossed upside down by evil storms, but I want you to know that I am pleased with you! I AM teaching you how to stand and to become rock hard in your faith. There are many ways to overcome the evil one and the one above all is your shield of faith. It is growing strong and unyielding. You are fighting the good fight of faith, dear one.

Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love and patience. Remain gentle with all men, but set your face as flint against the enemy. Remember that walking into your promises is occupied one step at a time. If I called you to run full speed, you would collapse exhausted before the finish line. As you learn to trust Me every day and learn to stand strong against that which defies My Words in your life, you are growing strong enough to maintain your promises once you reach them.

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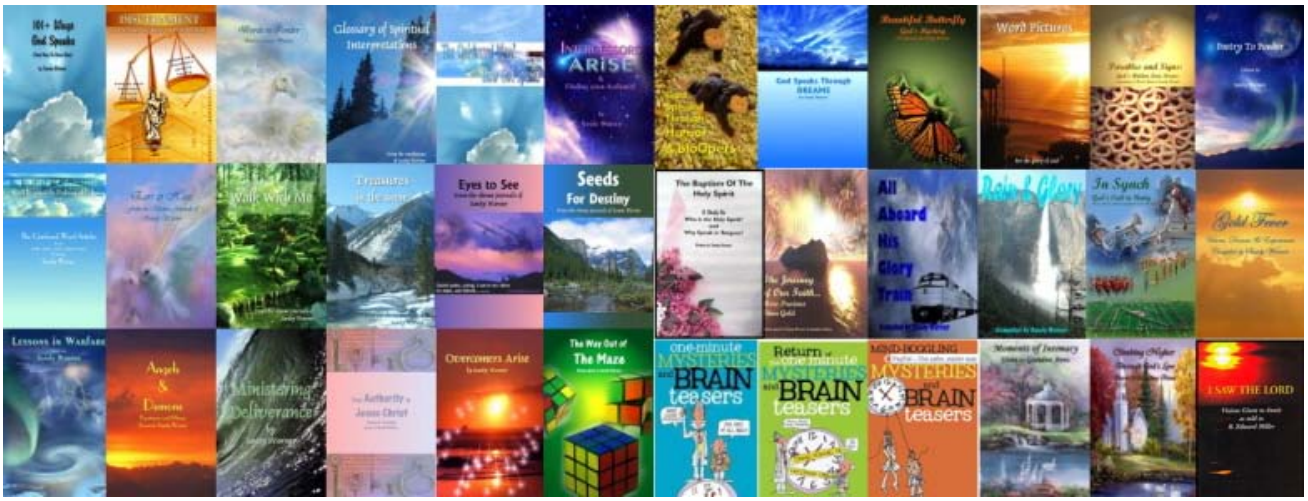

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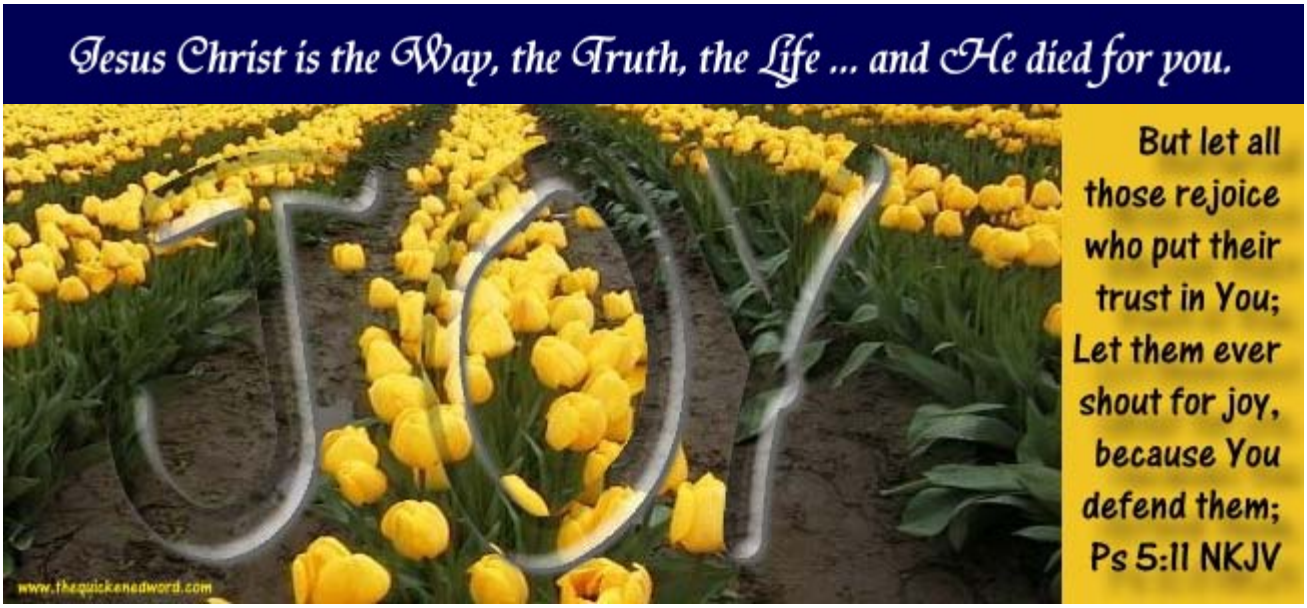

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MASSIVE PET ROCKS 10/27/05

Today I had an old memory come to mind. Every summer we used to take a 4 day trip down the wilderness part of the Rogue River. The only way out once you passed the point of no return, was to hike out by trail. I have a lot of wonderful memories of our trips, rowing the boat by the hot sun of the day, and sleeping under the stars by night.

I remember one summer we went down the rapids called Wild Cat and a friend was in the bow of the boat. I was rowing madly because it was a fast one, and had some sharp rocks and maneuvering. I just skimmed one of the biggest and flattest rocks towards the end of the rapids, and it scared him so bad that he stood up in the boat and leaned over towards the rock. This swung us around the thing and planted us right on top of it. Water was pouring into the side of the boat, and he was white as a sheet hanging onto the rock for dear life. My folks were downstream watching the whole thing and my Dad was yelling, but the roar of the water was much too loud to hear anything. I told him, "Please let go of the rock. PLEASE let go of the ROCK. "LET GO OF THE ROCK AND SIT DOWN NOW!!!!!!!" He looked at me in a startled daze and the moment he let go and sat down, we swung around the rock, and I pulled a VERY heavy load of water over to the bank and we bailed for a long time.

I had a revelation today that the Lord has been telling me one layer at a time, “Sandy let go and sit down. SANDY let go and SIT down. SANDY, LET GO AND SIT DOWN NOW!!!!!”

Isa 43:1-2 NKJV

Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by your name; You are Mine. When you pass through the waters , I will be with you; And through the rivers, they shall not overflow you.

WORD TO PONDER: PET ROCKS - LET GO NOW 10/27/05
It's time now, let go of the huge stumbling stones of your past. Those giant pet rocks, massive stones of offense where you've held onto disappointment from a wounded past; forgive, release and let go. If you hang on, circumstances will so overwhelm you that you will be unable to manage even the smallest tasks. Precious, where I AM taking you - you MUST have peace. It is My peace that will guard you and you must do everything you can to find Your resting place in Me. Move out of the old and into the new, by letting go of everything that has wounded you, and planting the wounds at My cross. Let go of every offense, and let Me move you out and away. What is meant to stay with you, will remain. What is meant to be left behind will not follow.

Heb 12:1-2 AMP
THEREFORE THEN, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses [who have borne testimony to the Truth], let us strip off and throw aside every encumbrance (unnecessary weight) and that sin which so readily (deftly and cleverly) clings to and entangles us, and let us run with patient endurance and steady and active persistence the appointed course of the race that is set before us, looking away [from all that will distract] to Jesus, Who is the Leader and the Source of our faith [giving the first incentive for our belief] and is also its Finisher [bringing it to maturity and perfection].

CONFIRMATION: The following are quotes and notes from Joel Osteen's sermon.

http://www.joelosteen.com

> "...As long as we are dragging the pain of yesterday over into this day, we are never going to experience God's best. What's done, is done. You can not undo what happened yesterday. If you made some mistakes, let it go and do better today. If somebody hurt you, forgive. Don't focus on setback and disappointment. God has promised He will bring you a new beginning.
>
> Isa 61:3 Beauty for ashes.
> Let go of the ashes, the broken dreams, disappointments, hurts and failures. Turn loose the ashes. Let go of the victim mentality. It is normal to go through sorrow and grieving, it is a part of the healing process. Don't bury it inside. Don't allow a season of mourning to turn into a lifetime of bitterness. You have to exchange, let go and then God will give you the beauty. I refuse to look in the rear view mirror.
>
> Samuel how long are you going to mourn over Saul? Samuel spent years investing. Saul was God's first choice. But He had another plan, and called Samuel to get up and go anoint another king.
>
> Let the dreams go. God has another dream for you. You are not a victim, you are a victor. God will always cause you to triumph. Don't let this make you bitter.

I just lost my job, but I can't wait to see what God has in store. David not only recovered all, he got double.

Isa 60:1-2 AMP
ARISE [from the depression and prostration in which circumstances have kept you - rise to a new life]! Shine (be radiant with the glory of the Lord), for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you! [Zech 8:23.] 2 For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and dense darkness [all] peoples, but the Lord shall arise upon you [O Jerusalem], and His glory shall be seen on you. [Isa 60:19-22; Mal 4:2; Rev 21:2,3.] ..."

[end of notes and quotes from Joel Osteen]

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Words from the The Quickened Word are excerpts from the journals of Sandy Warner. To better understand how God speaks, read Sandy's book, "101+ Ways God Speaks, And How to Hear Him." Website: www.thequickenedword.com Email: swauthor@usa.net

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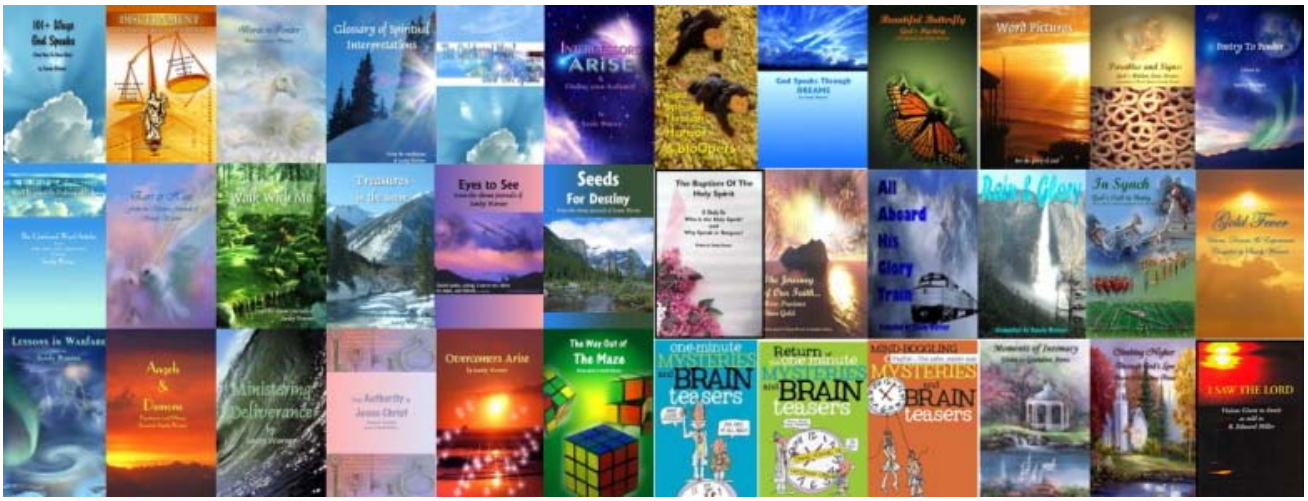

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SOAKING IN HIS PRESENCE

VISION: I saw a hand spreading out.

HEARD: That's the anointing. That's the release. Power flow. Release My Word. Stirring. You can feel the wind. Spirit. Woosh. Tabernacle. Follow the anointing to where it leads you.

VISION / DREAM EXPERIENCE:

I was in some church that was having a visiting evangelist. (I should have known that he was an angel, because this "evangelist" was about 7 feet tall and towered over the people!) He stood at the podium and said, "Sandy, where's Sandy? I want to pray for Sandy. Please come forward." I waited a while trying to decide if I was the Sandy. No one came forward and I really wanted to be prayed for, so I left all my paper and rhema notebooks scattered all over on shelves and chairs. (smile)

Since I had waited and hesitated so long, he started ministering to the audience and the Presence of God literally emanated from him everywhere he went. I could see that the anointing extended about 40 feet out from him. As he walked around, people fell under the power of God in waves up to about 40 feet away from him. It was an awesome meeting. He never actually touched anyone. I kept following him around as he ministered to people. I did not want to interrupt his ministry to say, "I am Sandy" but never-the-less I kept following him around waiting and waiting for my turn!

The Lord’s Presence was very strong. As he approached, twice I saw rows about 4 to 5 deep of people fall like dominoes in slow motion. At one time, I was in the front row of a long line of people waiting to be touched. As he approached, we all fell back in slow motion and my stomach did a flip flop exactly as though it was a roller coaster. Twice, as rows of people fell all at once like dominoes, I saw rows of birds take off and fly in the exact same motion as the people falling. (I’d had a past vision where birds taking off in flight represented angels being loosed on assignment.)

I did not want to leave, because I hadn’t been specifically prayed for! Finally it was the end of the meeting, and almost everyone had gone home. He was still ministering to a few people and the power of God was so strong that he also fell under the power. I could literally feel His awesome Presence and power in this vision / dream experience. The Lord’s power was so strong that I was on my hands and knees. I saw his feet and thought, "If I can just touch his feet!" I crawled very slowly as though through water and grabbed onto his feet. I had a tenacious grip and would not let go and it seemed like I hung on for the rest of the night!

Sometimes we would change positions and our feet were touching feet to feet. Another time, the man sized companion of the "evangelist" came over while I was holding on, and reached forth and touched my tummy. I didn’t know what he was praying for, but I was in agreement. The Lord’s power continued to emanate and I was thoroughly soaked in His Presence. Several times I shook all over. It was an awesome and wonderful experience.

HEARD [Upon waking]: The Holy Spirit has spent hours with you and you have been soaking in His Presence. Honey, it sticks.

REOCCURRING VISION: Through out the night I kept seeing my hands being placed in honey. As I took them out, they were dripping with it. This hands occurrence continued throughout the night.

Isaiah 7:15 KJV

Butter and honey shall he eat, that he may know to refuse the evil, and choose the good.

REOCCURRING SONG: I kept hearing throughout the night, "Every good and perfect gift comes from above."

James 1:17-18 NKJV

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.

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SANDY COMMENTS: This is a good example of how we are to be tenacious and persistent in our pursuits of the Lord. I literally experienced this wonderful ministry without going to an expensive conference, without standing in line or sitting all day in uncomfortable chairs. I experienced this wonderful touch in my own bed at home! Praise Him!

The Holy Spirit said prior to this experience, to follow the anointing to where it led me.

Often when I am about to receive a special experience in the Lord, He announces His Presence in some way to touch my heart and bring it into a receptive place. This experience was a long set up, whereby I closely followed His anointing all the while experiencing the Lord's Presence in degrees until the final grand finale!

Since we were connected feet to feet at one time, I believe this represented one of the angels assigned to me in future ministry. This would probably be after the rhema journals are either done or it is time to do something else. When my name was called, my hesitation to come forward is a good parable of our human nature. "ME? Are You SURE it is me? Surely, You mean someone else?" And if we are the hesitant kind of person and not the bold-in-your-face-go-for-it-kind… then the Lord gives us plenty of advance preparation, and He DRAWS us to follow Him. Obviously, I REALLY like the Lord's Presence and I was willing to hang around politely waiting for "my turn" to be prayed for… and that also was a set up. He draws us reluctant ones and knows exactly what we need to come forth and be in the place He wants us to be!

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CONCLUSION

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{Words to Ponder are summaries of His quickened Words of prophetic revelation, punched with the word of wisdom and written under inspiration.}

WORD TO PONDER: SENDING YOU WITH MY ANOINTING

There is coming a day when I will be calling you to leave behind your preparatory years and follow My anointing into tangible places. I will be calling you to stretch forth your hands, for your hands will be dripping in My anointing and it shall stick like sweet honey. You shall find a great release and a powerful flow to release My Word. You shall feel the wind and a stirring of My Spirit. Follow the anointing and go where it leads you. I shall always provide.

I have assigned to you a powerful angel that will accompany you. He will go forth with My power as you follow Me in the anointing. It shall be released in waves up to 40 feet away as you walk around and follow My Presence. This will be a visible manifestation of My touch. I will spend hours with you and those you minister to, while you all are soaking in My Presence. There will be times when My Presence will be so thick that all you will be able to do is crawl.

"So that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud: for the glory of the LORD had filled the house of the LORD." (1 Kings 8:11 KJV)

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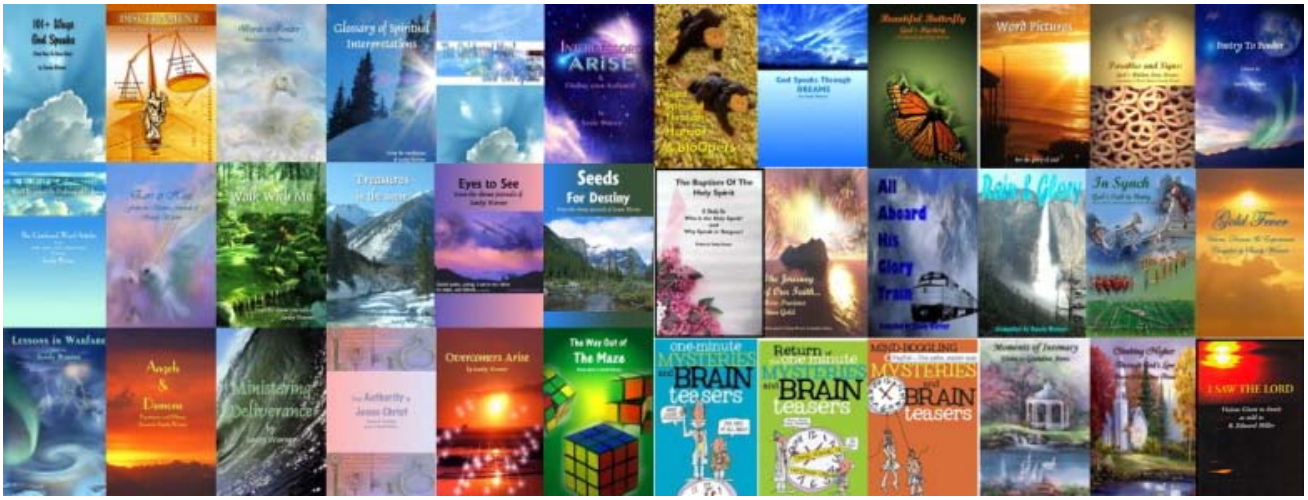

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TO LOVE THE SON

Three women were given their choice as to what they wanted from the king. One chose to live in the king's city to receive the blessings of a safe refuge & kindred heart friends. The second chose to live in the king's palace and enjoy his treasures and gifts. The third chose to marry the king's son. Because she desired the son, she inherited everything.

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WHO'LL TAKE THE SON?

A wealthy man and his son loved to collect rare works of art. They had everything in their collection, from Picaso to Raphael. They would often sit together and admire the great works of art. When the Vietnam conflict broke out, the son went to war. He was very courageous and died in battle while rescuing another soldier. The father was notified and grieved deeply for his only son.

About a month later, just before Christmas, there was a knock at the door. A young man stood at the door with a large package in his hands. He said, "Sir, you don't know me, but I am the soldier for whom your son gave his life. He saved many lives that day, and he was carrying me to safety when a bullet stuck him in the heart and he died instantly. He often talked about you, and your love for art.
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The young man held out his package. "I know this isn't much. I'm not really a great artist, but I think your son would have wanted you to have this." The father opened the package. It was a portrait of his son, painted by the young man. He stared in awe at the way the soldier had captured the personality of his son in the painting. The father was so drawn to the eyes that his own eyes welled up with tears. He thanked the young man and offered to pay him for the picture. "Oh, no sir, I could never repay what your son did for me. It's a gift."

The father hung the portrait over his mantle. Every time visitors came to his home he took them to see the portrait of his son before he showed them any of the other great works he had collected. The man died a few months later. There was to be a great auction of his paintings. Many influential people gathered, excited over seeing the great paintings and having an opportunity to purchase one for their collection. On the platform sat the painting of the son.

The auctioneer pounded his gavel. "We will start the bidding with this picture of the son. Who will bid for this picture?" There was silence. Then a voice in the back of the room shouted.

"We want to see the famous paintings. Skip this one." But the auctioneer persisted. "Will someone bid for this painting? Who will start the bidding? $100, $200?" Another voice shouted angrily. "We didn't come to see this painting. We came to see the Van Gogh's, the Rembrandt's. Get on with the real bids!"

But still the auctioneer continued. "The son! The son! Who'll take the son?"

Finally, a voice came from the very back of the room. It was the long-time gardener of the man and his son. "I'll give $10 for the painting." Being a poor man, it was all he could afford. "We have $10, who will bid $20?"

"Give it to him for $10. Let's see the masters." "$10 is the bid, won't someone bid $20?" The crowd was becoming angry. They didn't want the picture of the son. They wanted the more worthy investments for their collections.

The auctioneer pounded the gavel. "Going once, twice, SOLD for $10!" A man sitting on the second row shouted. "Now let's get on with the collection!" The auctioneer laid down his gavel. "I'm sorry, the auction is over." "What about the paintings?" "I am sorry. When I was called to conduct this auction, I was told of a secret stipulation in the will. I was not allowed to reveal that stipulation until this time. Only the painting of the son would be auctioned. Whoever bought that painting would inherit the entire estate, including the paintings. The man who took the son gets every thing!"

God gave his son 2,000 years ago to die on a cruel cross. Much like the auctioneer, His message today is, "The son, the son, who'll take the son?" Because you see, whoever takes the Son gets everything.

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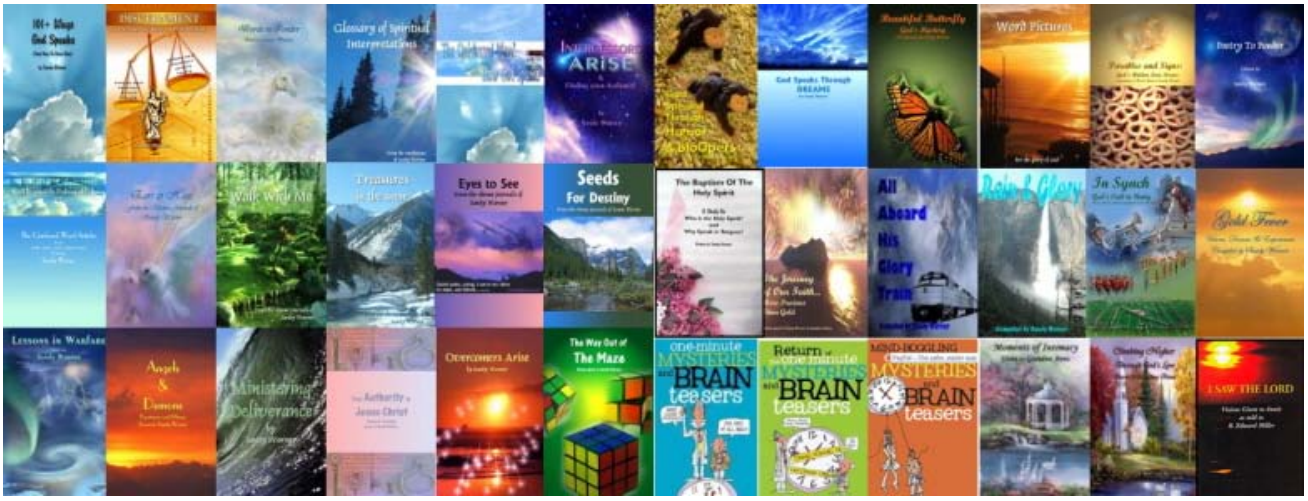

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Jesus Christ is the Way, the Truth, the Life ... and He died for you.

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PARABLE: TAKE A SECOND LOOK AND DIG DEEPER 10/17/07

HEARD: *I am here to do your bidding.*

FUNNY: When I heard this, I knew it was an angel that was sent and available to do my bidding. I had already prayed this morning and was not sure what to do. I said, "Lord if there is something I need to pray about, please remind me." Shortly after that, I discovered I could not find my cell phone. I called it and wandered the house to hear it ring but nothing surfaced. I asked the Holy Spirit to find what was lost.

Later as I was downloading some lovely fall photos from my camera to my computer I remembered hearing what this angel had said. So I cried out to the Lord once again and said, "Lord You sent me an angel to help me find my cell phone! I loose this angel to go forth and find my cell phone in Jesus Name!"

I envisioned it going to all the places I had been yesterday and wondering what an angel does to help someone return a lost cell phone. I prayed more urgently and with faith knowing he was dispatched. At that exact moment a bleep, bleep alarm started on my camera and I saw that the batteries needed recharging. I had an extra one that I had tucked in my purse yesterday, so I DUG REALLY DEEP in my purse and found my cell phone! I am still smiling, I think the angel went around the world and back on my prayers and came home to drain my camera battery. (smile!)

BIDDING

Matt 14:28-29 KJV
And Peter answered him and said, Lord, if it be thou, bid {2753} me come unto thee on the water. And he said, Come.

NT:2753
NT:2753 keleuo (kel-yoo'-o); from a primary kello (to urge on); "hail"; to incite by word, i.e. order:
KJV - bid, (at, give) command (-ment).

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UPDATE 10/20/07 TAKE A SECOND LOOK AND DIG DEEPER

QUICKENED PARABLES: Today I went shopping for a new purse and I am really picky about my purses, so it took me a long time to dig through the purses to find the right one.

Tonight in the prayer room the Lord brought back the memory of the above post where I returned to my purse, dug really deep and I found my cell phone.

The Lord quickened to me that if we return to some Words that He has given us recently, and dig deeper, that He will reveal to us some hidden treasures that we did not see before.

CONFIRMATION: Our associate pastor prayed tonight that we launch out into the deep and sound the deep.

WORD TO PONDER: TAKE A SECOND LOOK AND DIG DEEPER 10/20/07
Sometimes I want you to take a second look at something I have done into your life. The enemy kills, steals and robs and this makes you worn out and weary in your labors. I want abundance and goodness for you.

Because of your sufferings, there are times when you have not caught on to what I intended from My goodness. If you are willing to persist in your search for understanding, I will lead you deeper into the truths that are not readily available on the surface. Return dear one in your search, launch out into the deep. My good treasures are there waiting to be found. Once in your grasp of understanding, you will know and feel things from a different perspective, things that you didn't perceive when you were living through the circumstances. I will reveal to you what I intended, and the good part that was not taken from you. I will make manifest the lessons you learned that could not have been learned in other ways. You will find that you knew Me in greater intimacy through your sufferings and have learned a portion of My love that is long suffering. You will find that you knew My goodness and abundance even in the midst of painful labor.

Luke 5:4-7 NKJV
When He had stopped speaking, He said to Simon, "Launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." But Simon answered and said to Him, "Master, we have toiled all night and caught nothing; nevertheless at Your word I will let down the net."

And when they had done this, they caught a great number of fish, and their net was breaking.

HEARD; When I typed the sentence, “I want abundance and goodness for you.” I heard the Lord say AMEN!

=======

COOL UPDATE: 10/21/07 Today I am catching up on typing a couple weeks of rhema and as usual I haven’t the foggiest idea what is going on until I listen to my mini recorder and type it all in. For some reason I chose to type it in from the latest back to the earliest. And after posting this Word about taking a second look about what the Lord has been saying, I am noticing several days this month where He introduced a simple subject and then on later days He dug deeper onto the same subject until I was getting into some good meat.

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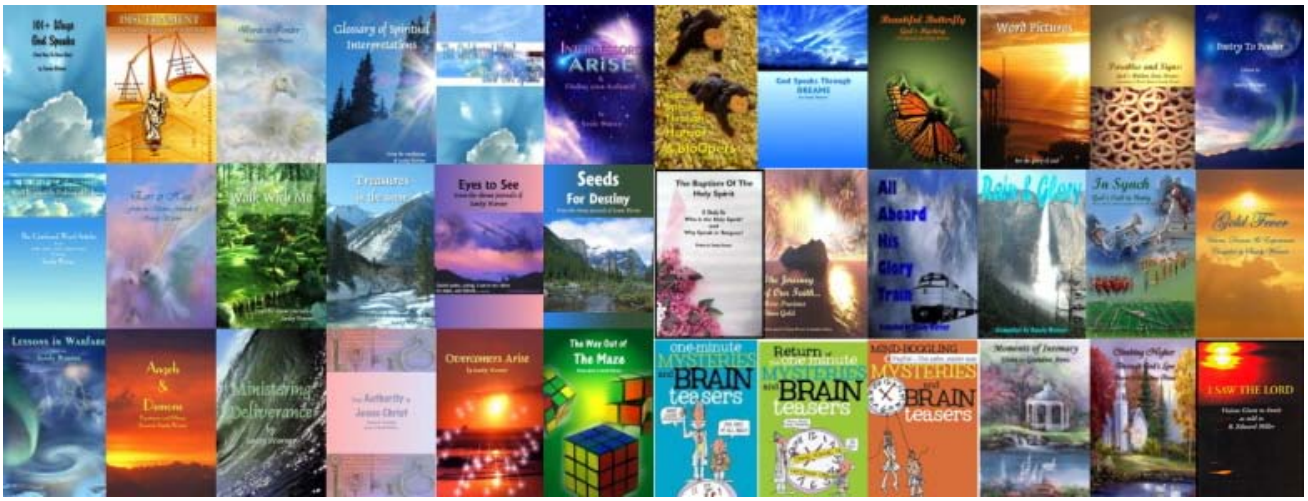

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RHEMA 8/07/09 AT THE END OF A WILD RAPID

NOTE: In my youth, my family rowed boats down wild rapids, camping along the river banks and streams. One of the rapids was called Blossom Bar. It had humongous boulders that were about the size of single car garages. Some towered over our heads as we maneuvered our boats through white water.

In scripture stones represented places of offense and stumblings.

> *Isa 62:10 NKJV*
> *Go through, Go through the gates! Prepare the way for the people; Build up, Build up the highway! Take out the stones, lift up a banner for the peoples!*

> *Isa 57:18 NKJV*
> *And one shall say," Heap it up! Heap it up! Prepare the way, Take the stumbling block out of the way of My people." 15 For thus says the High and Lofty One Who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy:" I dwell in the high and holy place, With him who has a contrite and humble spirit, To revive the spirit of the humble, And to revive the heart of the contrite ones. 16 For I will not contend forever, Nor will I always be angry; For the spirit would fail before Me, And the souls which I have made. 17 For the iniquity of his covetousness I was angry and struck him; I hid and was angry, And he went on backsliding in the way of his heart. 18 I have seen his ways, and will heal him; I will also lead him, And restore comforts to him And to his mourners.*

According to a vision from Bob Jones, the angel named Breakthrough was sent to the USA to remove the stumbling blocks in order to prepare for the great harvest.

We have been working with the angels to overcome these places of stumblings and we have just finished a major one. It has been a tough and rough wild ride.

HEARD: *What happened to Blossom Bar? A scene after coming off of Blossom Bar. Lay you there. Rest. Are you there? Focus.*

Dont fret My Beloved. Do not despair. You are moving some place.

> RHEMA 8/08/09 AT THE END OF A WILD RAPID
> HEARD: *Spotlight. It's over, Blossom Bar. So proud of you. We appreciate it very much.*
>
> =======
>
> PET ROCKS - LET GO NOW 10/27/05
> It is time now, let go of the huge stumbling stones of your past. Those giant pet rocks, the massive stones of offense where you've held onto disappointment from a wounded past; forgive, release and let go. If you hang on, circumstances will so overwhelm you that you will be unable to manage even the smallest tasks. Precious, where I AM taking you – you MUST have peace. It is My peace that will guard you and you must do everything you can to find Your resting place in Me. Move out of the old and into the new, by letting go of everything that has wounded you, and planting the wounds at My cross. Let go of every offense, and let Me move you out and away. What is meant to stay with you, will remain. What is meant to be left behind will not follow.
>
> *Heb 12:1-2 AMP*
> *THEREFORE THEN, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses [who have borne testimony to the Truth], let us strip off and throw aside every encumbrance (unnecessary weight) and that sin which so readily (deftly and cleverly) clings to and entangles us, and let us run with patient endurance and steady and active persistence the appointed course of the race that is set before us, looking away [from all that will distract] to Jesus, Who is the Leader and the Source of our faith [giving the first incentive for our belief] and is also its Finisher [bringing it to maturity and perfection].*
>
> =======
>
> CHANNELS AND PRESSURES 10/21/06
> In My river, when I accelerate My timings, it causes a flurry of action. In a natural streambed or river, the waters flow more quickly when the land slopes downhill. The fewer the rocks, or stumbling stones in its path, the faster the water moves. And the narrower the channel is, the more pressure is built up in order to pass through quickly.
>
> If you stand along the bank, you may witness My Words passing so fast, that you will miss the depth of what took place, unless you are in the water

experiencing it for yourself. The experience may be a powerful one, of jumping in, getting wet and feeling the surge of My power. However, it is important that when you feel the drawing to release yourself to the drawing of My Presence, that you understand this sudden acceleration has a purpose to MOVE you to another place. I AM strongly moving My people to another place through channels and pressures.

Job 28:10-11 NKJV
He cuts out channels in the rocks, And his eye sees every precious thing. He dams up the streams from trickling; What is hidden he brings forth to light.

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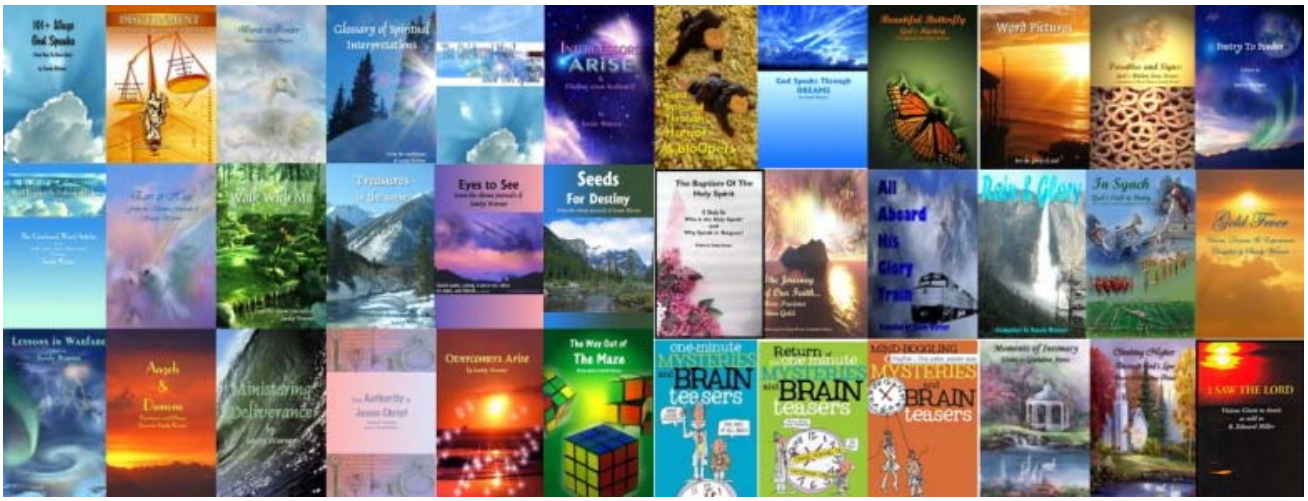
TEACH THEM HOW TO READ THE WATER 10/15/03
Sweetheart, My children are not able to maneuver in the river waters ahead nor carry their own gear, so I have placed them and their gear in your boat. Don't worry about the strength to handle their weight while shooting the rapids. Because you are yoked with Me, it will be light and easy.

They are in the boat with you, because you have learned to read the water. You know where the rocks, (or stumbling stones) are subtly hidden under the white water, you know where the currents carry too swift a pace, you know where they slow into eddies. With one glance you can read the signs and know exactly where to go and how to maneuver the oars for a smooth ride. My children shall be safe in your boat, for I have taught you well. They shall learn from you merely by your example and one day they shall lead others into the land of fruitful inheritance. Teach them well, and your reward shall be great.

"Therefore you shall lay up these words of mine in your heart and in your soul, and bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall teach them to your children, speaking of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. And you shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates, that your days and the days of your children may be multiplied in the land of which the LORD swore to your fathers to give them, like the days of the heavens above the earth." (Deuteronomy 11:18-21 NKJV)



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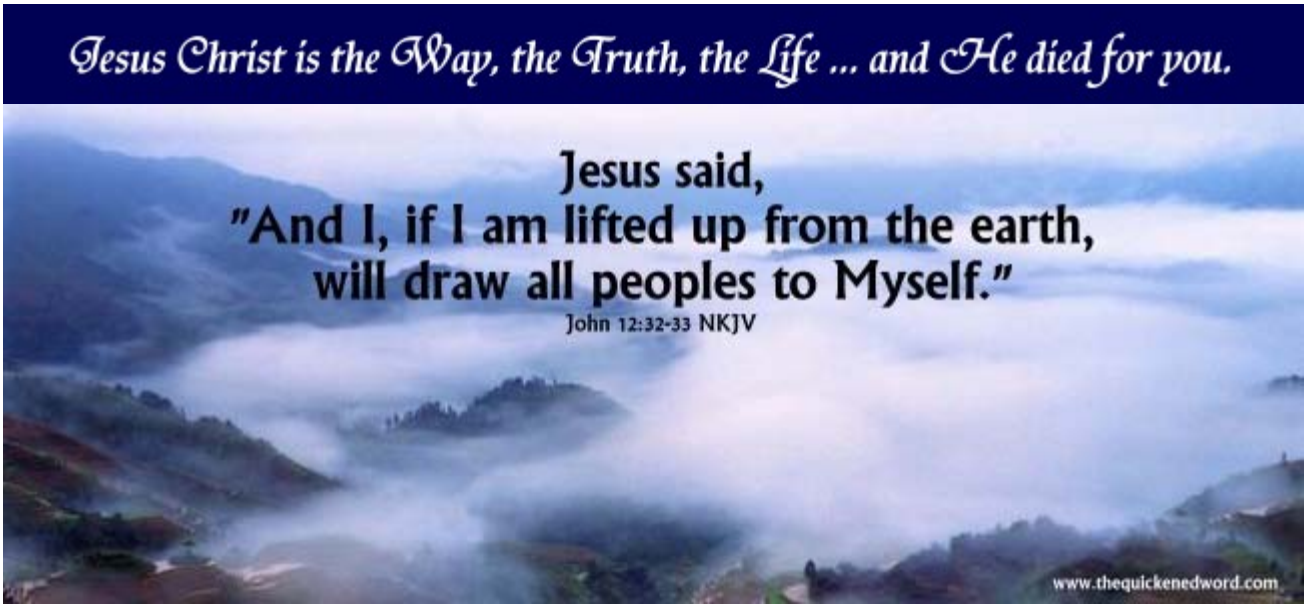

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RHEMA 9/17/10 I WILL DRAW YOU AT MIDNIGHT

HEARD: *I need to share something with her. I am coming. Midnight. I will draw you.*

> *Matt 25:6 NKJV*
> *"And at midnight a cry was heard: 'Behold, the bridegroom is coming; go out to meet him!'*
>
> *Song 2:9-10 NKJV*
> *Behold, he stands behind our wall; He is looking through the windows, gazing through the lattice. My beloved spoke, and said to me: "Rise up, my love, my fair one, and come away.*

A few days prior, I had been praying over mine and other's concerns about missing the bridegroom when He calls. "I will draw you" was His answer to me. Then He brought back the memory of 8/09/10 when I saw Jesus. And as I called upon Him, He kept coming closer and closer. Every time I called upon Him, He drew closer!

QUICKENED MEMORY: 8/09/10 RENEWED CONTRACTS AND COVENANTS

> VISIONS: *I saw an angel sitting at a counter. I saw a pair of angel wings.*
>
> *I held a pair of hands and knew they were Jesus' and began to call upon*

Jesus, that He would come to me.

I saw Jesus and am so excited. He was in the air and so tall I could barely see His head. As I was calling upon Him, He kept coming closer and closer so I could see the features in His face. He had on the most glorious shiny royal blue satin robe. It billowed down all the way to me. That is my favorite fabric and color to wear. He said, "Tell them I AM renewing old contracts and old covenants."

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RHEMA 9/18/10
[Lord am I going to see You tonight?}
HEARD: *It is not quite time, but it is soon.*

=======

On 9/14, I had read the following vision and it was amazing and such a blessing. I highly recommend all to read it and keep it. I have prayed about this, I really do believe there are MORE tents for the marriage supper, as he being Jewish, saw only the 12 tents for the 12 tribes who would have their own marriage suppers with the Lord.

MY VISIT TO HEAVEN
Maurice Sklar
http://www.mauricesklar.com/

On Wednesday, August 4th, 2010, at about 10:30 AM, an angel came into my bedroom, I had just awakened. He said to me, "I am sent from the Lord to bring you to heaven. You must now come with me. Take my hand."

http://www.injesus.com/message-archives/worship/mauricesklar/my-visit-to-heaven

WORD TO PONDER: I WILL DRAW YOU AT MIDNIGHT 9/17/10
As the days of the heavenly preparations for the marriage supper come to a conclusion, I have heard the questions and prayers all over the world. My people are asking Me, "When?" My people are telling Me their concerns that they will miss the marriage supper. Beloved ones, if you are concerned, your concern is My drawing power bringing you closer to Me. Those who are asleep are not concerned at all! I have been waking My bride and drawing her. I AM gazing at you through the lattice porthole, and saying "Arise, trim your lamps, leave your bed, come out and meet Me!"

What you have learned to keep your lamps lit, use them now as midnight is in the horizon. Cut off the dead works, cut of the strivings of your flesh and every obstacle that hinders your passion for Me. Draw deeply from your wells of oil, keeping them primed and ready for use. Pour out the oil by earnestly praying over your life and your loved ones, speaking in tongues, worshipping with a pure heart and clear conscience, calling upon My Name as you seek Me with all diligence! Your lamps burn brightly with the passion that I have torched. You have been in earnest and

your lamps will not go out dear ones, for you have already bought your oil through much perseverance and persistence to seek, ask and knock.

Matt 25:1-13 NKJV
"Then the kingdom of heaven shall be likened to ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. 2 Now five of them were wise, and five were foolish. 3 Those who were foolish took their lamps and took no oil with them, 4 but the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. 5 But while the bridegroom was delayed, they all slumbered and slept.

"And at midnight a cry was heard: 'Behold, the bridegroom is coming; go out to meet him!' 7 Then all those virgins arose and trimmed their lamps. 8 And the foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' 9 But the wise answered, saying, 'No, lest there should not be enough for us and you; but go rather to those who sell, and buy for yourselves.' 10 And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding; and the door was shut.

"Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, Lord, open to us!' 12 But he answered and said, 'Assuredly, I say to you, I do not know you.' 13 "Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming.

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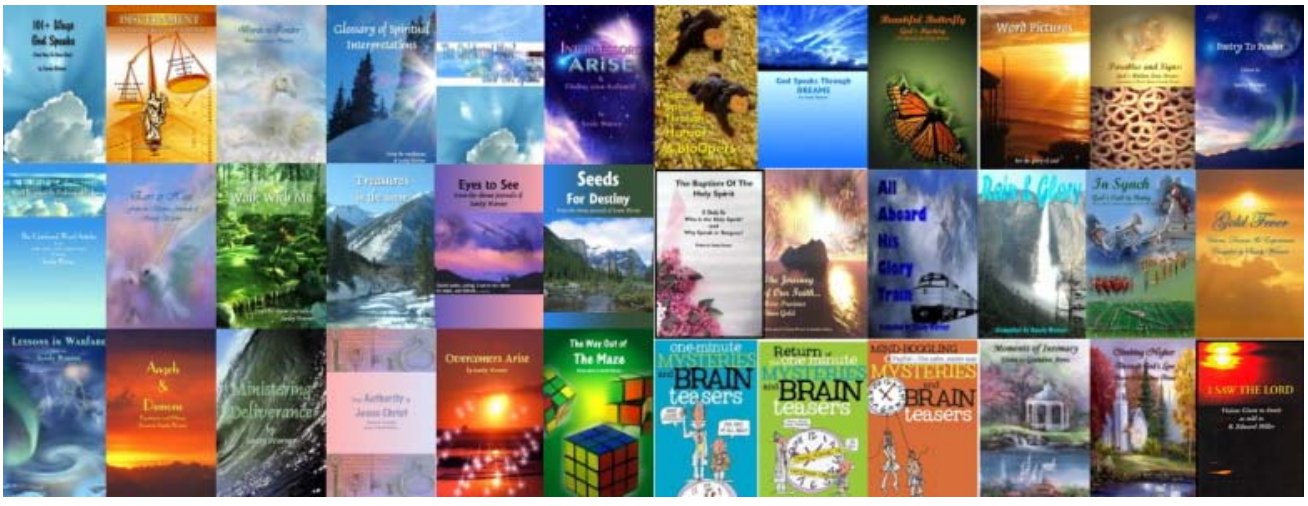

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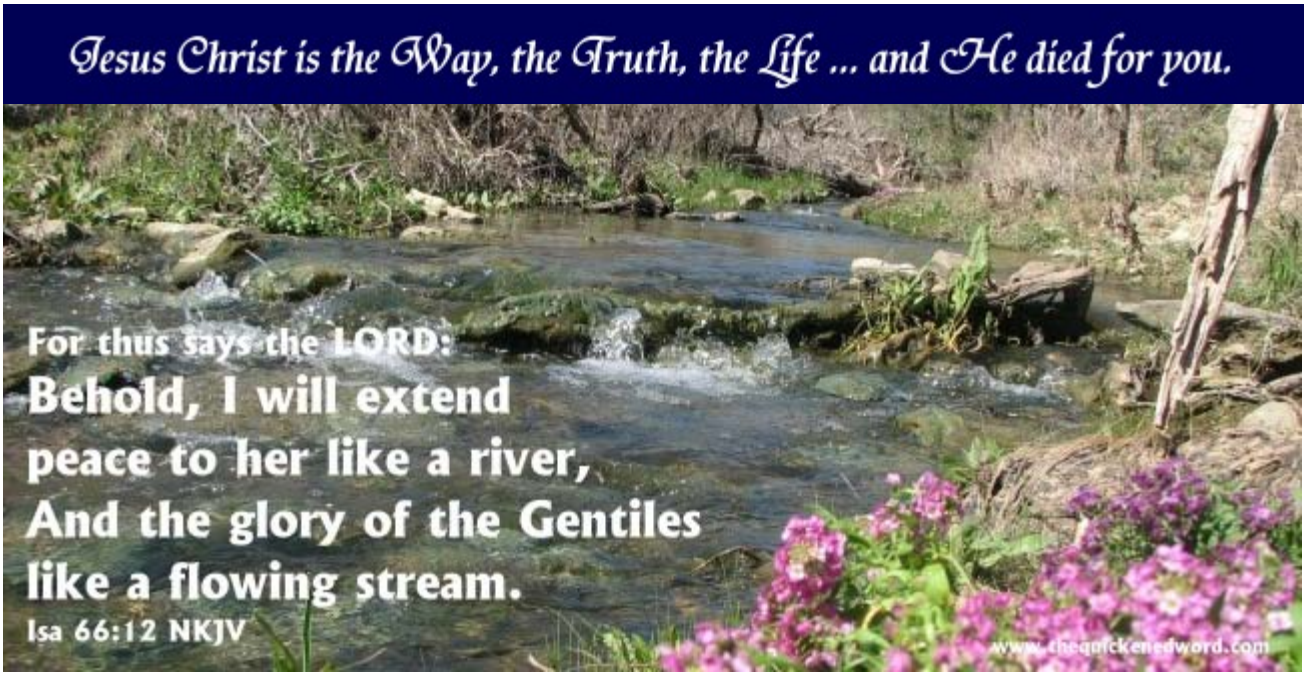

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RHEMA 10/06/10 PEACE BE STILL

EXPERIENCE: *I was crying out over Wayne and deeply sobbing. I suddenly heard an angel standing right over the top of my head say, PEACE. It sounded like a command! I obeyed and sat up on the side of my bed for a few minutes calming down. I gave it all to Him and got up with peace in my heart.*

HEARD: *I am so proud of you. You never let go.*

PIX: *I saw the old picture I saw once of Wayne's medicine bottle that said, "Perseverance" on it.*

> *Mark 4:39-41 NKJV*
> *Then He arose and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace, be still!" And the wind ceased and there was a great calm. But He said to them, "Why are you so fearful? How is it that you have no faith?" And they feared exceedingly, and said to one another, "Who can this be, that even the wind and the sea obey Him!"*
>
> *Rom 5:3-5 NKJV*
> *And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; and perseverance, character; and character, hope.*

Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

WORD TO PONDER: PEACE BE STILL 10/06/10

My own have gone through the fiery furnace. I have never left you for even a second, precious ones! Thank you for trusting Me, and clinging onto My Word and promises. Your persistence to not let go and give up has accomplished much more than you know. Even now I AM commanding Peace to your storm. Let My peace rule and reign in your hearts, settling with finality all questions that arise in your minds.

Rom 5:3-5 NKJV
And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; and perseverance, character; and character, hope. Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

Col 3:15 AMP
And let the peace (soul harmony which comes) from Christ rule (act as umpire continually) in your hearts [deciding and settling with finality all questions that arise in your minds, in that peaceful state] to which as [members of Christ's] one body you were also called [to live]. And be thankful (appreciative), [giving praise to God always].

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Words from the The Quickened Word are excerpts from the journals of Sandy Warner. To better understand how God speaks, read Sandy's book, "101+ Ways God Speaks, And How to Hear Him." Website: www.thequickenedword.com Email: swauthor@usa.net

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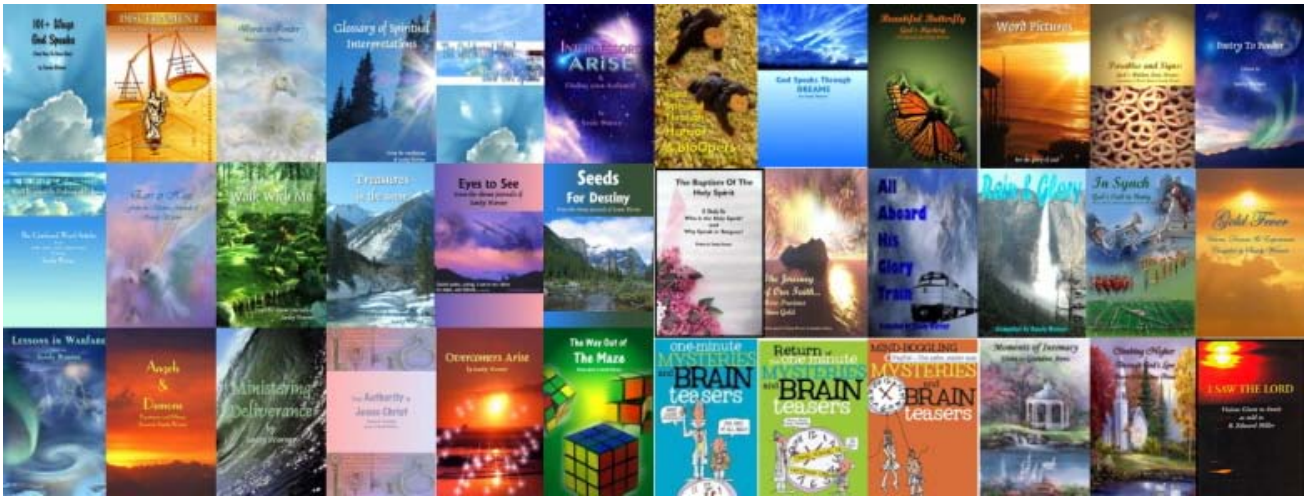

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Jesus Christ is the Way, the Truth, the Life ... and He died for you.

Sandy Warner ~ ~ swauthor@usa.net ~ ~ www.thequickenedword.com

RHEMA 7/23/09 WHAT YOU SAY NOW WILL AFFECT YOUR FUTURE: [Contend For Your Vision]

HEARD: *To see beyond. In the future. Into another realm.*

PIX: *I saw a horizontal lightning flash outside. It swept across some amber colored windows that were surrounding a downstairs fireplace.*

HEARD: *The horse and the rider.*

PIX: *I saw that the horse and rider had some sort of blinders over their eyes.*

Matt 13:15 NLT
For the hearts of these people are hardened, and their ears cannot hear, and they have closed their eyes — so their eyes cannot see, and their ears cannot hear, and their hearts cannot understand, and they cannot turn to me and let me heal them.'

HEARD: *Potential in the Lord. To see.*

HEARD: *Nations.* ***It will affect your future what you say now****. What you see is what you get. Prophesy what you see. If you can see it, you've got it.*

Prov 18:21 NKJV
Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit.

Deut 30:18-20 NKJV
I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life , that both you and your descendants may live; 20 that you may love the LORD your God, that you may obey His voice, and that you may cling to Him, for He is your life and the length of your days;

Prov 29:18 KJV
Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he.

PRAYER: Forgive us Lord, where we have persistently strayed and walked in disobedience by closing our eyes to Your Word. Grant us the ability to repent and change, by opening our blind eyes in Jesus Name. Please open our eyes that they may be no longer closed and under the judgment of blindness.

Oh Lord grant us vision and sight. Grant us vision and insight. Grant us revelation and understanding. Lord open the eyes of our understanding that we may see what is the hope of the inheritance Jesus has left us. Grant that we may see the exceeding greatness of Your mighty power towards us that You worked in Jesus Christ. Loose us to prophesy the will of Your kingdom on earth by seeing the will of Your kingdom in heaven. In Jesus Name we pray.

Eph 1:18-20 NKJV
The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power which He worked in Christ...

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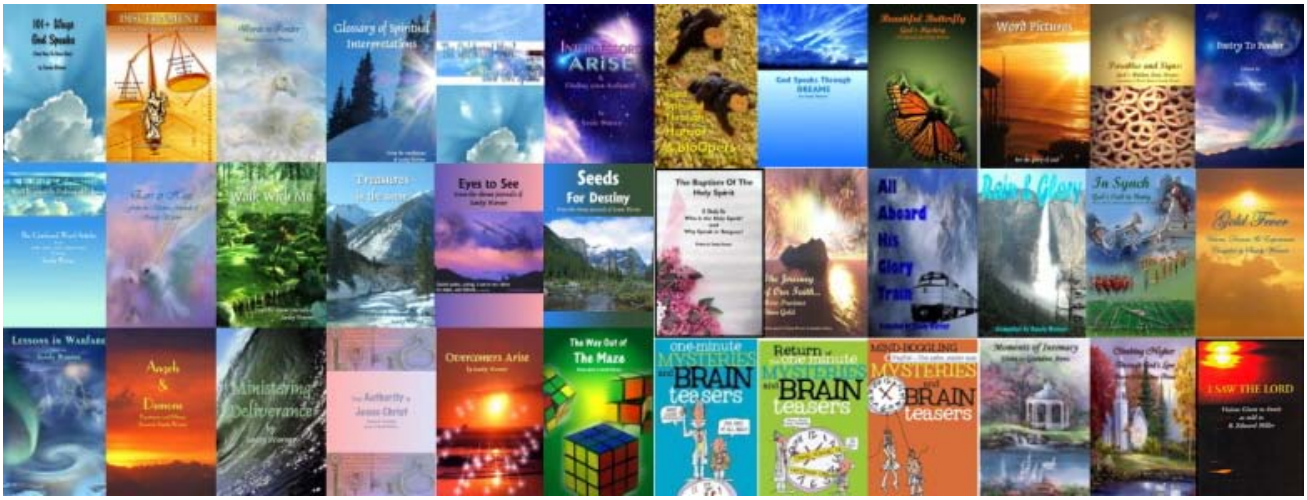

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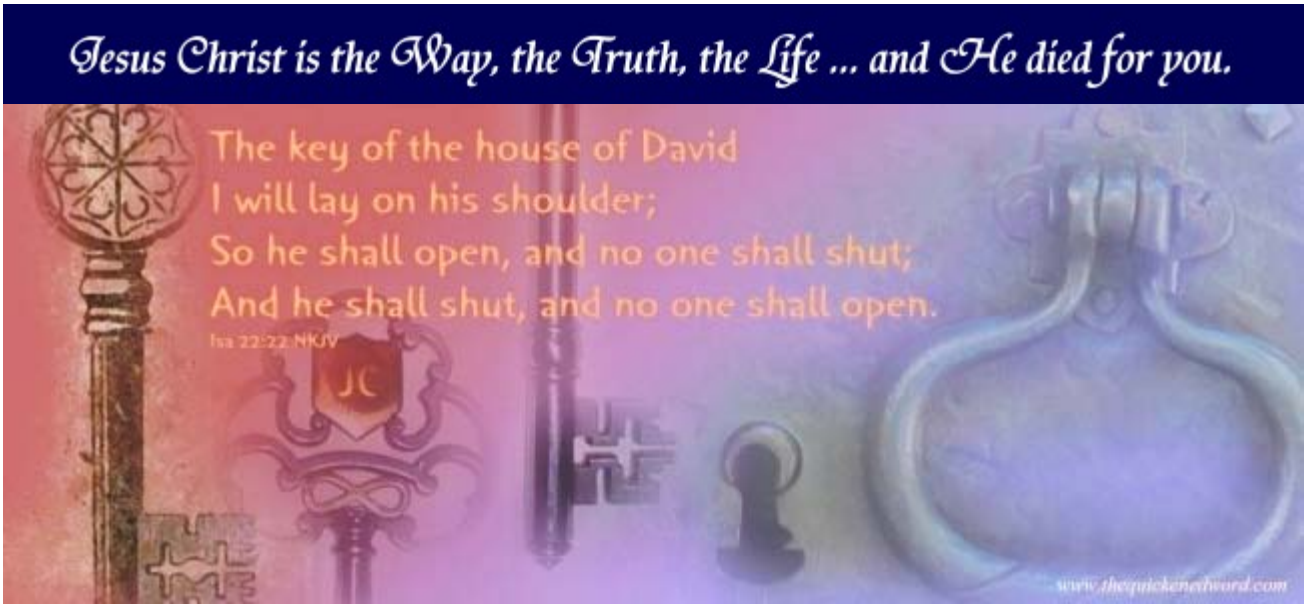

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WORD TO PONDER: TO KNOCK AND TO OPEN 11/02/03

Remember one thing as you pray over those you love. All relationship stems from the hearts of those who want such. I have heard the knocking of your prayers. And truly, I have knocked on your heart to knock on the doors of those you love. Let them come on their own, in their own time. Trust My infinite grace to answer your prayers.

Grace, grace, grace is over you and your children. It is My Word and My promise over all your progeny. I have settled you right where you belong. Your dwelling place, no matter where or when is right here with Me. I AM keeping you safe beyond the reach of the wicked one. And I will keep your progeny safe. The door will open for all you love, because of your persistent intercession.

Rev 3:20 NKJV
Behold, I stand at the door and knock . If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.

Matt 7:7-9 NKJV
Ask, and it will be given to you; seek , and you will find ; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.

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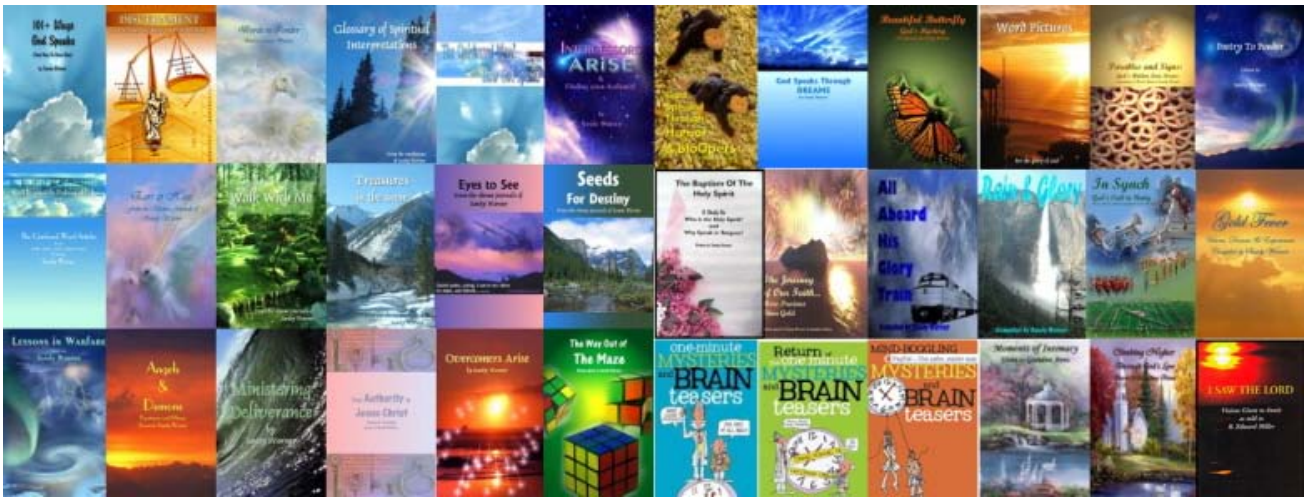

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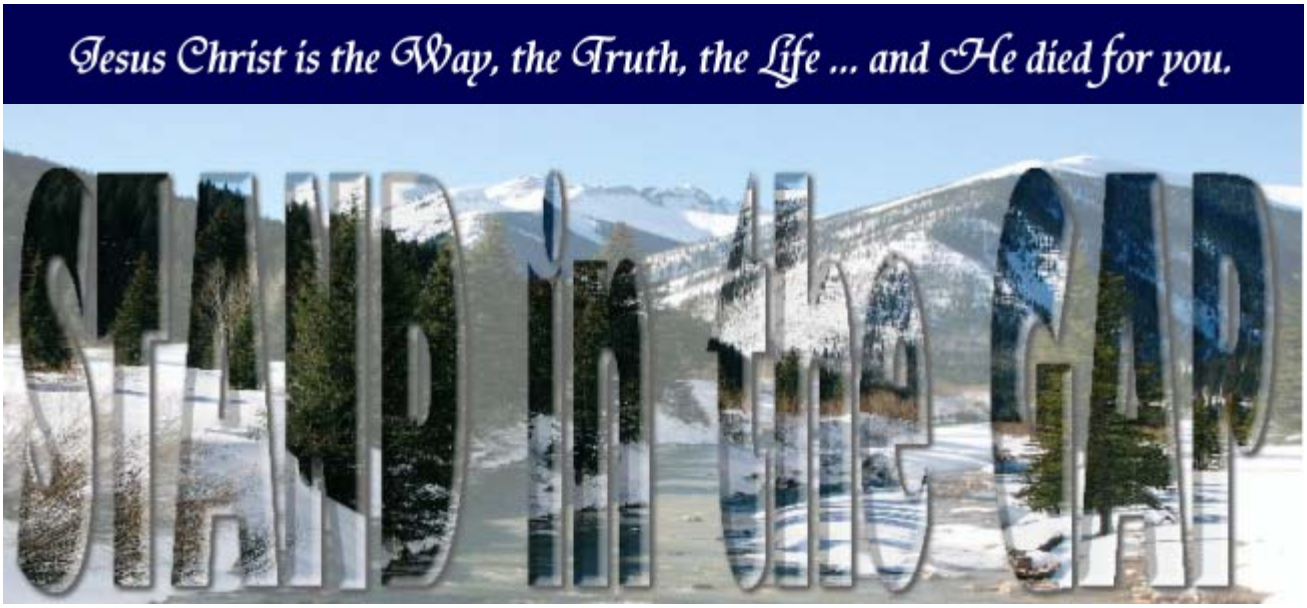

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3/24/07 GETTING PAST TRAUMA TO PARTICIPATE IN YOUR OWN MIRACLE

HEARD: *Oh, oh, oh church. Dominion. I will comfort you. My treasures are for you.*

Let's keep them from falling. Commitment. Say yes. Trauma. Hit by a truck. Find out why.

PIX: *I saw the arrow on a computer screen to click to the next page.*

Expensive. ...Feel these things. Trauma deep waters. It scared you. Why this is important. Trauma. You have got to get over this. You have to face it. It was a wreck. Injured. I want you whole again.

PIX: *I saw a desert on a plate being put on a table. The desert was in the shape of a piece of cheesecake. It looked like totally clear jello that you could see through. There was no color, it was totally transparent, nothing hidden. There was one beautifully shaped almond inside the slice.*

> *Num 17:8 NKJV*
> *Now it came to pass on the next day that Moses went into the tabernacle of witness, and behold, the rod of Aaron, of the house of Levi, had sprouted and put forth buds, had produced blossoms and yielded ripe almonds.*

1 Peter 5:10-11 NKJV
But may the God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish , strengthen, and settle you. To Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

PIX: *I saw someone walking down a long hallway of many doors and stopped in front of a closed door.*

HEARD: *There's a secret here. Closed door. I need them healthy again. You can help. Can you adopt them?*

QUICKENED EXPERIENCE: I was praying over the kind of soul surgeries where people are transparent with one another and adopt one another in their journey towards healing. I was thinking about the totally clear and transparent cheese cake that I saw above. The Greek word to establish means to set up firm, and jello is a great example of that. The Lord wants to establish us and set us up firm. He wants the seed He has planted in each of us to lay before Him in the dark seasons of our souls and transform our witness into blossoming authority and fruitfulness. This will be used for others benefit to heal as well.

HEARD: *Embarrassing.*
QUICKENED EYE GLANCE: Details. Personal progress!

That was a fun Word. I was downloading my emails and at the same time I heard *Embarrassing*. And then my eye glanced at the following 3 words on the email software at the bottom of my screen. I realized He was saying that it is hard on people to be transparent, but we are making progress on sharing the details and this is bringing healing.

EYE GLANCE: {While updating Feb Ponders to ebook:}

CALL FORTH THE SEEDS OF HEALING

Call forth the seeds of healing to harvest. For in the grapes of yesterday's vineyards is a harvest of the sweetest healing ministries. It makes fine wine of old vintage. I will restore that which was lost and gather the healing jewels that were buried in time. They will be like rich gold nuggets, buried beside the beaches of Ezekiel's river. I will place them into the hands of My Church, and old and young alike shall lay hands on the sick and they shall recover. This will once again restore the sweetness of My love to the sick and downtrodden.

Do not fear, for I have given you an open door and you shall go through it in complete victory. Many years you have waited, for many years you have stayed upon the shelf of waiting. And yet you stand faithfully as the day I first planted you, awaiting My call. Let not your heart be troubled, for you have learned to secretly fly, even as you have waited. This time I will send you in a team and you shall no longer be lonely and isolated. You will soar like an eagle and dive low into the rivers of life and give many blessings to My children.

"After this I will return, and will build again the tabernacle of David, which is fallen down; and I will build again the ruins thereof, and I will set it up." (Acts 15:16 KJV)

HEARD: *Grand finale. Wash. Soul. Precious gems, set free. My liberty. Pray first, relief.*

ANOINTED HANDS: I turned to the following Words to Ponder

> AH: I WILL REVEAL THE TRUTH 7/24/00
> I know you have grieved over the losses of those who have fallen. It has placed you in a position of trembling and in fear of your own weak flesh. Yes it is burdensome and grievous, the wounds of those who walk in deception, and yet still think they are on My path. They dwell within the house of bonds and know it not. I have heard your cries for mercy as I begin to cut back, prune and expose the truth to their eyes.
>
> Why did I allow this to happen? I allowed them to be tempted in all areas to let them find out areas of weakness. Weakness is living according to one's own wisdom and understanding of what is right and what is wrong instead of yielding the will to Me, waiting upon Me for wisdom and understanding. And when one falls into those weak areas, I AM ready to help overcome as he calls upon Me. For no man can walk through life in his own strength. If he tries, he becomes a pawn of the devil and I cannot help him.
>
> *"Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils." (1 Tim 4:1 KJV)*
>
> COMING OUT OF HIDING 1/29/97
> I have made you My transparent vessel, so that My children will see the beauty of genuine realness. I have made you bold, able to publish your life, and come out of hiding so that others may see your worship of Me through it and be set free to be transparent themselves. The beauty of your transparency goes deeper than the mind, straight into the heart. Thank you, dear one, it is true worship as you lay yourself bare without shame before My Presence. Always remember that you are at complete liberty to share or withhold anything you choose. To share out of your private life is a sacrifice and I receive it as a sweet smelling savor.
>
> *"For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known." (1 Cor 13:12 KJV)*

HEARD: *He might be a reason to heal. Fellowship. Repair.*

PIX: I saw a person ministering to another person. I had the impression that I knew their circumstances and they been through individual soul traumas. The first person had recovered and was ministering to the other.

EXPERIENCE: I was praying about these things of being transparent and made the statement to the Lord that I saw He was asking us to participate in our miracles.

It was a stretch, but He wanted us to participate in order to gain our healings. I knew this was a Word of knowledge where He filled my mouth.

WORD TO PONDER: PARTICIPATING IN YOUR MIRACLE 3/24/07
Be willing dear ones, I desire you to participate in your miracle. Moses stretched out his hand. Nahman washed in the river Jordan 7 times. Elijah stretched on top of the dead boy. Israel marched around Jericho 7 times. The man stretched out his withered hand. David slung his stone at Goliath. Noah built an ark. Rahab placed a scarlet cord in her window. The blind man persistently cried out for mercy. Peter stepped out of the boat. The disciples cast their net on the other side. The little boy offered his 5 loaves and 2 fishes. So dear one, what do you need to stretch in order to move into your miracle?

Josh 8:18-19 NKJV
Then the LORD said to Joshua, "Stretch out the spear that is in your hand toward Ai, for I will give it into your hand." And Joshua stretched out the spear that was in his hand toward the city.

QUICKENED QUOTES FROM PATCH ADAMS: I watched this movie tonight and found it to be a good word parable of learning to become a spiritual doctor.

Statement from the medical bureaucracy: “First do not harm. In the simple precept of medicine. In an awesome power. The power to do harm. Who gives you this power? The patient. The patient will come to you in his moment of greatest threat. And hand you a knife and say doctor cut me open. Why? Because he trusts you. He trust you the way a child trust. He trust you to do no harm. The sad fact is, human beings are not worthy of trust.

Statements from Patch Adams: I want to help. I want to connect with people. A doctor connects with people when they are their most vulnerable. He offers treatment, but he also offers counsel and hope.... It will be a best hospital in the world. It will be a totally free form building. It will have slides and secrets passageways and game rooms. We will use humor to heal pain and suffering. Doctors and patients will work side by side as peers. There will be no titles, no bosses. People will come from all over the world to fulfill their dream of helping other people. A community where joy is a way of life. Where learning is the highest aim. Where love is the ultimate goal.”

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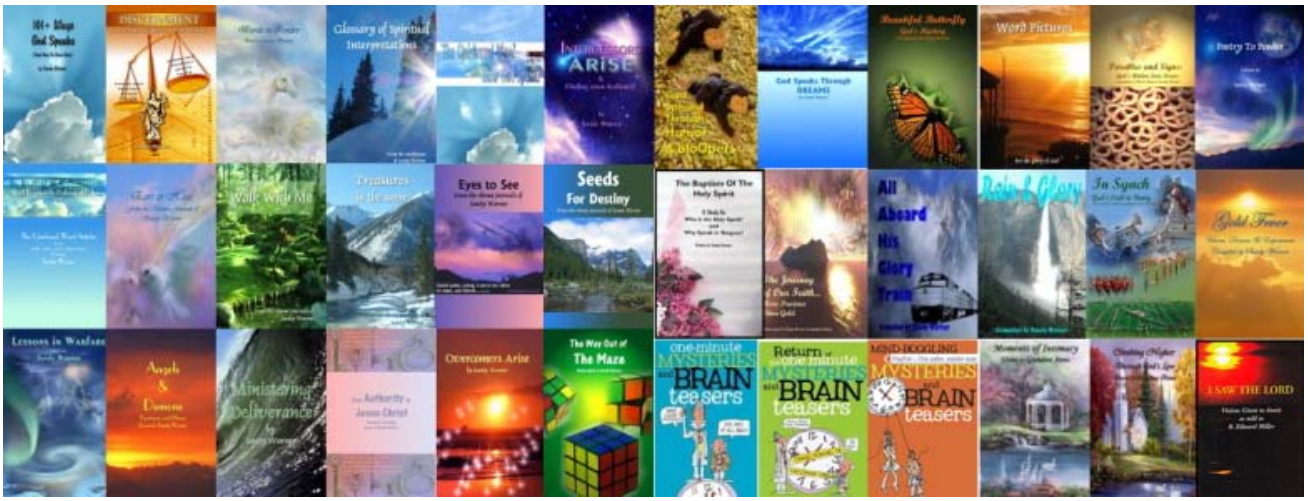

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Sandy Warner ~ ~ swauthor@usa.net ~ ~ www.thequickenedword.com

ANGELS AND WARFARE

10/17/99

Hi Loved Ones,

In a recent prayer gathering, one of our intercessors received a vision that was most encouraging. I felt it was a revealing picture of what happens to our "warfare" prayers when we pray them. As a background to this vision, his daughter is in Spain going to school and we were praying from Oregon, USA.

She had called asking for prayer because she came in contact with a student that was involved with witchcraft, and she felt creepy and uncomfortable. They prayed over the phone, then later as an intercessory group we prayed again. We bound the powers of the enemy over her, broke off all demonic assignments against her, and loosed the angels to send her deliverance. We also prayed a hedge of protection around her. After this, he received this wonderful vision:

His perspective was from the sky looking down upon the continents of the earth. Little lines extended out to all parts of the land masses. He understood these were the individual prayers of the people. They connected into three very large shafts of bright light coming from three continents and meeting together in the sky. These shafts of light appeared to carry substance, like living light moving upwards. At their point of intersection stood a bright angelic being, wielding a large sword.

The angel turned and pointed his sword to the region of Spain around Salamenca. A

fierce white bolt of light came out of the sword and hit this region. When the angel had delivered the bolt, his sword came up and the living light ascending the shafts re-energized the sword for the next attack.

I was so blessed with he shared this vision! The scripture says, "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." (Heb 11:1 KJV) Our faith is the living substance within those shafts of light and it releases all kinds of power in the spirit realm! What was even more encouraging was that we did not labor over our prayers for her, and there were only 8 of us in that room. If we only knew how powerful and important prayer is, we would never stop praying.

On my last post, where I forwarded Kathy Walter's article on angels, I wrote a little note prior to it: "I listened to a tape a few weeks ago and if I remember correctly, it was Bobby Conner who saw a vision of some angels in heaven standing around bored. When He asked the Lord about them, He said that it was our responsibility to make sure they were sent. We have the authority in the name of Jesus to bind demonic powers and dispatch angels into any situation." I received two e-mails in response saying that we do not command angels, only God does that. I want to clear any misunderstandings. Nowhere in scripture does it say that we command angels, any more than we command God to do anything.

When I said we have the authority to bind demons and dispatch angels, I was speaking of the scripture, "And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." (Matt 16:18-19 NKJV) When I pray, I bind the demonic powers and loose the angels to go forth on behalf of whatever situation needs attention.

It took the angel three weeks to fight through demonic resistance to get to Daniel. When he arrived, he said, "Don't be frightened, Daniel, for your request has been heard in heaven and was answered the very first day you began to fast before the Lord and pray for understanding; that very day I was sent here to meet you. But for twenty-one days the mighty Evil Spirit who overrules the kingdom of Persia blocked my way. Then Michael, one of the top officers of the heavenly army, came to help me, so that I was able to break through these spirit rulers of Persia. Now I am here to tell you what will happen to your people, the Jews, at the end times-for the fulfillment of this prophecy is many years away." (Dan 10:12-14 TLB)

What we do on earth works hand in hand with what is going on in heaven. The angels are working to fight through opposition and fasting is one of the tools to help them to fight through. Daniel fasted 3 weeks until he received his answer. There are many tools in warfare, and because Jesus disarmed principalities and powers, (Col 2:15) He gave us the keys of the kingdom to bind and loose. (Matt 16:18-19) In the Greek, the word "whatsoever" we bind or loose means "who, which or what." If we can bind a demon, we can loose their opposite, which is an angel.

I have been in many warfare situations at night where I see violent lightening clashes where binding the enemy and loosing the angels causes violent impacts against the darkness. As a weak vessel, it is very frightening and startling to experience these so close to the point of impact, but it makes me most grateful for the power to bind and loose. Things happen when we use the authority Jesus has given us!

I will close with a Word to Ponder, from the book Words to Ponder.

Lovingly,

Sandy

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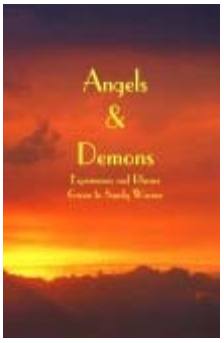
INTERCESSORS STAND GUARD

I AM raising an army of intercessors who understand the significance of standing in the gap. They may be unseen by others, but they are not unseen by Me. These carry My authority into the spiritual realm and fight on behalf of others. They have been trained to stand strong against the enemy tide, and resist the forces sent against those they encircle. Together, they form a mighty wall of protection for the weaker vessels within.

Now is the time for those trained to defend and stand on behalf of those they love. Be strong, for the heavenly hosts fight with you. Be of great courage, for there are more with you than with the enemy. Stand in My favor and My grace. Know your own sins are forgiven and come into My courts with boldness, declaring defeat of the enemy's destructive forces, and victory for the overcomers who believe in My Name.

Arm yourselves with weapons of My authority. Keep your shields of faith high and quench the fiery darts with My Word. Command the evil forces to retreat in the Mighty Name of Jesus. Loose the angels to go forth and fight. Use the battering rams of praise, worship and speaking My Name. Each blow causes a retreat. Be persistent and use your weapons over and over again, and the strongholds will fall. You will see victories all around you as you are willing to stand guard when I call you to do so. Be on the alert. I give you times of rest and times of war. Learn to discern them and you will learn to take advantage of both for My Kingdom's sake.

"And I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it:" (Ezekiel 22:30)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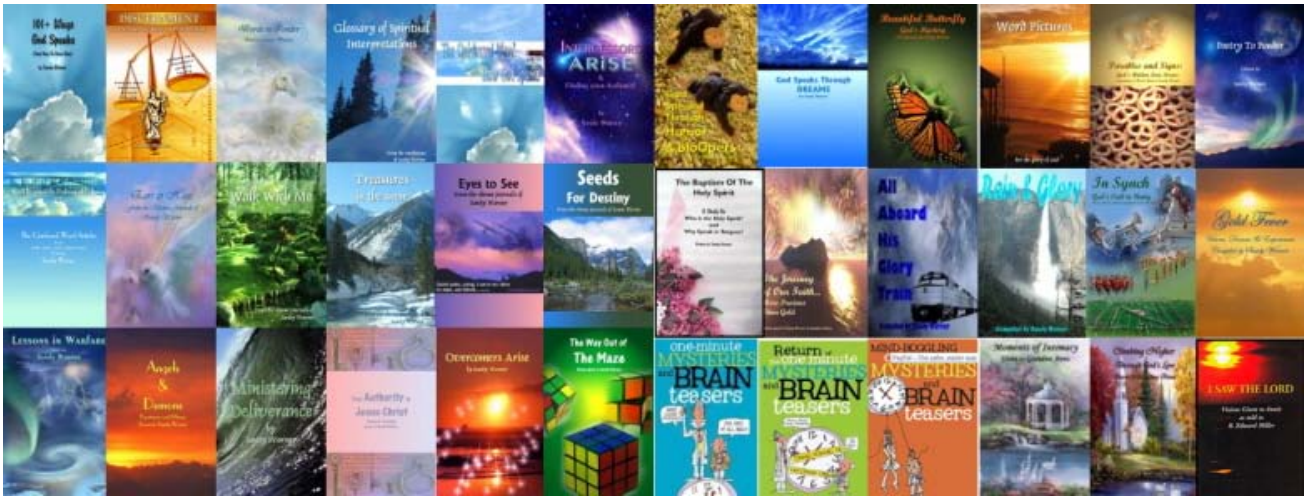

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GOLD DUST AND THE MOTHER LODE

(5 visions and 1 dream)

From Sandy Warner

3/8/99

Hi Loved Ones

Have you ever sat in a sun beam near a window, punched a pillow, and watched the dust swirl and twirl? (If you haven't, maybe that's one of those leftovers from my childhood days!) Well the first week of 1999, at church during worship, I suddenly saw sparkling gold glitter swirling and twirling in circles. I marveled at such a thing and asked the Lord what it could mean. Without my saying anything, a couple weeks later a lady came forward in church and shared a vision she'd had.

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Vision & Word given to Jennifer Holland:

As I was worshipping I saw gold dust filling the air. I asked the Lord what it was and He said it was the physical expression of His Presence. In other words, it was what we perceive in our understanding and experience of Him. Then I saw a gold miner standing in a stream panning for gold. He was picking up little flakes of gold in his gold pan and was very excited as he gathered each one in his dish. The Lord said,
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"That is My church, standing in the stream of My Presence and glory."

I perceived that we were satisfied and excited about those little nuggets and little flakes of the gold. There was a tendency to want to "camp" at the spot and not move on up the stream. I sensed a striving to get what gold could be found in the pan, but there was not a striving to go to the source, a digging into Him.

Then the Lord spanned the scope of my vision outward and I could see the stream with the mountain behind it. The Lord asked, "What is the source of that gold? The source of that gold is in the mountain. My very Presence is in the mountain." I could see a river of gold running through the mountain.

Prophetic Word:

"Come into the mountain, come into My very Presence. The flakes of gold are only like the sluffings off of Who I AM, and what I AM and what you are experiencing of Me. Come into the very Source of that gold. It may take digging, it may take a blasting away to get to the gold, but press into Me. You have been satisfied with the flakes when the mother lode is waiting. Press in, climb up stream and find the mother lode."

from Jennifer Holland

[end of vision]

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A couple weeks after Jennifer shared this, I read several pages of posted e-mails of people seeing gold dust, gold sparkles, and gold glitter all over the world. People saw it literally and they saw it in the Spirit. The following is a reprinted vision used with permission.

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Vision given to Lori Hankins:

About 7 years ago I had a vision: I was up on a stage preaching the gospel when suddenly Jesus appeared behind me. Then as I spoke gold dust started coming out of my mouth. I saw it come out and land on the people in the audience. I turned and looked at Jesus and He smiled and nodded His head yes. So I continued to share and then had the urge to blow upon people. When I did this the gold dust went all over the room filling the atmosphere. It was so incredible and real in the vision.

from Lori Hankins

[end of Lori’s vision]

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Dream given to Sandy:

After I wrote this gold dust post, but was waiting upon the Lord to send it, He gave me a dream: My Dad had a plant nursery, and I was enjoying the beautiful
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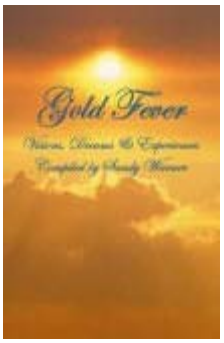
landscaping, the plants and the pools. As I was enjoying the lush setting, I passed by a huge solid gold boulder. A little miner (probably an angel) was standing in front of the gold boulder with his pick and shovel in hand ready to pass out chunks of gold. The reason he appeared so small is because the solid gold boulder was towering over his head! As I passed by I suddenly had large chunks of gold in my mouth. (About the size of jelly beans.) They felt quite strange and I wasn't sure if I was to swallow them or spit them out! At the same time I was deciding what to do with these gold chunks, a family asked me to pray for their son. The son was crooked with disease. I was not sure what I was supposed to do because I needed to pray for their son, but my mouth was filled with all of this gold! I woke up still deciding what I was supposed to do with these gold chunks.

2 Visions given to Sandy:

Today as I was preparing to send this post out, more posts came in about the Lord literally filling gold teeth. Teeth fillings are a parable of filling holes caused by decay. This reminded me of 2 visions I had in the early 80's. In the first I saw the army of cankerworms coming in masses over the hills and valleys. Everywhere their slime touched, they left gaping holes in people. The only way to keep from being "slimed" was to vigorously exercise one's conscience. In the scripture about the cankerworms, we have the Lord's promise, "And I will restore to you the years that the locust hath eaten, the cankerworm, and the caterpiller, and the palmerworm, my great army which I sent among you… And your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your old men shall dream dreams, Your young men shall see visions. And also on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days." (Joel 2: 25, 28,29)

In the other vision I saw my baby son's brand new tooth popping through and simultaneously heard the Lord's still small voice say, "There will I make the horn of David to bud." (Psalm 132:17) The word horn comes from a root Hebrew word meaning to grow a horn (like a rams horn). In part of the animal kingdom, horns are usually a symbol of the growth of authority. So as I ponder the sign of Him filling/replacing teeth with gold, I see the Lord saying He is wanting to restore our authority in Jesus to pray for the crooked and maimed and release the captives.

The last few weeks I have perceived a noticeable increase in His anointing. He is closer, His Presence is stronger and the manifestation of His power is stronger. I firmly believe that we have a door of opportunity opened to us at this very hour. He is drawing us closer to Him in preparation for what is to come. This is not a time to take the increases of His golden glory for granted, rather it is a time to persistently climb up stream, and dig deep until we find His mother lode. It's waiting. He's waiting! His gold rush is coming and He is asking us, "Do we want the gold dust or the Mother Lode?"



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Words from the The Quickened Word are excerpts from the journals of Sandy Warner. To better understand how God speaks, read Sandy's book, "101+ Ways God Speaks, And How to Hear Him." Website: www.thequickenedword.com Email: swauthor@usa.net

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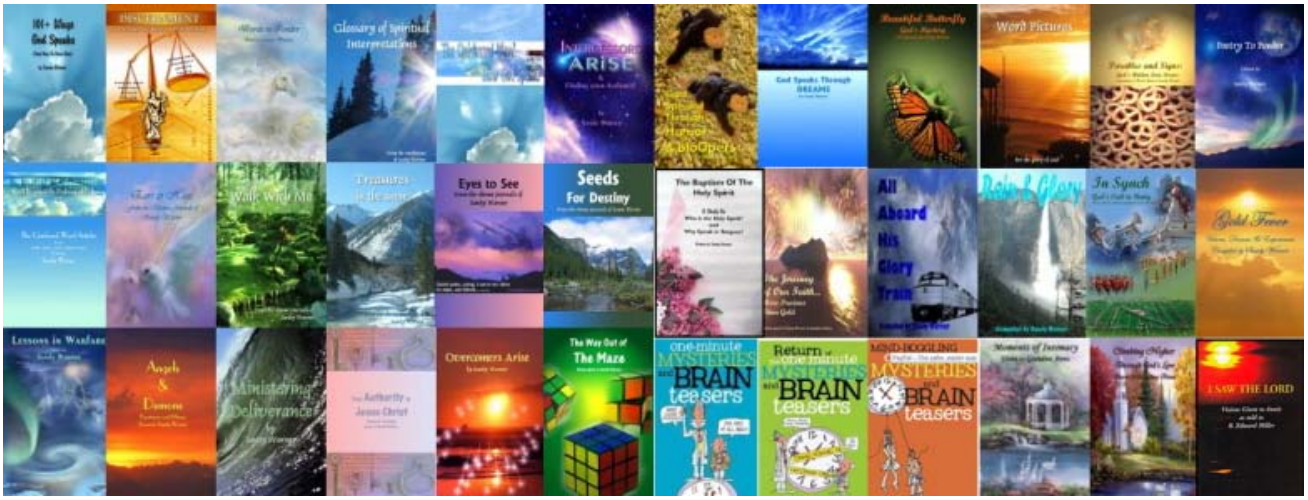

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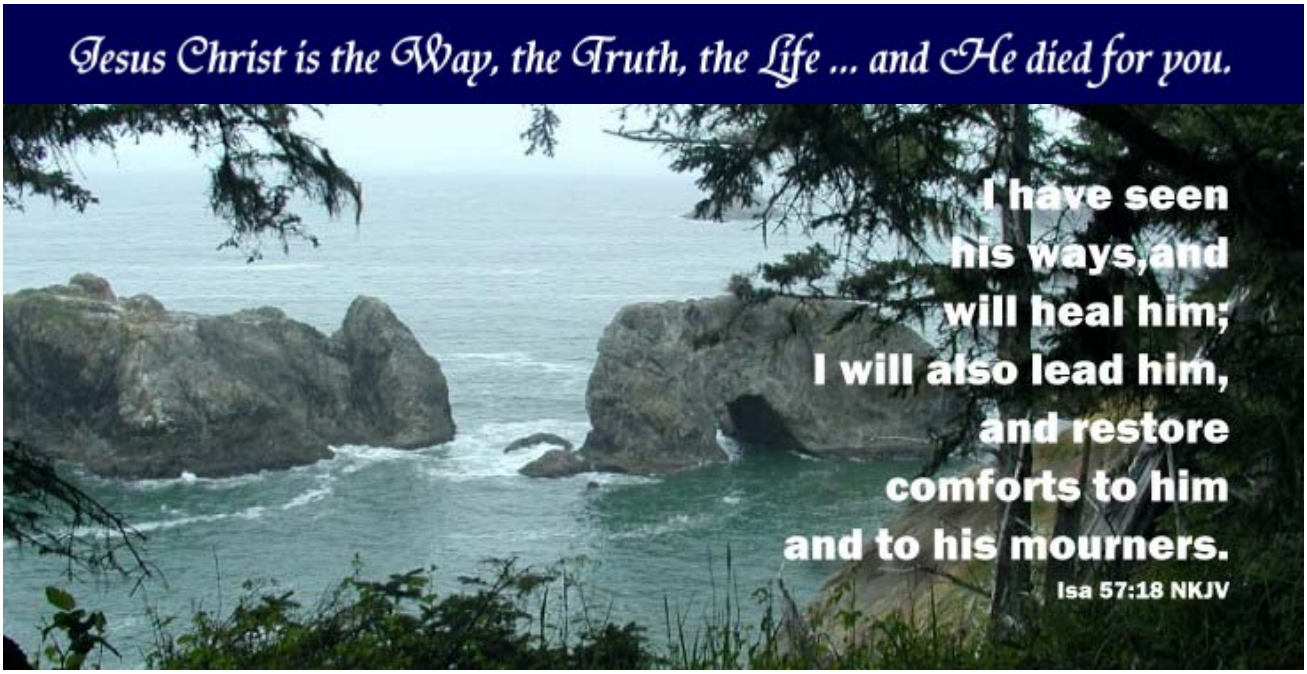

Sandy Warner ~ ~ swauthor@usa.net ~ ~ www.thequickenedword.com

INTERCESSION: FRIENDSHIP REQUIRED

By Wayne Warner… and a note from Sandy

6/2/99

Attending a conference, recently I watched a drama in real life play out in front of me. I watched a fellow go up for prayer and stand a very long time waiting for the speaker to pray for him. He had driven from out of town and especially wanted prayer. Every time the speaker would get close, he would zig zag the other direction and miss this hopeful man. This happened numerous times and finally I could tell that the speaker was about to leave without praying for him.

At that realization I overheard our pastor's wife say, "I am going up front to get prayer for my friend." As she moved up to the front, I saw Sandy and the man's wife stand up elsewhere and move forward with the same intention. I talked with them later and they all knew the speaker was about to leave without praying for this man. The Holy Spirit birthed in their hearts to be a mediator.

They gathered around the man and the speaker — and sure enough, as the speaker turned around, he turned the other direction and missed the man. Sandy was the only person left actually facing the speaker and she grabbed his hand as he was moving towards the door. "This man needs your prayers," she said as she placed the speaker's hand upon the man's heart. You could tell the speaker was surprised! He

immediately began to pray for this man with his three friends standing with them and agreeing in prayer.

[Note from Sandy - It was incredible that I actually had the courage to do that! However I was driven by love and the urgency of intercession. From a different place in the auditorium I watched the same drama play out and the Lord so touched me with the pain of dashed hopes. I was in agony feeling the pull and tug of my friend's heart as the speaker got near, then moved away — over and over again.]

[End of Sandy note]

What was quickened to me as I watched this whole drama play out was the story in Mark 2 about the paralyzed man and his friends. Four men carried a paralyzed man to Jesus on a stretcher, that he might be healed. When they realized they could not find a way to Jesus through the crowds or through a blocked door, they searched for another way. They saw a possibility through the roof and set about acquiring ropes and ladders. It must have been difficult to hoist the paralyzed man up onto the roof, but they were determined to get him to Jesus. Once they were on the roof, they faced the task of opening a hole that was big enough to lower the paralyzed man's stretcher down in front of Jesus.

I can imagine the turmoil that these friends caused by digging a hole in the roof above Jesus and the crowds. Can't you just hear all the grumbling as they went about their task? "Hey you're making too much noise." "What a mess!" "Stop interrupting the meeting!" But these friends would not be stopped. Working together, finally after a tiring and laborious process they lowered the paralyzed man down in front of Jesus.

It is interesting that Jesus always goes right to the source of the trouble. These friends wanted this man to be healed. But Jesus probably surprised them by forgiving his sins. After all the work they had gone to and Jesus forgives his sins? But the Lord is in the business of healing the whole man, both the body and the soul. These friends got even more from Jesus than they had hoped for. Their friend was both healed and forgiven — what a gift.

After witnessing the drama at the conference and then thinking about this section of scripture, the Lord opened my mind to see that in most cases a person who is suffering and afflicted needs real friends to place them at the feet of our Lord Jesus. In the case of the paralyzed man, his friends had to be in one accord. First they had to agree that their friend's need was something they could not meet. Second, these friends had to agree that they believed Jesus could meet the need. Third, these friends had to agree to a plan to get their friend to Jesus. Fourth, these friends had to work together to make their plan work. Fifth, these friends had to agree that nothing would stop them from getting their friend to Jesus.

I believe that what the church needs today are more friends that will go the distance for a friend in need. They need to be willing to overcome fear of man's opinions, be persistent, and be willing to be held responsible for any mess that accrues in reaching Jesus.

"Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends." (John 15:13 NKJV)

Lovingly,

Wayne & Sandy Warner

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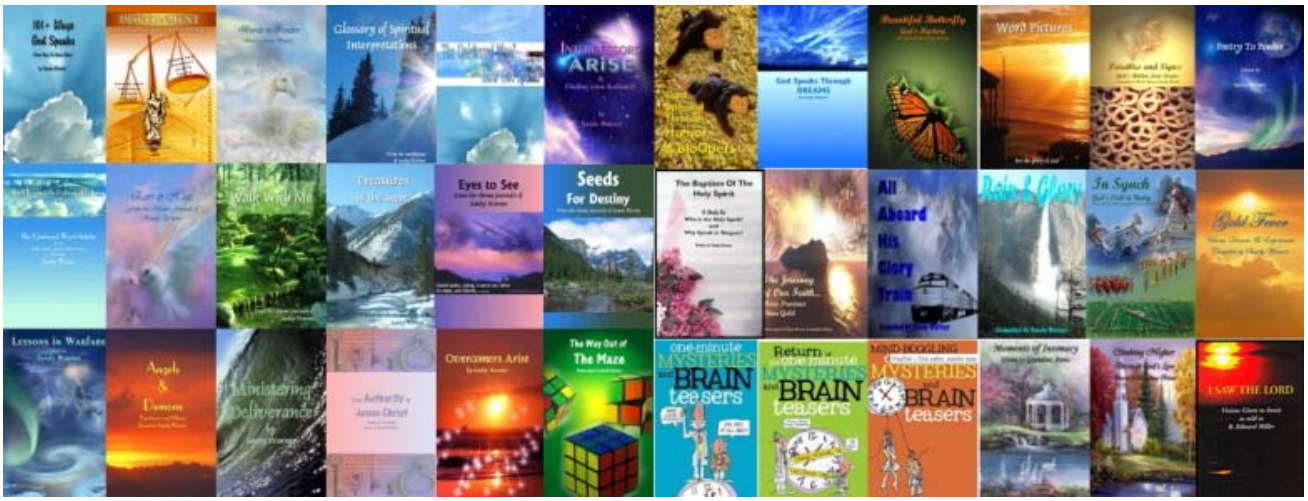

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THE PLOWMAN AND THE REAPER

[Moving into the Days of Acceleration]

EXPERIENCE: In February of 2004 the Lord upped His power in my life and moved me into a new place. This took place in my intimacy with Him, inner healing, in my relationships, gifts, ministry and prayer life. It was like He put me in warp drive. I felt the impact of His wind in my sails and a rocket thruster on my tail. This does not mean that the months that followed weren't without conflict. On the contrary, they were filled with sudden upheaval, but at the same time the momentum to move me in and through it all climaxed into resolutions. After having suffered years and years and years of delay - and all the pain that it brings - it was quite startling to suddenly have delay broken and be moving again.

[Note for additional understanding, click here on "Spring Forward Suddenly."]

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VISION 7/16/04: I saw this balcony with all these people peering down over the top.

[This was a balcony in heaven and the Cloud of witnesses looking down.]

HEARD: Any day. The plowman and the reaper.

Amos 9:11 NKJV

"On that day I will raise up the tabernacle of David, which has fallen down, and repair its damages; I will raise up its ruins, And rebuild it as in the days of old;

Amos 9:13 TLB

"The time will come when there will be such abundance of crops that the harvesttime will scarcely end before the farmer starts again to sow another crop, and the terraces of grapes upon the hills of Israel will drip sweet wine!

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DAYS OF ACCELERATION

CONFIRMATION 7/17/04: January 28, 2004 the angel Gabriel in the Bible came to earth. Prior to this, Bobby Conner was told to prophesy that he was coming, so he prophesied this for months. When this was fulfilled, Gabriel came to an 11 year old boy and told the boy to give a message to Bobby. Gabriel lifted up his robe to reveal his feet to the boy and he said, "Tell Bobby I have my running shoes on."

When I heard Bobby testify of this, I received this as a confirmation to the huge boost I had received in February when the Lord put me in overdrive. I also realized this was connected to my vision the night before of seeing the cloud of witnesses peering down in anticipation of when the plowman shall overtake the reaper. I knew that God's time table had moved forward.

BOBBY CONNER QUOTES 7/17/04 Albany, OR

"… Acceleration. It is a time to do what God has put in your hands to do. How are you supposed to do it? With all your might. No hesitation. It's time to advance. I am releasing right now the spirit of an overcomer. The one that realizes there is a higher destiny than where they are living. They cannot and will not live a life of defeat. God is stirring champions right now. We will be known as the generation that overcomes, or we will be the generation that is overcome…"

Bobby Conner

http://www.bobbyconner.org/

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EXPERIENCE 7/23/04: I had been earnestly praying over a lady who had been in years of captivity. Right after prayer, I heard the Lord speak to me.

HEARD: Road block. Ousted. Now is the time to get rid of them. In the interest of time, I want to help you. Answered prayer. It's a go.

INTERP: We have been in a great long delay and the Lord is going to make up for lost time by accelerating everything towards rebuilding and repairing His fallen people, - His tabernacle. [Amos 9:11-15] One acceleration concerns the seeds of prayer being reaped. The seeds of prayer will harvested very quickly.

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PARABLE CONFIRMATION 7/24/04: I was working on E2H and suddenly remembered I had forgotten to get meat out of the freezer for lunch. As I thought this, I was doing a search on the word prayer and came across the following 2 entries from 1/5/04!

QUICKENED SIGN: Rapid Delivery Service. Saves you money.

QUICKENED PRAYER: I said, "Lord help me to establish the habit of getting the meat out of the freezer at the same time I fix lunch. That way the next day we will have meat unthawed and ready to cook." This was also quickened to me for "cooking" Ears2Hear … knowing what comes next while I am working on the one prior to it. {end insert}

So the Lord had my attention, since I was just thinking about forgetting to take the meat out of the freezer. Then I realized I did have fresh meat from the store in the fridge, but had forgotten it was going to be a slow simmer kind of meal in the crock pot. Crockpots make any kind of meat tender. It was too late to start the crockpot meal, but I realized if I cooked most of the ingredients on the stove first, then placed it in the crockpot so that it could still simmer for tenderness and this would save some significant time. I realized once again that the Lord was saying to me that He is upping the heat, the power, the time, and putting everything on a faster pace towards accomplishing His goals for His kingdom at this hour.

GRANDMA ANNA SUDDENLY ALLEGORY: I was sitting on a hillside side facing East in northeast Phoenix, Arizona and suddenly the Fountain Hills fountain shot up behind another hill, hundreds of feet in the air. I opened the Word with anointed hands to Ezekiel 47:8 "These waters issue out toward the East country and go down into the desert and there shall be a very great multitude of fish, because these waters shall come thither; for they shall be healed: and everything shall live wither the river cometh."

Then I opened again to Joel 3:18 "A fountain shall come forth of the house of the Lord and shall water the valley of (thorns)."

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CONCLUSION

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{Words to Ponder are summaries of His quickened Words}

WORD TO PONDER: THE PLOWMAN AND THE REAPER

These are the days of advancement. Within the throngs of delay, when time stood almost still - now there is much work to do to make up for lost time. I have moved forward and sped up events. This is like My train building up steam and building up power. I am building up time’s momentum and this shall bring the transition of change into swifter resolutions. Yes this will require your persistence and tenacity to hang on straight to breakthrough, but this also means that your breakthroughs are within reach if you do not give up and you are willing to press through to resolution.

These are the days of prayer. It is time to adjust your anticipation and your level of expectation. Hopelessness be gone! PRAY about all things. Take authority and use your keys. Yes, these are the days of sudden clashes as events quickly unfold. In these days of acceleration you shall receive sudden interventions and sudden changes.

I will continue to move the momentum of time forward until it reaches full speed. In that day the one who reaps a harvest shall draw near to the one who has just planted the seed. In that day, there will not only be an immediate harvest of answers to prayer, but your life shall be in a continual expectancy for Me to answer even before you call. Beloved, it is time to remove your old mind-sets of hopelessness, despair and passive what's-the-use mentality. It is time to move you forward so you will learn to press through to resolution. Get your gears oiled, and lined up with My purposes to be ready for Me to move you into place.

Amos 9:11-15 YLT (Young's Literal Translation)

In that day I raise the tabernacle of David, that is fallen, And I have repaired their breaches, And its ruins I do raise up, And I have built it up as in days of old. So that they possess the remnant of Edom, And all the nations on whom My name is called, An affirmation of Jehovah -- doer of this. Lo, days are coming -- an affirmation of Jehovah, And come nigh hath the ploughman to the reaper, And the treader of grapes to the scatterer of seed, And the mountains have dropped juice, And all the hills do melt.

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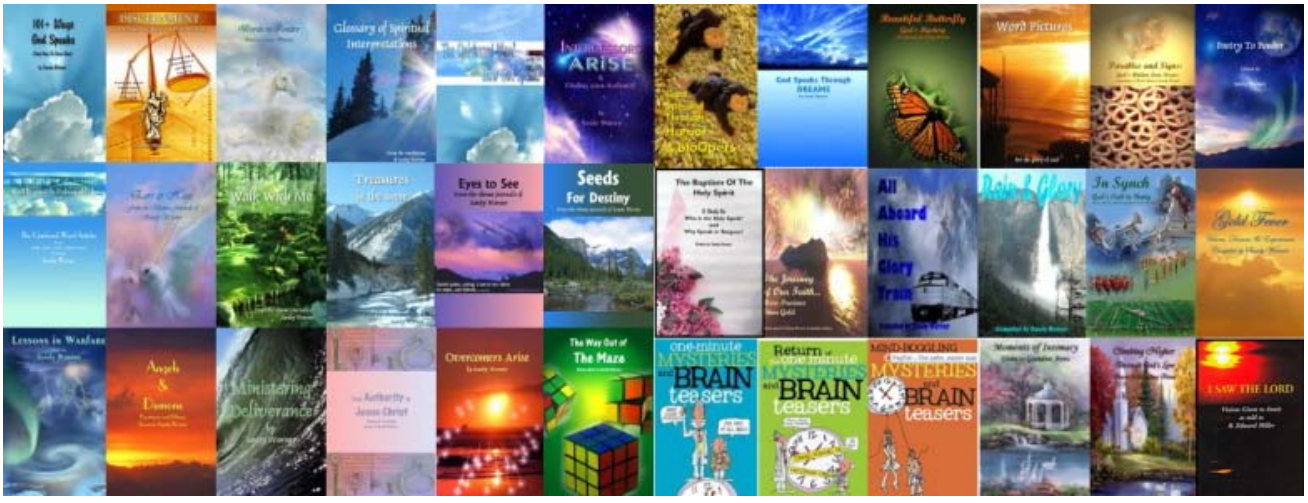

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DAFFODIL GLORY

Sandy Warner

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website: www.thequickenedword.com

I read the following story circling the Internet. It really touched my heart and was quickened to me about my calling in hearing, keeping and birthing His Words into fruition.

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The Daffodil Principle

by: Jaroldeen Asplund Edwards

Several times my daughter had telephoned to say, "Mother, you must come see the daffodils before they are over." I wanted to go, but it was a two hour drive from Laguna to Lake Arrowhead. "I will come next Tuesday, " I promised, a little reluctantly, on her third call.

Next Tuesday dawned cold and rainy. Still, I had promised, and so I drove there. When I finally walked into Carolyn's house and hugged and greeted my grandchildren. I said, "Forget the daffodils, Carolyn! The road is invisible in the clouds and fog, and there is nothing in the world except you and these children that I want to see bad enough to drive another inch!"

My daughter smiled calmly," We drive in this all the time, Mother."

"Well, you won't get me back on the road until it clears and then I'm heading for home!" I assured her.

"I was hoping you'd take me over to the garage to pick up my car."

"How far will we have to drive?"

"Just a few blocks," Carolyn said, "I'll drive. I'm used to this."

After several minutes I had to ask, "Where are we going? This isn't the way to the garage!" "We're going to my garage the long way," Carolyn smiled, "by way of the daffodils."

"Carolyn," I said sternly, "please turn around."

"It's all right, Mother. I promise you will never forgive yourself if you miss this experience."

After about twenty minutes we turned onto a small gravel road and I saw a small church. On the far side of the church I saw a hand lettered sign "Daffodil Garden." We got out of the car and each took a child's hand, and I followed Carolyn down the path. Then we turned a corner of the path, and I looked up and gasped. Before me lay the most glorious sight. It looked as though someone had taken a great vat of gold and poured it down over the mountain peak and slopes. The flowers were planted in majestic, swirling patterns, great ribbons and swaths of deep orange, white, lemon yellow, salmon pink, saffron, and butter yellow. Each different colored variety was planted as a group so that it swirled and flowed like its own river with its own unique hue. Five acres of flowers.

"But who has done this?" I asked Carolyn. "It's just one woman," Carolyn answered. "She lives on the property. That's her home." Carolyn pointed to a well kept A-frame house that looked small and modest in the midst of all that glory. We walked up to the house. On the patio we saw a poster "Answers to the Questions I Know You Are Asking" was the headline.

The first answer was a simple one: "50,000 bulbs," it read.

The second answer was, "One at a time, by one woman. Two hands, two feet, and very little brain."

The third answer was, "Began in 1958."

There it was. The Daffodil Principle. For me that moment was a life changing experience. I thought of this woman whom I had never met, who, more than forty years before, had begun, one bulb at a time, to bring her vision of beauty and joy to an obscure mountain top. Still, just planting one bulb at a time, year after year, had changed the world.

This unknown woman had forever changed the world in which she lived. She had created something of ineffable magnificence, beauty, and inspiration. The principle her daffodil garden taught is one of the greatest principles of celebration: learning to move toward our goals and desires one step at a time, often just one baby step at a time, learning to love the doing, learning to use the accumulation of time.

When we multiply tiny pieces of time with small increments of daily effort, we too will find we can accomplish magnificent things. We can change the world.

"It makes me sad in a way," I admitted to Carolyn. "What might I have accomplished if I had thought of a wonderful goal thirty-five years ago and had worked away at it 'one bulb at a time' through all those years. Just think what I might have been able to achieve!"

My daughter summed up the message of the day in her direct way. "Start now," she said.

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CONCLUSION

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{Words to Ponder are summaries of His quickened Words}

WORD TO PONDER: BIT BY BIT

Bit by bit, one step at a time, I unfold My plans for your life. I have given you My promise, that what I have planted in your life is intended to be a hidden wealth that will come forth in the right season. As time passes, you shall see seasonal manifestations of these, My planted treasures. Stay faithful to Me and believe My Words spoken to you. In the fullness of time I shall multiply it all for My glory. As you look back from whence you came, you shall know without a doubt, that no matter what, I have done far beyond what you could ever ask or think.

Always remember that when your life comes into blossom, that it came from persistent time on your spiritual knees.

1 Cor 2:9 KJV

But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

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Jesus Christ is the Way, the Truth, the Life ... and He died for you.

Maturity

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PERFECT, COMPLETED FAITH

EXPERIENCE: Wayne has been working extremely hard in the heat to complete our yard for the celebration of our "Sonshine's" graduation from college and his subsequent marriage this summer. Wayne finally finished and so today he and I took a car trip up the river which is an uphill climb into the mountains.

During the trip, we received a most amazing Word from the Lord. Along the way, there was a lovely golf course nestled in the midst of a glorious view of the mountains. So we pulled in to take some pictures. As we drove up the road through the course, Wayne said, "77707." I had no idea what he was talking about, then I saw that he was reading our speedometer. This was very quickened to me. It was almost five sevens in a row!

7 is the number of completion and 5 means grace. I said that we were completing the course with great grace. Then as soon as I said the word "course" I looked out at the green grass and realized we were driving on a course!

I had my camera and wanted to take a picture of the speedometer when it reached 77777, because I felt it would be very significant. It was also quickened to me to recognize exactly where we were driving when this happened and to take notice of anything quickened to me in the environment. We kept watching the speedometer so I wouldn't miss the 77777.

We drove about 40 more minutes up to a natural hot springs, almost to the top of the mountain pass and walked through their flourishing gardens and ponds, then drove back down towards home. The speedometer seemed really slow in turning and I realized that we thought the last digit was the mileage in tenths, but it was in miles. Wayne said it would be 50 more miles before the speedometer reached 77777. At

that moment, my eye glanced at the mileage road marker beside the road and it said "Milepost 49." We realized when we reached our home town, that the speedometer would be 77777. We decided to stop along the side of the road so Wayne could take the photo when it happened. We drove into town and stopped by the local garden nursery. Then we drove towards home. By the time we were about 2 miles from home, the speedometer said 77757. I was amazed. I could hardly believe this. We held our breath all the way home. The speedometer literally turned to 77777 just as we pulled into our driveway!!!! The chances of that happening were a total miracle. Wayne took the camera and took the picture in our own driveway.

SECOND MIRACLE: The milepost said we were 49 miles outside of the city limits and our speedometer needed just 50. However our home is about 7 miles into the city limits. Amazing!

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VISION: I saw myself sitting on my back porch. On the porch was a large replica of a miniature pot I'd kept on my window sill for many years.

NOTE: When the miniature pot was given to me, I was told the story about the man who spent his whole life's resources to search for a treasure. He traveled all around the world to find it. When he arrived home depleted and exhausted, he found it buried in his own back yard.

"For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." (Matt 6:21 KJV)

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Eph 4:13 AMP

[That it might develop] until we all attain oneness in the faith and in the comprehension of the [full and accurate] knowledge of the Son of God, that [we might arrive] at really mature manhood (the completeness of personality which is nothing less than the standard height of Christ's own perfection), the measure of the stature of the fullness of the Christ and the completeness found in Him.

Col 1:28 AMP

Him we preach and proclaim, warning and admonishing everyone and instructing everyone in all wisdom (comprehensive insight into the ways and purposes of God), that we may present every person mature (full-grown, fully initiated, complete, and perfect) in Christ (the Anointed one).

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CONCLUSION

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{Words to Ponder are summaries of His quickened Words}

WORD TO PONDER: COMPLETING THE COURSE

Precious Ones, you are climbing a great mountain and in the process you have been greatly tried and tested through an uphill journey. You are running the race set before you and with My great grace, you will finish this course.

As you mount to the top of your climb, you will find your life in full bloom, graduating from your past hardships and prepared to be one with Me. Even when you are far spent and think you can not go another step, your life will flourish in Me. I have been training your life towards being a lovely and flourishing garden. This is a result of all My pruning and your hard work. It is also the place where you have spent all your strivings and finally come into full dependence upon My strength instead of your own. Full abiding is the secret to full grown fruit. My love, it is in that place that we become one.

You have traveled far distances and overcome many obstacles to come home to Me! Your faith in Me is springing forth into a perfect, complete and mature union with My Word, My heart, Myself. It is in that place that great grace, and multiplied grace, will rise upon your life like the sun on its brightest day. You will forever leave the uphill battles of yesterday along with the sweat of your brow. I will pave the way before you with grace, grace and more grace.

Heb 12:1-2 AMP

THEREFORE THEN, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses [who have borne testimony to the Truth], let us strip off and throw aside every encumbrance (unnecessary weight) and that sin which so readily (deftly and cleverly) clings to and entangles us, and let us run with patient endurance and steady and active persistence the appointed course of the race that is set before us,

Looking away [from all that will distract] to Jesus, Who is the Leader and the Source of our faith [giving the first incentive for our belief] and is also its Finisher [bringing it to maturity and perfection]. He, for the joy [of obtaining the prize] that was set before Him, endured the cross, despising and ignoring the shame, and is now seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

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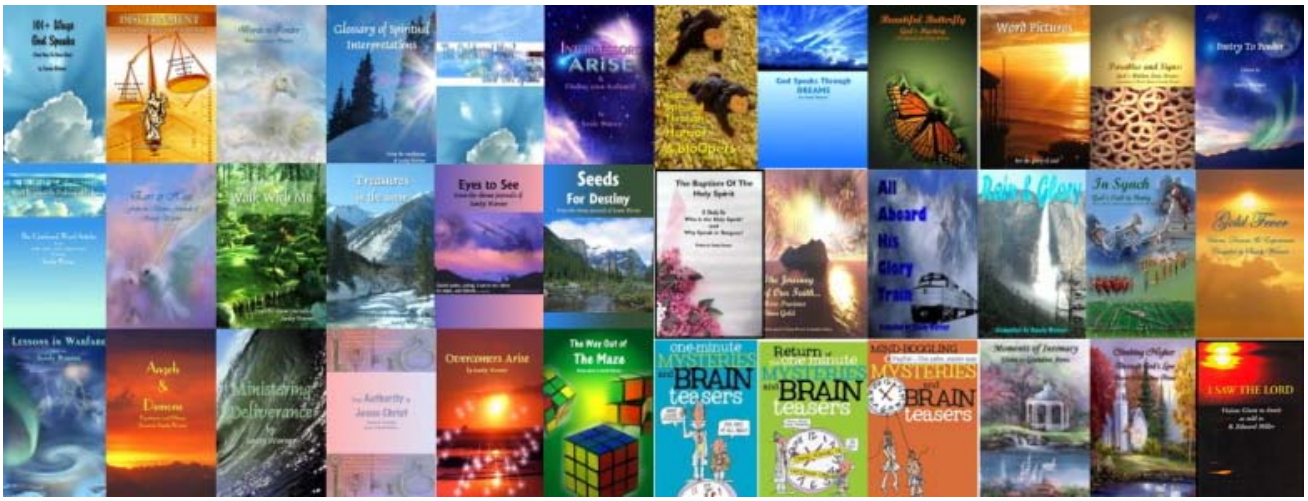

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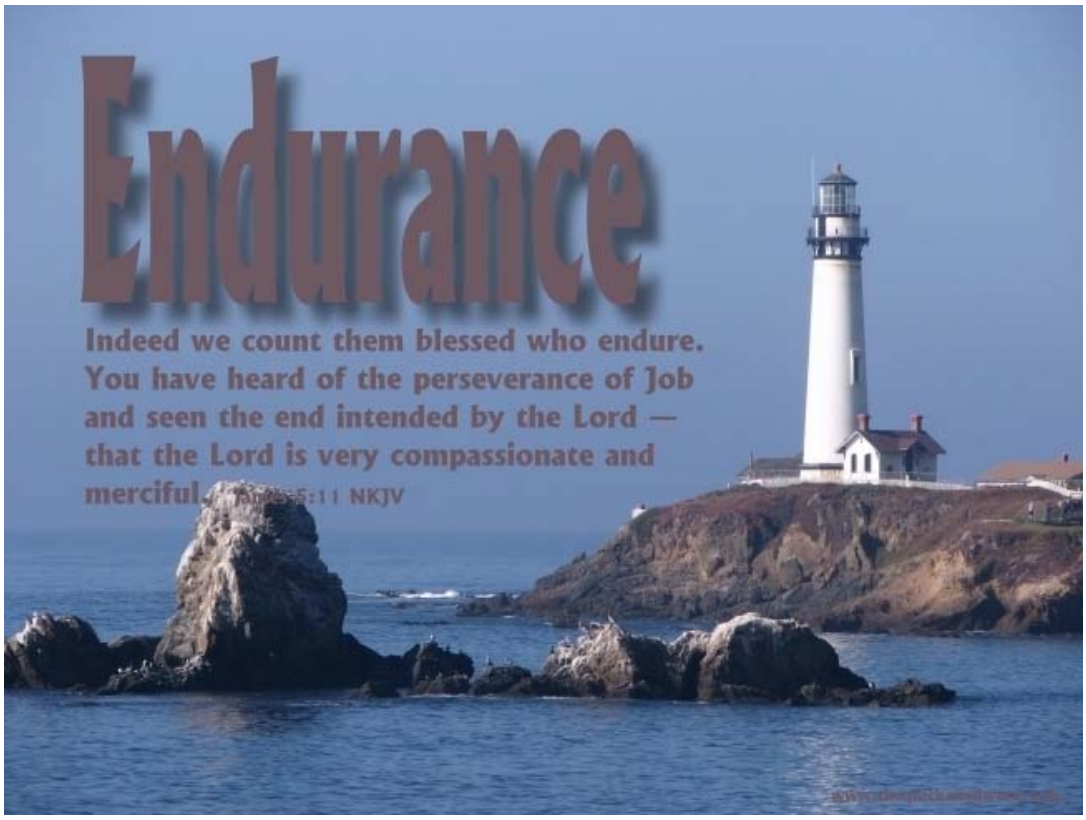

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THE CLIMB OF FAITH

SANDY RHEMA

HEARD: Prophetic wing. Take off.

VISION: I saw some wings start to flap as though ready to take off.

HEARD: There's light. Let it shine in the midst of thee.

VISION: I saw a rock climber trying to climb straight up a cliff.

HEARD: Lord help us!

CONFIRMATION: Right after I heard and saw this, I turned on the tape and Bobby Conner was speaking about ascending the hill of the Lord. He was saying that we can not do it in the power of our own flesh. In our climb up His holy hill, the Lord is

stern in wanting us to leave the power and pursuits of our flesh and the building of our own agendas. He wants nothing less than the holy image of His Son and for us to take on HIS agenda. Bobby saw a pile of carnage as people failed the climb because they were trying to do it in their own strength and were not climbing in the Spirit.

Bobby spoke of the things that inhibit our climb. [Bobby Quote]: "We can't joke it off, or mesmerize ourselves on TV. There's a peg in the holy place and we can't get rid of it. You know I am telling you the truth. We are going to see the wind change. (!!!!) We're going to soar, but we will get killed soaring in the flesh. If you soar through that 2nd heaven with a polluted life, you won't get out of there. We have got start handling the things of God with holy hands."

Ps 24:3-10 NLT

Who may climb the mountain of the LORD? Who may stand in his holy place? Only those whose hands and hearts are pure, who do not worship idols and never tell lies. They will receive the LORD's blessing and have right standing with God their savior. They alone may enter God's presence and worship the God of Israel. Open up, ancient gates! Open up, ancient doors, and let the King of glory enter. Who is the King of glory? The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, invincible in battle. Open up, ancient gates! Open up, ancient doors, and let the King of glory enter. Who is the King of glory? The LORD Almighty-- he is the King of glory.

==========

SANDY RHEMA

VISION: Some time in the mid 80's I had a vision of the Lord's mountain. It was dark outside and I saw many car headlights headed up the mountain. Most of the lights were on the bottom one third of the mountain. There were some in the middle section of the mountain and very few on the top. When I saw this I had the instant impartation that this was the Psalms 24 mountain, and the headlights represented the body of Christ and where they were in their journey for their King of glory.

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GRANDMA ANNA RHEMA

HEARD: I'd rather climb the hill of the faithful than enjoy the sins for a season.

==========

SANDY RHEMA

HEARD: Where do you want to go now? Bud. She climbed up that mountain. Steep.

Ps 132:17 KJV

There will I make the horn of David to bud: I have ordained a lamp for mine anointed.

==========

SANDY RHEMA

[I had come to a point of total exhaustion and could not go another step.]

HEARD: Don’t quit. Just rest. Enjoy our time together. Fellowship. Climb. I will carry you.

WORD TO PONDER: DON’T QUIT, JUST REST

When you are so weary you can not take another step, know that I AM with you. When you think that you have taken your last breath, know that I AM with you. When you think you have spent your last dime, know that I AM with you.

You feel that you are on your last leg because the passion and zeal that you once felt is gone. It is not a time to quit, dear one. Just rest. Rest in Me. Yes the climb has been long and tough, but now is not the time to retreat or look back. You must move on. Just say you are willing, then call upon Me and I will sweep you into My arms and you will once again have the passion and zeal to continue to climb. It is in those times when we fellowship together as you experience My nearness and are touched by our communion that you receive My supernatural grace to continue on. So rest in My arms of love, once again.

Ps 116:4-9 NKJV

Then I called upon the name of the LORD:"O LORD, I implore You, deliver my soul!"

Gracious is the LORD, and righteous; Yes, our God is merciful. The LORD preserves the simple; I was brought low, and He saved me. Return to your rest, O my soul, for the LORD has dealt bountifully with you. For You have delivered my soul from death, my eyes from tears, and my feet from falling. I will walk before the LORD in the land of the living.

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GRANDMA ANNA RHEMA

VISION: [I was sitting in the family room when I went into a trance.] I was climbing up a shaft very laboriously by way of my elbows. At the top I could see a brilliant light. Suddenly I knew that if I reached the top and walked into the light I would disappear. While still pondering the ramifications of that, I saw myself still climbing. I pulled myself over the edge with great effort. I stood up and walked without hesitation into the light. Then I heard the Lord say, "Colossians 3:3." I went to that verse and was shocked as to what it said: "For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God." (Col 3:3 KJV)

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CONCLUSION

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{Words to Ponder are summaries of His quickened Words}

WORD TO PONDER: THE HILL OF THE LORD

This is the generation whose lights will burn brightly. Together, as they climb My holy hill, their fervency will shine brighter and brighter. See My holy hill illuminate in the darkness! United, these flaming hearts make the hill of the Lord become a beacon to all the world.

Come unto Me all who have hungry hearts. Seek Me with all your heart. Climb My holy hill and indeed, you shall see My face. Love Me with all your mind, your will, your heart, your strength. With everything in you, climb to Me. Higher and higher, persistently and tenaciously one foot in front of the other, climb My hill.

You will learn the great secret as you climb. The higher you come into My Presence, the weaker your own independence and personal strength will be. You will find there is no life outside of total clinging to Me. Dear ones, the tenacity of your clinging and your perseverance will be rewarded. If you seek Me, you will indeed find Me. Your king of glory shall in deed come in.

"Who shall ascend into the hill of the LORD? or who shall stand in his holy place? He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully. He shall receive the blessing from the LORD, and righteousness from the God of his salvation. This is the generation of them that seek him, that seek thy face, O Jacob. Selah. Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in." (Psalm 24: 3-7)

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Words from the The Quickened Word are excerpts from the journals of Sandy Warner. To better understand how God speaks, read Sandy's book, "101+ Ways God Speaks, And How to Hear Him." Website: www.thequickenedword.com Email: swauthor@usa.net

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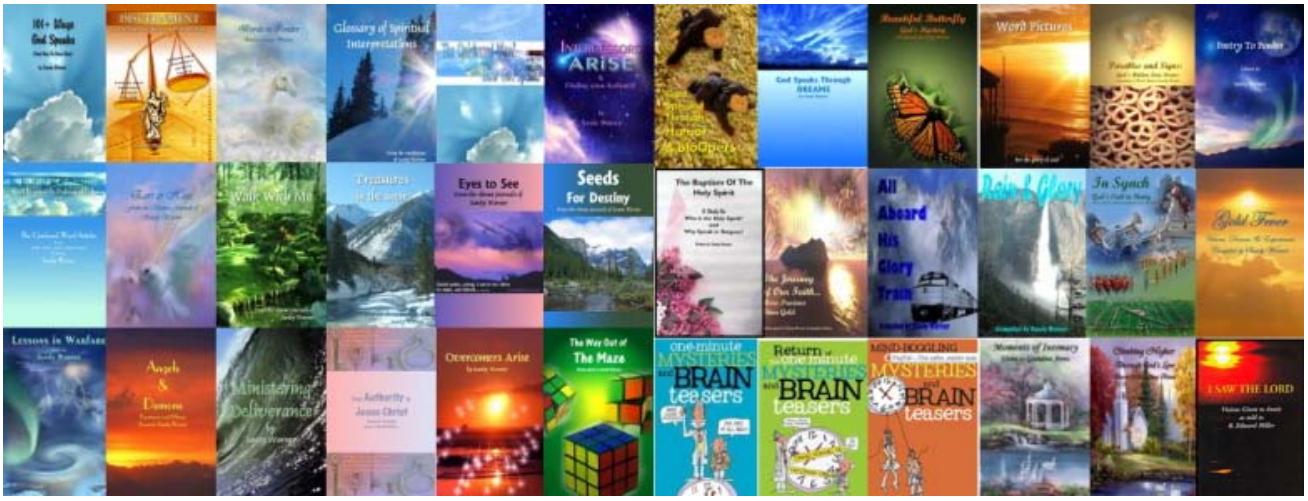

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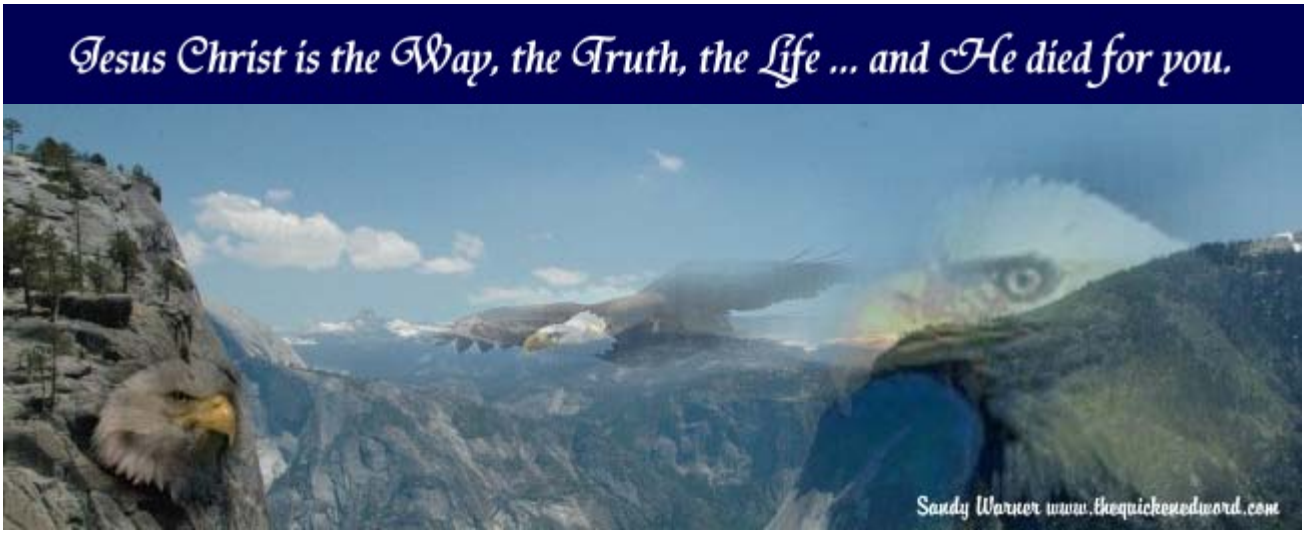

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THEME OF THIS FILE: TO SOAR LIKE AN EAGLE

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1] TO FLY LIKE AN EAGLE

Eagle Facts & Parables of Mentoring

By Sandy Warner

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6/16/01

Isaiah 40:31 KJV

But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.
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Deut 32:11-12 NKJV

As an eagle stirs up its nest, hovers over its young, spreading out its wings, taking them up, carrying them on its wings, so the LORD alone led him, and there was no foreign god with him.

As most of you know, eagles have been classified in the prophetic world as being symbolic of the prophetic. I recently did some research about eagles and was fascinated with how the information correlated with our training up as Christians and also the prophetic giftings.

IMPRINTING - BONDING WITH WHAT MOVES

Did you know that eagles must LEARN to fly and hunt and are taught by OBSERVING their parents? These skills are not instinctive like some of God's creatures. However, eagles are born with a different instinct called imprinting. Konrad Lorenz first discovered imprinting when he observed ducks and geese hatching out of their eggs. He noticed they would bond with the first moving object they saw, regardless of whether this was their parent. From that first moment of imprinting, they follow their moving parent (or adopted parent) until raised. (It is interesting that Paul said, "Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ." 1 Cor. 11:1)

The concept of imprinting is fascinating. Bird shelters that rescue eagle eggs, must hand feed them with an eagle puppet so that the eagles do not think they are human and end up resisting their own kind when it is time to mate. In Kondrad's imprinting studies, he saw one egg hatch near a rolling ping pong ball. When the duck grew old enough, it tried to mate with anything that was round and rolling. One group of ducklings imprinted on his moving boots. In the morning when he would go outside to put on his boots, instead of being in their nest, the ducks were curled up and sleeping on his boots. They followed Kondrad - everywhere his boots took him.

ROLE MODELS - LEADING THE WAY

In this concept of imprinting, it is easy to see the importance of both newborn Christians and also newborn

prophets needing proper Christian and prophetic role models. Anything that ‘moves’ in the name of Christianity, is not necessarily the right standard to follow. (Mat 7:22,23, 5:24, 2 Tim 4:3,4)

Like the eagles, a Christian’s foundations of learning to fly and hunt must be learned, and the adoptive parents play an important part in this. Flying in a Christian’s life is faith to rise above circumstances. Hunting is searching for the manna or bread from heaven, to grow strong and healthy. At first the role models feed the young, then they must learn to find food for themselves. "Train up a child in the way he should go, And when he is old he will not depart from it." (Prov 22:6)

There is an old adage, "Give a person a fish, and he has food for a day. Teach a person to fish, and he has food for a lifetime." One aspect of being taught is learning to listen and then applying it. The young learn this by watching older ones model something, then they mimic it themselves until they develop their own skills. "Listen, my child, to what your father teaches you. Don't neglect your mother's teaching. What you learn from them will crown you with grace and clothe you with honor." (Prov 1:8-9

NLT)

HOW TO TEACH

An important aspect of teaching, is for the older ones to take the time to explain HOW they came to their conclusions. If they are sharing something from the Lord, they can take the time to explain what went on behind the scenes, building bridges of communication, so that the young can also learn how to come up with their own conclusions when the time comes. When the older ones simply give the meat (the Word of the Lord) without giving them the scripture, vision, dream, life examples, the answers to prayer, the thought processes that went on behind the scenes... etc... then the young are forced to either swallow or reject the food without question. And the Word becomes fish for a day. But if the young are led in what went on behind the scenes, then they learn to apply their own conclusions and also learn the roads of revelation and faith in receiving food from the Lord by themselves.

The best teacher is a role model. Jesus taught by living

among the people, showing them how to do what He did and teaching them about His Father Who was the Source for everything in His life. He taught people through stories in their current surroundings, so that they could see the practical and apply it to the spiritual. The best kind of teachers are those who are transparent and learn to let go of their dignity and masks. They are simply real, living people, sharing from their own hearts and lives... the triumphs and the pitfalls of every day living, and how relationship with our Heavenly Father makes a difference. (John 10:2-4)

We may think that we are not mature enough to teach anyone. This is not true. I spent a long time praying for mature leadership so that we would have enough godly role models to raise the harvest when it came. And the Lord brought me an answer I did not expect. If you watch a baby in a room with other people, you will notice that if there is a toddler in the room, the baby's eyes will follow the moving toddler. If there is a grade schooler in the room, the toddler will watch the moving grade schooler. The younger will automatically bond and follow whatever available age is older than its own. I noticed this is like imprinting! God has placed within our lives, an instinctive bonding that each level of maturity looks up to, following and mimicking the next available level above it. When the harvest comes in, a one day old Christian can reach a non Christian with his own story of how God found him. The one week old Christian can share the scripture that jumped off the page with the 2 day old Christian. And so it goes, until we all grow into the full measure and stature of Jesus Christ. (Eph 4:13)

LEARNING TO FLY

The movie called "Fly Away Home" is a wonderful true story of how a little girl rescued some duck eggs from an excavation project and brought them home to hatch. After hatching they followed her everywhere and she found out as they were growing that these ducks would not survive unless she taught them to fly and took their migration south for the winter. This prophetic story is a remarkable feat of how she taught them to flap their wings and eventually fly and how she led them on their first migration to escape the bitter cold. If she could fly them south, they would find their own way back home in the spring by the same way she took them, and then be able to take the following winter migrations without her. All the subsequent "children" of those first ducks would be able to follow their parents on their own first migration and the cycle would continue.

When a baby eagle fledges (loses its fluffy baby down and grows flying feathers) a parent will hover over the nest and flap its wings. As the fledgling stretches for food, it mimics the parents and flaps its newly feathered wings. The subsequent wind that the parent makes, will cause the baby to rise slightly above the nest as the baby is also flapping its own wings. These are its first flights - inches above the floor of the nest, usually at about 8-10 weeks old. The fledging makes vigorous wing stretches and exercises and is very hungry. It weighs about one pound more than its parents because it needs the excess to survive the next stage of training which is hunting - outside the nest.

FORCED FROM THE NEST

Sometimes when a young eaglet is fearful of taking its first flight away from the nest, a parent will withhold food to force it out. This is similar to what happens to those who have been closely mentored and the Lord says its time the "fledglings" got their wings. The fledglings find their mentors increasingly unavailable and or are told to try and hear the Lord for themselves.

I read of one experience written by Frances Hamerstrom who spent her life studying wildlife. This was her observation of a fledgling's first flight. I thought it a remarkable parable of our lives with the Lord. The following is a quote from her book, "An Eagle to the Sky" (1970).

"The.....eaglet was now alone in the nest. Each time a parent came flying in toward the nest he called for food eagerly; but over and over again, it (the parent) came with empty feet, and the eaglet grew thinner. He pulled meat scraps from the old dried-up carcasses lying around the nest. He watched a sluggish carrion beetle, picked it up gingerly, and ate it. His first kill.

Days passed, and as he lost body fat he became quicker in his movements and paddled ever more lightly when the wind blew, scarcely touching the nest edge; from time to time he was airborne for a moment or two.

Parents often flew past and sometimes fed him. Beating his

wings and teetering on the edge of the nest, he screamed for food whenever one flew by. And a parent often flew past just out of reach, carrying delectable meals: a half-grown jack rabbit or a plump rat raided from a dump. Although he was hungry almost all the time, he was becoming more playful as he lost his baby fat; sometimes, when no parent bird was in sight, he pounced ferociously on a scrap of prairie dog skin or on old bits of dried bone.

The male eaglet stayed by himself for the most part. He was no longer brooded at night. Hunger and the cold mountain nights were having their effect, not only on his body but on his disposition. A late frost hit the valley, and a night wind ruffled his feathers and chilled his body. When the sunlight reached the eyrie's (the brood in a nest of a bird of prey) edge, he sought its warmth; and soon, again, he was bounding in the wind, now light and firm-muscled.

A parent flew by, downwind, dangling a young marmot in its feet. The eaglet almost lost his balance in his eagerness for food. Then the parent swung by again, closer, upwind, and riding the updraft by the eyrie, as though daring him to fly. Lifted light by the wind, he was airborne, flying--or more gliding--for the first time in his life. He sailed across the valley to make a scrambling, almost tumbling landing on a bare knoll. As he turned to get his bearings the parent dropped the young marmot nearby. Half running, half flying he pounced on it, mantled, and ate his fill."

[end of Frances' quote]

I thought that story a profound parable of our journey with the Lord. When it's time to leave our nest of comfort and learn to fly, we get so hungry for the Lord that we are willing to leave our comfortable surroundings and abandon old childhood habits, all for the taste and fill of strong meat dropped from heaven. Strong meat is not easily palatable, but when one becomes hungry enough, it is.

Frances' recording was a heroic first flight. Most often an eaglet will take its first flight to a nearby tree branch, or stump. It will glide back to the nest if possible. Otherwise the parents continue to bring food wherever it perches. It is at this time it breaks the infant bond with the nest. (However they have discovered in the imprinting studies, that mated eagles will return to the nest or within close

proximity to the nest and raise their own family.) One month after leaving the nest it has learned to soar and climb with the winds. It takes an eagle 4-5 years after this to become an adult eagle.

SOARING

An eagle learns to soar by using thermal currents of air. These warm air patterns are created by the surrounding terrain. They will spread their wings and their tail feathers and let the wind carry them to new heights, then glide down to catch another upward thermal. Soaring saves an eagle energy because it does not have to flap its wings as often.

When I think of wings, I consider them to be parables of our wings of faith. Faith is a heart condition where we stretch out and reach toward the Lord, while the winds of His Spirit holds us afloat. When we flap our wings, we are vigorously exercising our faith through works, based upon what we believe the Lord has told us. And when we soar, we are resting in our trust in the Lord and letting Him carry us amidst the surrounding terrain. The Lord teaches us through faith, how to rise above difficulties and hindrances in our life. We learn how to rise high enough to gain His perspective on what is below. As I was praying about the concept of soaring with wings as eagles I heard the Lord say that we want a formula. He said there is no formula, only to abide in Him. (John 12:46, 14:16, 15:4,6,7,10)

I was interested in the role of the tail feathers for landing and maneuvering in flight. It stabilizes the eagle and is actually used like a brake when landing, just like an airplane. It tilts back and forth, up and down, depending upon the need. I felt that this parable was a significant part of our relationship the Lord - learning how to put on the brakes when needed. If you notice the scripture says, those that WAIT upon the Lord shall mount up with eagles wings. (Isa 40:31) It seems like that is the hardest lesson in life, to learn to wait upon Him and not do something in our own strength. Sometimes He wants us to wait because it is a matter of timing, like for instance we are losing our baby fur and growing eagles wings. But other times He wants us to wait upon Him because He wants to carry us so we don’t suffer burnout in flapping our wings! The truth is, when one learns to abide in Him, they learn the secret of waiting upon Him for everything they do. (John 5:19 "Then Jesus answered and said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the

Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner.")

May we all learn to become better role models and teachers and students - and may we all learn to abide in Him in everything that we do. "And all of us have had that veil removed so that we can be mirrors that brightly reflect the glory of the Lord. And as the Spirit of the Lord works within us, we become more and more like Him and reflect His glory even more." (2 Cor 3:18 NLT)

May we wait upon the Lord to renew our strength; and may our faith mount up with wings as eagles so that we may run, and not be weary; and walk and not faint. Amen.

Lovingly,

Sandy

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2] TO HUNT LIKE AN EAGLE

Part Two Eagle's posting - The Various Stages of Hunting for Food

by Sandy Warner

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8/9/01

BABY HUNTERS

A baby eagle's first lesson in hunting comes right after hatching. In other bird species, the mother will eat the food, then regurgitate the partially digested contents, and
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individually place the food in the baby's gaping mouth. However a mother eagle shreds pieces of fresh fish or meat with her beak, then coaxes her young to take the raw morsel. She does not put the food directly into its mouth like other birds, because this is the eaglet's first lesson in hunting. She offers the food over and over again, until the baby finds the prey, grabs it, then takes it for its own.

This is similar to how the Lord trains us. The Lord promises us in both the Old and New Testaments that we shall find Him IF we seek Him. (Jer 29:13-14, Luke 11:9-10) These promises reveal that we have an active part in being fed by Him. He already has our food, we must search for it, grab it and taken it as our own.

At first He dangles His food in front of us until our appetites are stirring. An example of this is when we hear of another's awesome experience in the Lord, and say, "WOW would I like to hear from Him like that!" Once our appetites are aroused, we start seeking Him. "If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish? Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!" (Luke 11:11-13 NKJV) And then we must RECEIVE what He is offering. "Anyone who is willing to hear should listen and understand! And be sure to pay attention to what you hear. The more you do this, the more you will understand--and even more, besides." (Mark 4:23-25 NLT)

When the eaglets get older, the parents carry the food with their talons or bill and drop it in the nest. Now the eaglets must tear the food for themselves. I am reminded of when the Lord plops a vision, dream, etc into a young prophet's life, then allows him to tear it apart, piece by piece; to interpret, digest, and apply it. It can be frustrating to have a big hunk of meat drop into your life when you have no idea what to do with it. However hunger coaxes one to bite off a chunk at a time, taking each chunk to the Lord for His help and confirmation until the whole thing is digested. Sometimes, especially when we receive visions and dreams about our callings, it takes years to digest the full ramification in the original hunk of meat of what He gave us. Often it is only after it comes to pass that we see the full scope of what He meant. And then, that scope is not revealed without the Holy Spirit's quickening. (Gen 37:7,

42:6)

NURTURING PARENTS

I thought it interesting that when the eagles are still young, the parents move about the nest with their talons balled into fists. This keeps them from accidentally skewering the babies. The Holy Spirit quickened to me the need for self control and patience by nurturing parents, or role models. Newborn prophetic eagles are often sent on assignments by the Lord to share their revelations with a spiritual teacher in their life. (I Sam 3:16-17) They learn lessons in obedience, overcoming fear of man, fear of rejection, desiring the man's approval, etc. There are other ways to overcome these without the painful skewering of rejection. For instance, a newborn prophet's expectations will most likely be greater than what they end up receiving by way of feedback! It is worthy to note that only 50% of baby eaglets live to adulthood, mainly because of the lack of food and the acquired hunting skills. Applying this to young prophets, a relationship with a mentor is very vital until they can become established. (I Tim 1:2)

TEARING MEAT INTO PIECES

A full grown adult can see its prey from a great distance, diving up to 100 MPH, grabbing and plunging its talons into a fish, and never even get its legs wet. So you can see that an eaglet needs lots of practice, a step at a time. Flying, pouncing, grabbing, ripping pieces of food is a part of this practice. After an eaglet's first flight away from the nest, it continues to take small flights to develop its flying and landing skills while watching the adults eat prey, then nudging themselves in to eat too. This is an important part of learning to hunt and the adults allow this.

I saw a parable in this eaglet training process. Often the older and established prophets will share the Word of the Lord in a generic way. They may give an announcement of some important revelation. But when they do so, they do not greatly expound upon it, except just enough to announce it. Basically they are called to catch a chunk of revelation or meat and bring it to earth. Then after their own fill, they leave it to the prophetic pastors and teachers to tear it apart and explain the details of how it is applied and to bring out additional quickened pieces of revelation.

When the prophetic pastors and teachers do so, this can appear as stealing or grabbing food from their revelation. But this is the Lord's work and no revelation belongs to one person but for the whole body to build itself up in love. (I Cor 3:9) What may appear as stealing is actually the Holy Spirit speaking to further develop the same theme. (The Lord knows the false ones from the real ones, and He will establish those that are His own.)

TRAINING IN SPOTTING FOOD

At this time, the young eagles have also learned to soar and spot moving prey. However they do not dive for it, rather they watch the adults dive down to snatch it. This similarity is also a very normal part of prophetic upbringing. Often a young prophet will be given a revelation and then shortly afterwards hear it announced through an established prophet. This is a work of the Holy Spirit because He most often speaks in similar themes to the prophets in the same seasons. (Acts 21:10-11, 20:23) For many years I would hear snipits of information from the Lord then hear it announced to the body of Christ through an older prophet.

At first this frustrated me until I realized it was a great opportunity to kill MY flesh: ambition, desire for recognition and approval, etc!!! Once young prophets get past these stumbling blocks, (for these must be killed on the cross if one wants to go higher in the Lord) then they get excited that what they hear and see is being confirmed. This builds their faith and joy and relationship in Him. They also have the joy of watching (and being mentored through) the awesome display of the older prophet swooping in for the kill of this revelatory meat, and bringing it to earth. And if they are following the Holy Spirit, the younger prophets will also get to partake and eat of the same kill and receive greater bits and pieces of revelation than they had by just previously watching and knowing.

CARRION

For the most part, an eagle's diet is fresh fish (especially salmon). However when conditions or seasons are not available for such, they eat other small mammals. When in dire need they will scavenge on dead prey, also known as carrion. This is especially true of young eaglets because they are not yet skillful at hunting.

This fact was really quickened to me as a parable that some of the prophetic today are eating carrion, which is prey from the second heaven. The second heaven is the realm of the demonic. It is the area that every prophet must press through and overcome, to make it into the third heaven. The third heaven is where the throne room of the Lord is, and where the revelation is clear, pure, holy and without mixture.

Sometimes what the younger prophetic ones do not understand is that even though second heaven revelation might be very supernatural - what they have seen or heard is the enemy plans and not the Lord's plans. Often negative Words will be misunderstood and accepted as the will of the Lord, then the young prophet makes an announcement and declares a negative Word. However, there are also some more mature prophetic callings that are sent as spies into the second heaven, to find out the plans of the enemy and expose them so that they do NOT come to pass. Those with this specific assignment have the authority to withstand what they see and hear, in particular regarding principalities.

Second heaven revelation contains dead, non edifying bits that sour the taste and make them impure and void of the faith, hope and love of the Lord. It is important to learn how to separate the holy from the profane. The best, simplest and most profitable way to separate anything is the through the filters of faith, hope and love.... The greatest being love. (Heb 5:14, I Cor 13:13)

However even mature eagles eat carrion when no fresh meat is available. This is similar to receiving faith from a negative warfare experience from the second heaven. The Lord can turn an evil attempt to destroy our faith into a strengthening piece of meat when we realize that we must be on the right track for the devil to bring such opposition!!!

THE TALONS - WEAPONS

Through out the maturation process, a young eaglet learns the skills of using its feet for eating, balance, landing skills, and finally catching prey. The feet are the most important weapon and hunting tool for an eagle. (Rom 16:20) They use their feet and talons to capture and kill their prey. They dive from long distances, straight to their victim and bore their

long talons into the flesh. This is done so quickly and smoothly it appears more like a ballet than an act of violence.

I am reminded of the scripture, "Blessed be the LORD my Rock, Who trains my hands for war, and my fingers for battle." (Ps 144:1 NKJV) An eagle has a well developed sense of touch in its feet, for catching prey. In these last days, we are going to experience some very unusual and interesting ways that the Lord uses our hands (and feet) for battle in overcoming demons. Eagles also bear their talons outstretched when approaching other birds like vultures who are feeding on a large animal. Eagles are known to drive vultures away and even force them to disgorge their meal. (Mat 24:28) I am reminded of the many scriptures about taking back our inheritance that the enemy has stolen.

With both their bills and talons, eagles will wade in shallow water and spear fish. They rip the heads off the fish, then stand on it to tear chunks from its body. (I Sam 17:51) "For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet." (1 Cor 15:25-26 NKJV) As the prophetic gifting matures in our calling, we will ultimately place the enemy under our feet. What a joy that will be!

Lovingly,

Sandy

PS - My book, "Discernment: Separating the Holy From the Profane" is now available for those who would like help in learning to discern "carrion" in what they are receiving. And also "Ministering Deliverance" gives some interesting testimonies of the Lord using hands to deliver.

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3] EAGLE'S NESTS
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Job 39:27-30 NKJV

Does the eagle mount up at your command, and make its nest on high? On the rocks it dwells and resides, on the crag of the rock and the stronghold. From there it spies out the prey; Its eyes observe from afar. Its young ones suck up blood; and where the slain are, there it is."

EAGLE TRIVIA: ABOUT EAGLES NESTS

Bob Jones was given revelation about 3 eagle's nests in the Pacific NW and these nests are churches. After doing the research on eagles, I realized that each eagle nest births eagles who also grow up, mate and birth their own eagles. So the cycle continues and the number of churches birthing eagles increases.

In today's world, there is much talk about eagles representing the prophetic. And this is true. I think that it also represents the mounting up of revelatory Christianity in these last days. As a result, last day Christianity will acknowledge the prophetic gifts as a normal and vital part of the body.

1. The shape of an eagle nest is determined by the shape of the branch it is built upon. Some are conical nests, some are bowl shaped. Likewise, each church is shaped differently with its own personality, depending upon where it is planted. (4)

2. Nests are usually built within one mile of a permanent water source like a flowing river or coastline. (30) This is symbolical of being near the river of God and flowing in His Holy Spirit.

3. A normal nest is about 5 feet in diameter. (Symbolic of grace) They grow larger in the years, some have grown to 9 feet in diameter. The record nest is 20 feet deep, 10 feet wide, weighing two tons! (26) (I figure 2 tons is about 2,000 people!)

4. A parent's impulse to build is strong. For several weeks after completion, some will continue to collect strange things until the instinct stops. Some strange things found in an eagle's nest: Light bulbs, bleach bottles, a picture frame, conch shells, a white rubber ball (which was incubated for six weeks after the eggs in the nest had hatched). I consider the parable of building or collecting things for the nest as: building book libraries, cassette libraries, Bible studies,

sermon series, teaching resources, manuals, special speakers, etc. I have seen pregnant mothers with the nesting instinct and some gather until they collapse. (9) (I canned 1500 jars of organic baby food prior to the birth of my son... I have not canned a thing since!)

5. A nest location is deeply etched in the original birthing of an eagle. A breeding eagle will build its nest within a couple mile range of where it was born. If for some reason the nest is destroyed, it will rebuild at or near the same site. This attachment to location is so strong that they will even build in an unsuitable tree rather than go elsewhere. (How flexible are we?)

6. One nest built in the Midwest lasted 34 years, being used annually. (34) Most do not last this long due to storms. Older and well maintained nests can weigh so much that it will eventually collapse the tree. (Warning, demonic storms and overbuilding can collapse what is being birthed.)

7. Eagles mate for life (40 years) and are capable of breeding each year after adulthood. (32) Some do not breed every year, due to weather and food resources. (Even with freedom to choose, timing is important when birthing. Consider the spiritual climate and the available resources.)

Another thing that Bob Jones was told was that eagles would be found every 50 miles up and down the west coast, everywhere that natural eagles are found. These eagles would be found in small churches, lest they be raised with pride in their hearts. In applying this with the eagle trivia, I understand that these eagles will one day mate and give birth to their own eagles, within a close proximity of where they were born.

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4] EAGLE TRIVIA: ABOUT THE BIRTHING PARENTS

1. Females lay one to three eggs. (7)

2. Incubation is a 35 day, constant vigil shared by both parents, mostly by the female with the male attending to her needs. (27) This keeps the eggs warm and safe. If left unattended, squirrels, ravens and gulls eat the eggs. (A breeding spiritual parent will stay close to home and not accept traveling engagements or ministry outside its home
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planting for that season.)

3. They trade places when the female needs to stretch. She will hunt and eat and wash. Since the nest is the focus at this time, the hunting parent stays within 1-2 miles of the incubating nest. (10)

1. The female spends most of the time staying in the nest while the male is hunting food or bringing green sprigs of branches to the nest. The greenery gives shade and covering to her food and nest. (10)

2. It is interesting that eagles will adopt eagle eggs when environmentalists secretly place them in their nests. (29) They will raise them as their own. (The Lord will often plop a prophetic egg, prepared to hatch in a new church. Parents need to stay flexible and recognize their calling soon, so they can be raised in a safe environment.)

3. Both parents lose their feathers on their lower breast. This is called a brood patch. (2) The eggs are kept warm by their exposed and surging blood vessels. Every hour they turn the eggs so they will warm evenly. The young are brooded for two or three weeks after hatching, because they are unable to regulate their own body temperature. After they have grown their 2nd coat of down feathers, the parents brood sitting up with half spread wings. I see the brood patch as a parable of the exposure, or bearing the heart and the soul of a nurturing parent over its young. Their tenderness keeps them warm and secure. The parent keeps constant vigil in turning the eggs and does not abandon them for some other ambition or goal in ministry.

4. After hatching, the female feeds the young by shredding pieces of meat with her beak. She will offer food over and over again, coaxing her chick to take a morsel from her beak. (28) She does not put the food into their mouth like other birds, because this is their first lesson in hunting. The eaglet must find the prey, grab and take it for its own.

7. When the eagles are still young, the parents move about the nest with their talons balled into fists. (10) This keeps them from accidentally skewering the babies. When I read this the Holy Spirit immediately quickened to me the self control and patience needed in nurturing parents. Babies are demanding in every way. They take total attention and little else can be done in a parents' life until they are no longer babies. It is a matter of accepting the parental position with contentment, love, patience and gracious giving. Newborn prophetic eagles are soon sent on assignments by the Lord to give their revelations. Relationship with the parent is very vital in this time. It is worthy to note that only 50% of baby eagles lives to adulthood due to nest tragedy (usually siblings) and first flights.

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5] COMING TO BIRTH

In the early 80's I had a vision where I saw myself inside an egg shell. I had a baby bottle inside the shell with me, and I was feeling cramped and wanted to get out. I used my bottle and starting wacking away from the inside. Finally I managed to crack the shell and climb out. As I stood up, I noticed I was about 5 years old and had on a pretty pink party dress! I looked at my shell, became very excited and said, "I'm going to tell my heavenly Father that I just broke out of my shell!" As I saw myself prattle away, I noticed there were many smaller eggs all around my shell. These eggs were not full grown yet and I knew it was not time for them to come out yet!

I wrote a Word to Ponder back then, based upon that vision, and also my experiences in coming out of my shell:

LIKE AN EGG

Just like an egg, I will bring you to birth. Growing from a tiny state, what I conceive grows in secret behind the shell of My covering. Ordained in perfect seasons, each stage of growth is built upon another until all comes to fruition.

One day I will call forth that which I have created within you. You will begin to break your own walls of confinement and come out of your shell. This requires strength and tenacity to break your own restraints. It requires a courageous heart to face the outside world. This process is not something I do for you, because if I were to do so, the strength you need to face your surroundings would not be fully developed. I need your cooperation to bring you to birth. I promise you My help and protection, but you must be willing and persistent to break your own yokes.

You will know it's time when you grow so big that you can no longer stay within your established borders. You will know it's time when you want to come out. You will know it's time when everything in you says, "Yes! ... It is time!"
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And when it is time, you will have the strength and the tenacity to break free.

"And it shall come to pass in that day, that his burden shall be taken away from off thy shoulder, and his yoke from off thy neck, and the yoke shall be destroyed because of the anointing." (Isa 10:27)

[end Word to Ponder]

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6] EAGLE TRIVIA: ABOUT BREAKING FORTH

1. Eagle eggs hatch in the order in which they were laid. (10)

2. Eagles use their egg tooth to break their shell. (6) This is a pointed, sharp projection or bump on the top of their beak. This tooth wears off about a month later since it is no longer needed. (This is like weaning from the baby bottle.) "Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? Them that are weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breasts. For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little." (." (Isa 28:9-10 KJV)

3. It takes about 1-2 days for the eaglet to break free from the shell. (8) The parent is there brooding the eggs, but never assists in the process. This is something the eaglet must do for himself, as this builds his own muscles and strength to survive.

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7] EAGLE SCRIPTURES

For those who are interested, here are the scriptures that have the words eagle or eagles:

Exodus 19:4 KJV

4 Ye have seen what I did unto the Egyptians, and how I bare you on eagles' wings, and brought you unto myself.

Leviticus 11:13 KJV

13 And these are they which ye shall have in abomination among the fowls; they shall not be eaten, they are an abomination: the eagle, and the ossifrage, and the ospray,

Leviticus 11:18 KJV

18 And the swan, and the pelican, and the gier eagle,

Deuteronomy 14:12 KJV

12 But these are they of which ye shall not eat: the eagle, and ossifrage, and the ospray,

Deuteronomy 14:17 KJV

17 And the pelican, and the gier eagle, and the cormorant,

Deuteronomy 28:49 KJV

49 The LORD shall bring a nation against thee from far, from the end of the earth, as swift as the eagle flieth; a nation whose tongue thou shalt not understand;

Deuteronomy 32:11 KJV

11 As an eagle stirreth up her nest, fluttereth over her young, spreadeth abroad her wings, taketh them, beareth them on her wings:

2 Samuel 1:23 KJV

23 Saul and Jonathan were lovely and pleasant in their lives, and in their death they were not divided: they were swifter than eagles, they were stronger than lions.

Job 9:26 KJV

26 They are passed away as the swift ships: as the eagle that hasteth to the prey.

Job 39:27 KJV

27 Doth the eagle mount up at thy command, and make her nest on high?

Psalms 103:5 KJV

5 Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's.

Proverbs 23:5 KJV

5 Wilt thou set thine eyes upon that which is not? for riches certainly make themselves wings; they fly away as an eagle toward heaven.

Proverbs 30:17 KJV

17 The eye that mocketh at his father, and despiseth to obey his mother, the ravens of the valley shall pick it out, and the young eagles shall eat it.

Proverbs 30:19 KJV

19 The way of an eagle in the air; the way of a serpent upon a rock; the way of a ship in the midst of the sea; and the way of a man with a maid.

Isaiah 40:31 KJV

31 But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

Jeremiah 4:13 KJV

13 Behold, he shall come up as clouds, and his chariots shall be as a whirlwind: his horses are swifter than eagles. Woe

unto us! for we are spoiled.

Jeremiah 48:40 KJV

40 For thus saith the LORD; Behold, he shall fly as an eagle, and shall spread his wings over Moab.

Jeremiah 49:16 KJV

16 Thy terribleness hath deceived thee, and the pride of thine heart, O thou that dwellest in the clefts of the rock, that holdest the height of the hill: though thou shouldest make thy nest as high as the eagle, I will bring thee down from thence, saith the LORD.

Jeremiah 49:22 KJV

22 Behold, he shall come up and fly as the eagle, and spread his wings over Bozrah: and at that day shall the heart of the mighty men of Edom be as the heart of a woman in her pangs.

Lamentations 4:19 KJV

19 Our persecutors are swifter than the eagles of the heaven: they pursued us upon the mountains, they laid wait for us in the wilderness.

Ezekiel 1:10 KJV

10 As for the likeness of their faces, they four had the face of a man, and the face of a lion, on the right side: and they four had the face of an ox on the left side; they four also had the face of an eagle.

Ezekiel 10:14 KJV

14 And every one had four faces: the first face was the face of a cherub, and the second face was the face of a man, and the third the face of a lion, and the fourth the face of an eagle.

Ezekiel 17:3 KJV

3 And say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; A great eagle with great wings, longwinged, full of feathers, which had divers colours, came unto Lebanon, and took the highest branch of the cedar:

Ezekiel 17:7 KJV

7 There was also another great eagle with great wings and many feathers: and, behold, this vine did bend her roots toward him, and shot forth her branches toward him, that he might water it by the furrows of her plantation.

Daniel 4:33 KJV

33 The same hour was the thing fulfilled upon Nebuchadnezzar: and he was driven from men, and did eat grass as oxen, and his body was wet with the dew of heaven, till his hairs were grown like eagles' feathers, and his nails like birds' claws.

Daniel 7:4 KJV

4 The first was like a lion, and had eagle's wings: I beheld till the wings thereof were plucked, and it was lifted up from the earth, and made stand upon the feet as a man, and a man's heart was given to it.

Hosea 8:1 KJV

1 Set the trumpet to thy mouth. He shall come as an eagle against the house of the LORD, because they have transgressed my covenant, and trespassed against my law.

Obadiah 4 KJV

4 Though thou exalt thyself as the eagle, and though thou set thy nest among the stars, thence will I bring thee down, saith the LORD.

Micah 1:16 KJV

16 Make thee bald, and poll thee for thy delicate children; enlarge thy baldness as the eagle; for they are gone into captivity from thee.

Habakkuk 1:8 KJV

8 Their horses also are swifter than the leopards, and are more fierce than the evening wolves: and their horsemen shall spread themselves, and their horsemen shall come from far; they shall fly as the eagle that hasteth to eat.

Matthew 24:28 KJV

28 For wheresoever the carcase is, there will the eagles be gathered together.

Luke 17:37 KJV

37 And they answered and said unto him, Where, Lord? And he said unto them, Wheresoever the body is, thither will the eagles be gathered together.

Revelation 4:7 KJV

7 And the first beast was like a lion, and the second beast like a calf, and the third beast had a face as a man, and the fourth beast was like a flying eagle.

Revelation 12:14 KJV

14 And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent.

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8] EAGLE FEATHERS - Trivia
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1. Bald eagles have 7,000 feathers. (3) Feathers, like hair and nails, are made of keratin.1 [I was reminded of the scripture: "But if a woman have long hair, it is a glory to her: for her hair is given her for a covering." (1 Cor 11:15: KJV) I thought of the parable of hair being a covering of glory and that eagles feathers can be interpreted that way too.]

2. An eagle's feathers consist of interlocking microscopic structures that are light, but very strong. These joining of feathers is an amazing design from the outer ones down to the soft layer of inner down. Layers of feathers trap air to insulate birds against cold and protect them from rain. (1)

[In considering this, I thought of how the Lord teaches us line upon line, carefully placing each step in our life. "Whom will he teach knowledge? And whom will he make to understand the message? Those just weaned from milk? Those just drawn from the breasts? For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept, Line upon line, line upon line, Here a little, there a little." (Isa 28:9-10 NKJV)]

3. The feathers if an eagle help it acclimatize. An eagle maintains its body temperature by adjusting the position of its feathers to the sun and air pockets. (4) Eagles do not migrate for climate changes, rather they migrate for food supplies.

4. An eagle grooms itself and waterproofs its feathers by preening. Each feather is worked from base to tip with a vibratory movement of the bill. An oil gland at the base of the tail is pressed regularly with the bill and this oil is worked into the feathers. After all of the feathers have received some attention, the eagle, standing erect, shakes its body to settle the feathers into place. The instinct to preen is very strong and young birds will preen even before their primary feathers emerge. (2)

5. 30 feathers weigh about as much as a penny.

6. The male's wingspan is a little more than 6 feet from wing tip to wing tip, the female's is between 6.5 and 7 feet. (5)

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9] ARTICLE ABOUT SOARING EAGLE'S & PSALM 13

[Note from Sandy: This is the first half of an article posted
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from the Elijah List as relating to soaring eagles. The second half was a personal Word for South Africa and is not posted here.]

PSALMS 13

Bob Jones with Keith Davis - August 12, 1999

Bob Jones/Keith Davis Web site: http://www.bobjones.org

In his epistle to the Ephesians, the apostle Paul teaches, "our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual {forces} of wickedness in the heavenly places. (Eph

6:12) The spiritual forces that reside in heavenly places have set themselves in opposition to the working of the Holy Spirit through the Church. Not only will this evil defiance create snares and traps for Christians, but also assail our minds and spirits during seasons of prayer. At times, it seems we are easily able to move directly into the realm of the Spirit during prayer. At other times it seems as though all the spirits of hell are set against us as we attempt to come before the throne of grace in prayer and intercession. In recent times, it seems the latter has been more prominent than the former.

These difficult seasons are allowed to train us in warfare and establish deliverance in us as we wrestle with the enemy, discovering through small victories the omniscience and amazing provision established for us through the Cross.

The Bible often symbolizes God's people as eagles. This symbolism is especially true for prophets. The eagle is able to soar higher than any other creature and is gifted with phenomenal eye sight. We are taught that the eagle is equipped with special filters on its eyes allowing this majestic bird to maneuver directly toward the sun while evading encounters with predators. We must do likewise and flee to the Son when engaged with enemy confrontation.

To see the things the Lord desires to display oftentimes

requires battling through the spiritual resistance until we are able to soar above it and hear the things that He will express and see the things that He would disclose. To do this requires diligence and determination through fervent prayer and intercession. It is in the midst of this wrestling that deceiving spirits will often impart revelation from the enemy masquerading as true disclosure. In one Old Testament example the 400 prophets of Ahab each received spiritual revelation containing measures of truth, yet its origin was a deceiving spirit that the Lord allowed because of the unrighteousness of Ahab and his leadership. A true prophet of God was then summoned who was able to soar above the deceiving spirit and receive a true revelation from the heart of God. (I Kings 22:1-28) Spiritual discernment and a good foundation in Truth clearly identifies false revelation, motivating the believer to press-in more earnestly to receive the true revelation.

Recently, while in a season of prayer and intercession, Bob found himself engaged in this spiritual battle. Many opposing spirits attempted to withstand his efforts to soar in the Spirit to receive fresh manna for the Body of Christ. Evil opposition attempted to impart false revelation masquerading as Truth. However, the fruit of this revelation did not incorporate love, hope and faith and was therefore easily discerned. Bob continued to press in for quite sometime until he finally soared above the opposition and received a clear word from the Lord. He was audibly given Psalms 13 with an emphasis on verse 5 as an encouragement for the Body of Christ.

"How long, O LORD? Will You forget me forever? How long will You hide Your face from me? How long shall I take counsel in my soul, having sorrow in my heart daily? How long will my enemy be exalted over me?

Consider and hear me, O LORD my God; Enlighten my eyes, lest I sleep the sleep of death; Lest my enemy say, 'I have prevailed against him'; lest those who trouble me rejoice when I am moved. But I have trusted in Your mercy; my heart shall rejoice in Your salvation. I will sing to the LORD, because He has dealt bountifully with me." Ps 13:1-6

Many scholars believe this Psalm was written by David after Samuel anointed him to be King of Israel. Despite his prophetic destiny, David found himself fleeing from Saul for the preservation of his life. Although David's future promised greatness and Divine favor, he was required to endure

persecution and hardship before being released in the fullness of his calling. It was during these difficult years that character was being formed in him that would prepare him for Kingship. Decisions that he made in the wilderness helped formulate the pattern of his life when he attained the throne.

So has it been for many in the church. It seems as though our enemies have prevailed over us despite the great promises given to us by the Holy Spirit. It is during the difficult seasons that Divine character is being formed in us as we are purged and purified from our own carnality so we can faithfully accommodate the anointing. Righteous decisions made during the dry intervals reap immeasurable dividends during the seasons of prosperity.

One of the most challenging things during the baptism of trials is to wait upon the Lord for His timing in the release of the promises.

Like David we cry to the Lord, How Long must we endure these difficult and trying times? Nonetheless, we are admonished to be still and wait upon the completion of His sanctifying work of grace within, so the fullness of His anointing can be released to us. The tendency during these times is to do something, oftentimes misinterpreting ministry for DOING THE WILL OF THE FATHER. In Matthew 7 the Lord describes many who were involved in ministry, healing the sick, casting out devils, performing miracles and other worthy things; even so, their destiny was outer darkness. "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven; but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven. (Matt 7:21) It is in doing the will of the Father that we access the Kingdom of Heaven and find favor and grace in time of need.

Our encouragement is found in Verse 5, But I have trusted in Your mercy; my heart shall rejoice in Your salvation. For many, the day of salvation is at hand.

The term for salvation in this passage is "yeshu`sh" denoting deliverance, welfare, prosperity, and victory. It's unique application has to do with deliverance from present troubles and the assurance that the Lord is aware of our condition

and will intervene in our behalf. The Lord assures us saying, I know the plans that I have for you,' declares the LORD, 'plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope. (Jer 29:11). Our Savior's plans for us are for welfare and prosperity not calamity. However, wilderness experiences are allowed to establish Godly character in us and allow us to sow seeds of righteousness that will reap bountiful dividends in the seasons ahead. We must pray with the same assurance as David despite the external circumstances realizing that the Lord is faithful to His promises. Not one of His promises has ever failed in all of history.

David begins this Psalm with a cry of desperation but concludes it by remembering the Lord's faithfulness to His promises and the bountiful favor with which the Lord has vowed to establish His people. So is it with us; though our minds are burdened with the difficulty of our circumstances, our spirits rejoice at the realization of our Savior's promises to us. Repentance and obedience to the Will of the Father will prepare us for the day of visitation. To whom shall the Lord appear in the day of His visitation? Those who have His commandments and faithfully adhere to them. "He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him." (John 14:21)

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10] ARTICLE ON GOLDEN EAGLES

A Golden Eagle

Bill Burns

July 13, 2000:

Many recognize that the eagle is symbolic of the prophetic. The eagle has tremendous vision and can soar to lofty heights. The eagle also has amazing speed as he dives to take his prey, and his weapons are very effective.
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The Lord has used the eagle to bring forth several prophetic words through me in the last two years. Each time that I have observed the activity of eagles, the Lord has spoken to me to reveal different aspects of what the present work of the Holy Spirit is.

Sunday, as Marsha and I were driving home from church, a very unusual event occurred. We had just crossed a bridge which is located at a curve in the highway. The highway descends to the bridge and then ascends. Because of these conditions I always slow down. So, I had slowed down, crossed the bridge, and was just beginning to accelerate as we moved upwards. It was at this point that a young golden eagle appeared out of nowhere and completely filled the vision which we had through the windshield of our car.

The eagle was so close that it seemed as though his tail feathers touched the windshield as we passed under him. I know that this was a young eagle because he was not quite as large as the adult eagles that I have previously seen. Also the feathers of this eagle were a brilliant golden color, a lighter gold than the feathers of the adults.

"And, the Spirit of the Lord brings this message forth...on the wings of eagles. My golden ones are about to arise. You have crossed over the bridge of troubled waters. Behold, the old things are behind you, the new will now spring forth. Now the time of acceleration which I spoke of will come forth. With this acceleration will come greater vision. I will completely fill your vision (the eyes of your understanding) with My purposes. You will begin to see more clearly than you ever have before because I will come closer to you, and your total focus will be upon Me. The distractions of the past occurred because you viewed Me from afar. But now, I will fill your vision, and you shall feel the wind of My Spirit and the touch of My hands.

This is a new day and on this, the third day of My power, I will come to you and raise you up as on wings of eagles that you may live in My sight, and you shall perceive My presence as you never have before. My people, you are turning a corner, and new direction will come forth.

Now, consider what the sign of the young eagle means, for does it not have a two-fold meaning? First, I will renew some of My old eagles and make them young again. Those

who have remained faithful to Me will be renewed. Now I will lead you out of the caves where I have placed you, and you shall soar to new heights with greater vision and strength than you have ever had.

Secondly, I will also bring some young eagles forth at this time. They are those who have forsaken the world and do not desire religion; they desire only Me. Thus, the old and the new shall be brought out of My treasure house, and My golden ones will be sent to the nations to prepare the way of the Lord. His coming forth is established as the morning, and He is coming like the latter and former rain to His people."

A note of encouragement is found in this message, especially to you old eagles who carry about the weariness of many battles in your bodies. When an eagle reaches the age of 50 (approximately), his beak begins to freeze shut, and he can no longer eat. Some give up and die, but some find a cave or cleft in the rock where water is present. The old eagle goes into the cave and beats his beak on a rock until it is broken off. The eagle drinks water for 40 days until it grows a new beak. The eagle then pulls its old feathers out and an oil sack grows and is filled with oil (over the heart). The eagle then breaks the oil sack with the new beak and spreads the oil over his body. Beautiful new golden feathers grow in, and the eagle is renewed. The eagle's body is also strengthened through this process. The regenerated eagle is then able to fly higher than it ever could before and see better than it could before. Oh yes, and the beak also works, for words must yet be spoken and the prey must be taken. Happy hunting!

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NOTE FROM SANDY: In my research on eagles, I was not able to find information backing the above story about how

an old eagle renews itself. However I did find similar stories under Indian folklore. I have been blessed by this story and regardless of whether it is fact or allegory, it is quickened to me.

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11] EAGLE FLIGHT - MISC TRIVIA

1. First flights: The young eaglets pick up and manipulate sticks, play tug of war with each other, practice holding things in their talons, and stretch and flap their wings. By eight weeks, the eaglets are strong enough to flap their wings, lift their feet off the nest platform, and rise up in the air. At eight weeks, the appetites of the young birds are at their greatest. While parents hunt almost continuous to feed them, back at the nest the eaglets are beginning to stretch their wings in response to gusts of wind and may even be lifted off their feet for short periods. Eventually they will be able to rise 15 feet above the nest and soar for a moment before returning to the nest. While they are learning to fly, the young eagles are awkward, have difficulty landing, and often fall to the ground after leaving the nest. If a young eagle is reluctant to leave the nest, its parents may stop feeding it at the nest and lure the hesitant bird to another perch with food. (9)

2. Their speed of light is between 20 to 40 miles per hour in normal flight. It can rise of over 100 miles per hour while diving. (9)

3. Winds sweeping across open water also create updrafts that eagles use for gliding.

4. The flight path to a nest or perch must be open, because a bald eagle cannot maneuver through dense forest like an owl or take off from an obstructed perch. Open vistas also make it easier for eagles to scan for prey. (9)

5. While migrating (usually for food), eagles ride columns of rising air called thermals and can average speeds of 30 mph (50 kilometers). Effortlessly, an eagle can circle in a strong thermal to high altitudes, then glide long distances in the direction of its migration until it finds the next column of rising air. Generally, the eagles follow seasonal food supplies. As lakes and streams freeze over, bald eagles must go south to find open fresh water or head to the coast. (9)

6. Approximately 40% of young eagles do not survive their
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first flight. (10)

7. Through months of trial and error, eagles acquire basic skills such as lighting on perches or stooping on prey through practice. Eagles practice with almost fully developed bodies, and so sharpen their skills quickly. (10)

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12] A WORD TO THE EAGLES

June 12, 2001

Doug Patterson

Perseverance and persistence have land marked your way. You have fought the winds, you have struggled and you have pressed through. For a season and a time you felt very weary and tired allowing yourself just like an eagle to rest upon the cleft of the rock. In your moment of rest, you decided to perhaps walk a distance from mountaintop to mountaintop, step by step where it seemed a safer and more practical way at the time. I tell you it is a tedious work for my eagles to walk across the rocks.

Allow My wind to catch you underneath your wings as they extend out with praise and worship unto me and lift you back up from the position that you feel is secure as you stand on the rock. For you must maneuver forward in flight yielding to the breeze, yielding to the updrafts, yielding to the presence of your mighty God. For I desire to cause you to be as a skilled warrior flying in and out of the very peaks of the mountain, for they belong to you. I call them your home, a dwelling place. Mount Zion is calling and encouraging you to praise and worship the Lord your God.

So do not be weary in well doing but know I do order your steps and at times I ask you to leap into My presence for as you fly you move quickly, swiftly and powerfully. Spiral into My heavenlies and see the very world I ask you to conquer from a high and lofty place. A place of vision is a place of intercession. A place of intercession is an attitude of the heart. And out of the abundance of your heart My people speak. Fly into My love, soar like an eagle and don't grow
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weary My children for you belong to Me.

PATTERSON

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DOUG and LINDA

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13] EAGLE EYES - misc trivia

1. The eagle's eyes are specially evolved to give it extraordinary vision. The eye's size and shape give it magnification when compared to the human eye. But most important, the eagle's eye is densely packed with the specialized cells that give exceptional vision. The wealth of the special cells and the way they are arranged give the eagle the ability to see extraordinary detail and observe things at great distances. An eagle can spot a fish from two or three miles away. (11)

2. They have excellent eye sight, as with all raptors. Eagles, and other hawks, have a double fovea...two centers of focus on the retina. The "regular" one is for focusing on the horizontal plane. The other is higher on the retina and concentrates focus toward the ground. The birds not only see and process two images, one from each eye, as do most animals with eyes on the sides of their heads, but they also process two more images from below themselves. That is four (yes, 4) things at once. And that explains why a perched bird will sometimes turn its head completely upside down when looking skyward. The ground-image fovea is then looking up. (12)

3. The vision of predatory birds is probably the keenest of any living creature. Eagles see objects two to three times farther away than humans can. Since they hunt by day, sight is by far the most important of all their senses. An eagle must spot prey from great distances and catch birds on the wing. Astonishing accuracy is needed to track the erratic
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course of prey, and the eyes must constantly refocus as an eagle dives toward its moving target. The eyes of an eagle are very large, but their movement within the eye sockets is restricted. To see in different directions, an eagle must turn its head. (9)

4. The acute vision of eagles is due, in part, to the fact that each eye has two depressions in the retina packed with sensory cells that provide an area of especially clear perception. One of these depressions, or fovea, is directed forward, the other to the side. The four foveae working together allow for unusually accurate distance perception. The eyes can function some what independently to see objects to the side, or both eyes can focus on an object directly in front of the head. Special muscles control the curvature of the lens so that the eye can accurately perceive moving objects. A transparent "second eyelid" sweeps across the eye to cleanse and protect it and a projecting bony brow shields the eye from injury. (9)

5. An eagle can see a rabbit about 1 mile or 1760 yards away. Now the average person needs to be about 550 yards away to see the same rabbit. That's why when someone says "you must have eagle eyes," they mean you can see really far. (13)

6. Unlike most mammals, birds have color vision. Much of a bird's survival may depend on its extraordinary vision. Bald Eagles have good binocular vision since their eyes are in front of their heads. This enables them to judge distances accurately - an important ability for birds that often swoop down to snatch food from the ground or water. (14)

7. Golden eagle: A four week old Golden Eagle possess vision that is telescopic, microscopic, monocular, binocular, and about eight times finer than man's. Mature birds can spot a rabbit two miles away. (15)

8. Birds of prey have three eyelids to protect their eyes. Hawks close their eyes most of the time by moving their lower lids up. Owls move their upper eyelids down adding to the human appearance of their faces. The third eyelid is called the nicitating membrane and it closes from side to side. It can be used to clean the eyes or to protect them. (16)

9. Eagle parents often pull the membranes over their eyes when feeding their young. This way chicks won't accidentally damage an eye when they lunge for food. (16)

10. Due to the size of an eagle's eyes, very little room is left for the eye muscles which forces the eagle to turn its head when looking around. This is unlike a human eye which can move more freely in the eye socket. Eagles have powerful

eye sight allowing them to see three to four times farther away than a human being. While hunting, eagles can see their prey several hundred feet above the ground. From a perch position in a high tree, eagles can see prey up to one mile away. When flying at 1000 feet, eagles can spot prey within three square miles. In addition, the two centers of focus in an eagles eye allows it to see both forward and to the side at the same time and like a human, eagles have eyelids. The eyelids will closing during sleep, otherwise a second eyelid (called a nictitating) wipes the cornea every three to four seconds to keep the cornea clean. This second eyelid is translucent which allows the eagle to see in mid blink. (17)

11. A bony extension of the scull (over the eagle's eyes) helps protect tehm from injury when catching and handling prey. (18)

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14] EAGLE'S OTHER SENSES

1. The eagle's other senses are less impressive. The eagle's sense of hearing is comparable to that of humans. Its outer ear openings are located just behind its eyes and covered by a layer of feathers. (19)

2. The eagle seems to have a less-developed sense of taste, and its sense of smell is poorly developed. For example, a bald eagle cannot detect even strong food odors under snow. Eagles cannot find food hidden from view. (19)

3. On the other hand, its sense of touch is acute on the beak and feet, a feature that aids the eagle in capturing and killing prey. Tactile sensations in these areas are important when capturing and killing prey. (9)

4. Eagles make sounds that are often described in human terms. The calls between a pair of eagles at the start of the breeding season are called a "greeting," and the soft, high-pitched call of the female during courtship is thought to be a "solicitation." Young chicks in the nest "beg" for food by peeping or crying. When alarmed, an eagle lowers its head, stretches out its neck, droops and quivers its wings, and, as the bill opens and closes, call "kar! kar! kar!" (9)

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15] EAGLE TALONS

1. Talons are extra-large and grooved underneath, and the foot pads rough, almost spiculate (needle-like), for increased grasping ability, vital when the prey is large and slippery. (12)

2. The bald eagle is well-adapted for hunting. Its feet and talons are large even for such a huge bird. The talons are impressively long and are backed by tremendous muscular force from the legs. The talons can easily penetrate to the bone and even crush some bones. (19)

3. When the muscles in the legs contract, the tendons in the lower legs tighten and the talons close together. This locking system allows the bird to secure its toes around a catch and keep its body steady during rest and sleep. On the undersides of its fleshy toes are small, rough projections called spicules which help the eagle to grasp and hold slippery prey such as fish. (19)

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16] EAGLE BEAK

1. The beak is very heavy (fishing eagles have some of the most powerful beaks).

2. The bald eagle's beak is massive. Its main purpose seems to be for killing and tearing. The beak may be used as a weapon if the talons have not finished off the prey. However, generally the beak is used for tearing prey into small pieces since eagles do not chew their food. (19)

3. The eagle's mouth allows it to swallow sizeable objects, but the food must be torn into reasonably-sized pieces. After ingestion the food is temporarily stored in a huge sack, called the crop, in the throat. (19)

4. An eagle cleans its bill after eating by rubbing it on a stick or a branch. The area around the bill is not feathered and so stays clean while feeding. (9)

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17] EAGLE PAIRS: Misc trivia

1. A pair will remain together for each nesting season as long as both are alive. They engage in various greeting and courtship flights, the most spectacular of which consists of locking talons in mid-air and descending for several hundred feet in a series of spiraling somersaults. (20)

2. They utilize feeding, day roost and night roost perches, and there is a definite dominance heirarchy for their use. Two adults sitting in close proximity will almost certainly be a pair. (12)

3. The courtship flight is truly spectacular. The nest usually built in a commanding position in a large tree, but sometimes on a rocky promontory or even, on islands, on the ground. It is a very large structure of sticks, lined with softer material such as pine needles. The site is usually near water, but nests away from water are known. (21)

4. The male does most of the hunting and scavenging during the early weeks of the chick's life. The female does the majority of the feeding and brooding. The male will often eat the head of the fish he catches and then bring the remainder to the nest. The male will brood and feed the chick when the female is off the nest. She will leave to stretch, defecate, bathe, preen and hunt on her own. (22)

5. The breeding season for bald eagles begins in February and lasts through July, with pairs establishing long-term bonds. They breed in open areas along coasts, rivers, and large lakes, usually away from human disturbances. In California, a study showed that approximately 87% of their nest sites were within 1 mile (1.6 km) of water. (23)

6. Platform nests of sticks are lined with vegetation and other fine materials and are built in large snags and old growth trees with open branches. The nests are often built in the fork of the tree and range from 3 to 61 meters (10-200 ft) above the ground. Cliff nests vary in size from those with very little nesting materials to those that are massive structures. Some eagles have been known to use the same nest for more than 35 years; occasionally, they may use more than one nest in a season. (23)

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18] EAGLE TERRITORY - MISC TRIVIA

1. Three terms are used by eagle biologists to describe the area in which a breeding pair of eagles lives. The "nest site" refers to the nest itself and is the focus of the pair's activity. The term "breeding territory" describes an area surrounding the nest site or sites that is actively defended against intruders. A breeding territory includes the sky above the territory because eagles will defend this space to a certain height. Surrounding the breeding territory is a much larger area within which eagles travel, roost, and search for food. This area, called the "home range," is not actively defended. (9)

2. Breeding territories vary in size and shape. In the 1940s, so many eagles lived along Florida's Gulf coast that nesting birds defended a territory extending only about half a mile outward from the nest; in a few areas, active nests were within 1000 feet of each other. Today eagles rarely nest this closely to each other. The shape of a territory can vary with the location of roosting trees and shoreline configuration. Some territories are circular, while others may encompass a band along a section of shoreline. The shape of the home range in which an eagle travels and hunts is much more flexible and can shift with wind direction. (9)

3. Eagles soar over their nest or perch in conspicuous trees to advertise that their territory is in use. The white heads of the adults is an easily-seen signal that a territory is occupied. In this way, territories are defended with a minimum of fighting. Once a territory is established, other eagles usually recognize and respect these boundaries. Eagles defend their territory against large birds such as gulls and crows and may drive ospreys from their own nests if they are too close. (9)

4. Immature and non-breeding adult eagles do not maintain territories and many roost and feed together. In Everglades National Park, immature eagles fly inland to roost communally at night, well away from coastal nesting areas. (9)

5. Bald eagles are usually associated with a source of permanent water, such as reservoirs, lakes, and free-flowing rivers, with abundant fish and nearby sites for perching, roosting, and, in season, nesting. These sites include snags or other open perches, such as broken-topped trees and rocks near the water. (23)

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19] AN EAGLE'S HUNT

1. Their primary prey is fish, especially salmon, but they will also eat small mammals, various water birds, such as waterfowl, and carrion. In the winter, provided the roosting sites and food are abundant, the eagles will roost in groups, particularly in conifer stands or along rivers with migrating salmon. During salmon runs in Alaska, up to 4,000 eagles have been known to congregate along the Chiklat River. (23)

2. The bald eagle searches for prey from a soaring flight or from a perch, then swoops down and grabs its prey. These eagles are known to wade in shallow water to pursue fish with their bill or talons. (23)

3. Bald eagles tend to cooperatively hunt, particularly when pursuing lagomorphs, such as cottontails and black-tailed hares; they will try and flush them out by using short flights back and forth across the vegetation, or by watching from a perch and waiting for the prey to appear. Occasionally, bald eagles visit flooded fields, pouncing on the small mammals displaced by the water. Piracy of prey from other species is a common foraging tactic of immature bald eagles. (23)

4. The young eagle will spend the next 4 years of its life wandering across eastern North America looking for summering and wintering areas where food is accessible. The mortality rate for eagles during their first year of life is greater than 50%, but once they have learned to hunt and forage successfully their chances of reaching adulthood are good. When it begins to mature at age 4, an eagles seeks a mate and establishes a territory. The territory is usually located within 250 miles of the nest where the eagle was hatched. There, the new pair of eagles will construct their own nest but often don't produce eggs or young during their first year as a pair. They'll return in following years to raise young of their own. (22)

5. The bald eagle searches for prey from a soaring flight or from a perch, then swoops down and grabs its prey. These eagles are known to wade in shallow water to pursue fish with their bill or talons. (23)

6. The Bald Eagle feeds primarily on fish, aquatic birds, and mammals, which it may take alive or find dead. Much of its live prey, especially the waterfowl, consists of sickly individuals or those wounded by hunters. When its staple foods are not available, a Bald Eagle will eat almost anything that has food value. (24)

7. These large predators take food however they can,

stealing it from other birds (e.g., fish from the Osprey), scavenging on carrion (including road kills and fish killed passing through hydropower turbines), and hunting in flight, from a perch, on the ground, or in shallow water. They sometimes feed in groups, although they rarely cooperate in hunting. Generally, the adults are more likely to hunt and kill, whereas the younger birds rely more on scavenging and piracy. (24)

8. An eagle uses its feet to capture and kill prey. Swooping down from above, it grabs a fish and drives its long talons into the prey with a treading motion. This happens so smoothly that an eagle rarely gets its legs wet. Eagles snare flying waterfowl by flying under the intended victim, turning upside down, and grabbing the prey by the breast. (9)

9. An eagle hunting coots on the St. Johns River separated a bird from its flock and pursued it underwater. Several moments passed before the eagle returned to the surface with the coot in its talons. An eagle in Alaska dove underwater to catch a duck and then calmly folded its wings and floated at the surface for several minutes until the duck drowned. Since the duck was too heavy to carry off, the eagle towed its victim to shore with rhythmic beats of its outstretched wings, much like a human swimmer using the butterfly stroke. (9)

10. Prey is carried back to the nest or roost and eaten there. Eagles remove the skin from small mammals and often pluck the feathers from larger birds before eating them. When eating a fish, an eagle usually rips off the head and then stands on the carcass to tear chunks from the body. Undigested fur and feathers are regurgitated as pellets. (9)

11. When food is abundant, an eagle can gorge itself by storing up to two pounds of food in a pouch in the throat called a crop. Gorging allows the bird to fast for several days if food becomes unavailable. Eagles also readily eat carrion such as stranded fish or the carcasses of large animals. They will even drive vultures or dogs from a carcass or pursue vultures and force them to disgorge their meal. (9)

12. Besides hunting and killing prey, eagles steal food from other birds. The tendency to pirate food led Benjamin Franklin to decide that eagles were birds of "bad moral character." Assigning human moral values to an eagle is, of course, unfair, because stealing is just another way of getting food. Eagles are particularly known for stealing food from ospreys with whom they share waterfront habitats, but they will steal from many kinds of birds, especially other eagles. (9)

13. In some parts of the country, wintering, non-nesting birds roost and feed in groups. Groups of two to three to 30

or more eagles may feed together. In the Chilkat Valley area of southeastern Alaska, more than 3,000 bald eagles gather in the fall to feed on the carcasses of salmon. These groups are far from friendly, however, since aggression between eagles and food stealing are common. (2)

14. An analysis of the behavior of these eagles revealed a range of aggressive displays as the birds continually displaced each other. An eagle can challenge a feeding bird by descending from above with its feet and talons outstretched or, if both eagles are on the ground, one may jump a few feet in the air and drop towards the other. Sometimes an aggressive eagle approaches a feeding eagle with slow deliberate steps, staring intently, with its head and neck extended horizontally. If the feeding bird does not retreat, the aggressor may strike with talons or beak. A defending bird either retreats or retaliates by jumping and presenting its talons to the aggressor. Physical contact is rare, but aggressive displays occasionally lead to injury as one bird embeds its talons in the body of another. (9)

15. Stealing occurs even when food is plentiful. Pirating is adaptive even when food is abundant because the risks associated with stealing and hunting are about equal. Aggressive encounters rarely escalate into violence, because the status of each bird usually predetermines which bird will win an encounter. In other words, eagles usually challenge birds that are likely to yield. For example, larger birds, which are usually female, tend to steal from smaller birds. As a result, smaller or younger birds tend to hunt more, while large adults more often benefit from stealing. Hungry birds usually win out over birds that have eaten since a satiated bird is less likely to defend a food item aggressively. A full crop is a clear sign that an eagle has been feeding for a while. When each contestant knows the status of the other, one will emerge as the winner without escalated fighting. (9)

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20] FISHING EAGLES

National Geographic aired a special one night about how eagles catch fish in lakes. They fly high above the water but their eyesight is so good they can spot fish in the water below. When they see one they fold back their wings and
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aim directly for the water, going as fast as 130 mph. When they reach the water they spread their wings, reach out their talons, grab the fish, and begin flying back to the shore.

On this TV special, they showed film of a very unusual occurrence. An eagle made a dive for a fish and grabbed it in its talons. But the fish was much larger than the eagle realized. As it began to fly to the shore you could see the strain on the eagle's face. It was not going to make it back to the shore with this huge fish. It then tried to drop the fish, to let go of it. But the talons of the eagle had dug into the flesh of the fish so deeply that it could not pull them out. It struggled but to no avail.

Slowly the eagle descended into the lake and drowned, unable to let loose of its catch.

Many times in life we grab on to something that can be dangerous. We feel we have control and can stop holding on any time we like. It becomes a habit and one day we try to get out and discover that we no longer have a hold on it but it has a hold of us. "Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us" (Hebrews 12:1).

Edited from More Hot Illustrations for Youth Talks by Wayne Rice.

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21] OTHER MISC EAGLE TRIVIA

1. An eagle is one of the largest birds of prey in the world.

2. COMMON NAME: bald eagle (22)
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3. The name "bald" is a misnomer. The scientific name, Haliaeetus leucocephalus, means "white-headed sea eagle." (22)

1. CLASS: Aves (22)

2. ORDER: Falconiformes (22)

3. FAMILY: Accipitridae (22)

4. GENUS & SPECIES: Haliaetus leucocephalus (22)

There are 59 species of eagles worldwide.

5. CLASSIFICATION: Falconiformes, yes, eagles are hawks. Hawks are divided by their wing shapes and the way they fly: falcons, accipiters, buteos, kites and eagles. Accipiter means "hawk" in Latin. Halos and aetos are Greek for "sea" and "eagle." Since the bald eagle is considered one of the sea-eagles, it fits. Another Latinized obvious observation: leucocephalus. Leukcos is Greek for "white" and kephale is Greek for "head." Pretty straight-forward! (22)

6. PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: Length: 27-30+ inches (bigger farther north)

Wingspan: Male: about 6 1/2 feet; Female: about 7 feet

Weight: Male: 9 lbs.; Female: 12.8 lbs.

Coloration: Adult - Rich, deep brown except head and tail which are snowy white. Bill and feet yellow, eyes straw colored.

Juvenile - dark head, neck and tail, body dark to black and often mottled with pointed feather tips buff. Attainment of adult plumage is gradual with mottling slowly molting out (the buffy tips wear off) and the head and tail looking muddy, then buff, then white at four or five years of age. Beak and feet are black. [Juveniles are easily confused with young Golden Eagles. Bare lower tarsi, best when fishing because water-logged feathers are heavy, are diagnostic for Bald Eagles, Goldens are feathered to the toes. (22)

7. DIET: Mostly fish (which they will steal from each other and from osprey), water birds that "raft" (like Coots), as well as muskrats and other small mammals ("our" eagles at Eastman Lake take jackrabbits and ground squirrels like Goldens do) plus carrion. (22)

8. Eagles sometimes bathe in shallow water or fly down and drag their feet through water to clean them.

9. PREY SIZE: Prey items weigh from 3 to 5 pounds at most. An eagle would have difficulty carrying anything

approaching even one-half its own weight, making myths of eagles carrying off human babies or calves absurd.

10. LONGEVITY: Have lived 50 years in captivity. Life expectancy in the wild may be 30 years. (25)

11. EYESIGHT: Five to six times sharper than a human's. (25)

12. PERCHING: Bald eagles spend more time sleeping or resting on a perch than at any other activity. Pairs often perch together and, as one preens, the other keeps a watchful eye. If it is very hot, perching birds droop their wings and gape their mouths. Different perches are used during the day so that a bird can face into the wind or avoid the sun's glare. When eagles of different ages perch in the same tree, the oldest birds usually occupy the highest perches. (9)

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22] NOTE FROM SANDY ABOUT EAGLE TRIVIA

From the following footnote references, you can see I searched websites about nature, government, environment, scientific, wild life studies, etc.

In searching for the eagle trivia it was interesting to me that I did not find one particular item in even one scientific or nature site. (Although it was written about in many Christian sites.) If you find a scientific data source mentioning this theme, please let me know, I would like to post it with this file.

The scientific data I did not find was the concept of an eagle parent carrying an eaglet in flight. The scientific sites say that prey weighs about 3-5 pounds and a baby eaglet weighs about 1 pound more than its parent when it comes time to fly. (They need the extra weight because they will no longer be fed in the nest and they will be gradually learning how to hunt.) The parents weigh between 9-13 pounds.

I am thinking that if this is not a scientific fact, then perhaps the Lord was using the following scripture as an allegory of
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how He carried Israel on His wings in their journey through the wilderness. "As an eagle stirs up its nest, Hovers over its young, Spreading out its wings, taking them up, Carrying them on its wings, So the LORD alone led him, And there was no foreign god with him." (Deut 32:11-12 NKJV)

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23] REFERENCES TO FOOTNOTE TRIVIA (#)

[Almost all of the trivia are direct quotes]

1 http://www.baldeagleinfo.com/eagle/feathers.html

2 http://www.emt.fpl.com/fpl/html/kid_eaglebook.html

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5 http://www.nu.com/eagles/default.asp

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20 http://inst.santafe.cc.fl.us/~zoo/bldeagle.htm

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30 http://sirius.lib.ncsu.edu/NRL_BIB/cit42.html

31 http://esu9.k12.ne.us/~juniata/eagle.html

32 http://gorp.com/gorp/activity/birding/eagles.htm

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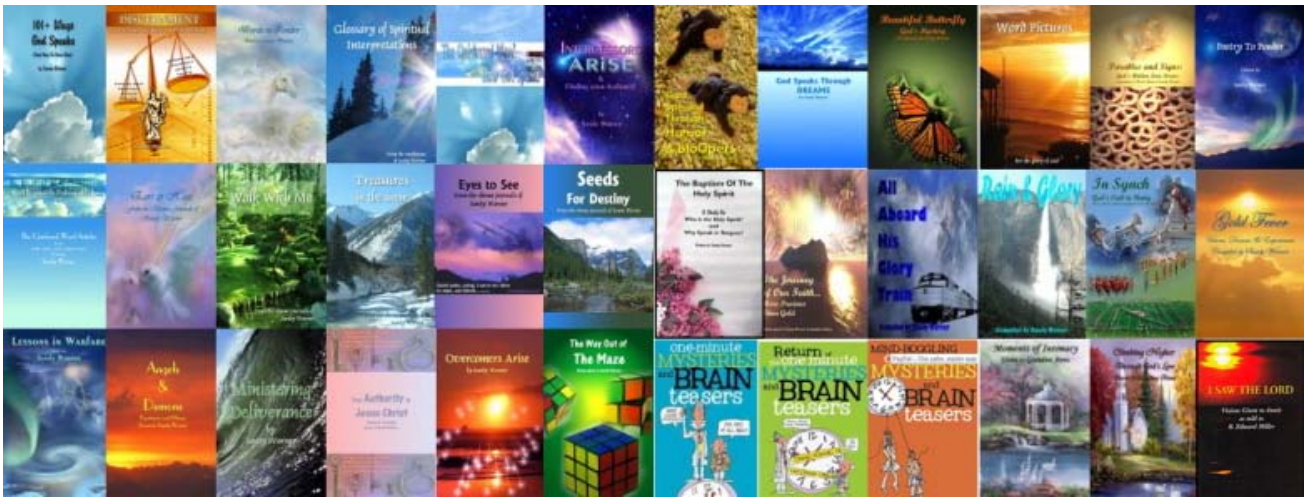

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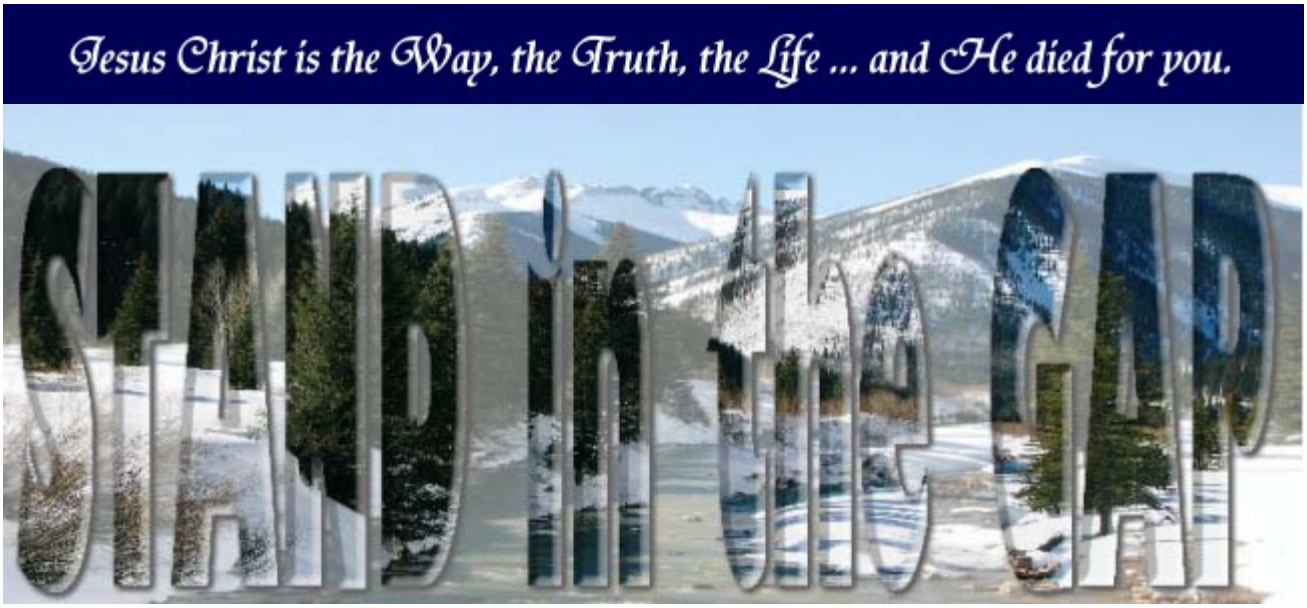

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Standing in the Gap

1) Hanging in the Balance - Word to Ponder
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3) Story - To take the heat
4) Story - Firefighters
5) Understand the Nature of the Battle - Word to Ponder
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13) Experience - Open Ears to Shofar Blast

14) Vision - Saints Tears are a River of Mercy for the Nations

15) Vision - Intercessors Come to Life

16) Cindy Jacobs prophetic experience - Drop our stones and pray

17) City Prayer, Warfare & Intercession - Battle Safely

18) Finding Your Metron

19) Characteristics of an Intercessor

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1) Hanging in the Balance

Excerpt taken from the Book, Words to Ponder by Sandy Warner

You have much concern over impending judgments, for the velocity of these judgments hang in the balance and are slippery as eels. Yes band together with other believers and stand in the gap against impending judgments. For the greater the stand against unrighteousness and the greater the commitment to Me, the lesser the judgments will be.

The earth must shake and tremble and go through it's impending storm. Yet I am now drawing near to hover over My people in abiding Presence. Like those in the wilderness, protected with the cloud by day and the fire by night, I draw near and protect My own. This is the time to draw near to Me and commit to My call. Pursue righteousness and you will not be caught in the storm. You will rise above it and walk through it untouched. At that point, you will no longer be hanging in the balance.

" And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of a cloud, to lead them the way; and by night in a pillar of fire, to give them light; to go by day and night: He took not away the pillar of the cloud by day, nor the pillar of fire by night, from before the people." (Exodus 13:21 & 22)

2) David Come Home

Dream - God Weeps When He Spanks - Posted 2/10/99 from Sandy Warner

Hi Loved Ones,

The last week of January 99 a historical conference (National School of the Prophets) took place whereby approximately 16 prophetic people/ministries joined together, standing as one voice to declare the state of our nation. In compiling and reading 58 pages of testimonies, I saw a serious intercessory theme in which God is speaking to the prophetic at this hour: repent and leave carnality behind, then return to kingdom business which it to stand in the gap for our nation and our children.

The same week as the conference, my husband Wayne was given the following prophetic dream about David in the Old Testament. While pondering the dream, I realized that God was not speaking about the lost who will come in during the great harvest — He is speaking to David — the king, the leader, the prophet, the intercessor, the worship leader, the anointed one, the warrior! God is weeping over His chosen ones who are entangled in carnal entertainment.

DREAM: I was in a palace that looked like a palace in Napoleon's day. There was a great sadness throughout the whole palace. I am standing before some kind of a booth and there was an angel who was working a video game controller really fast. Many other angels were standing around him and they all had on long white robes. When the angel was done, he handed it to the angel who was in control of that station. That angel said, "You have 200. David at his very best only got 15." They were speaking of David of the Old Testament. The angel started to hand me the controller and said, "No, I just can't do that, it belongs to David." He had been David's teacher and he walked off crying for David.

Another angel came by and said, "Jesse is coming home." At that moment I knew in my spirit that David had been wounded in battle by a sword. I walked out on the portico and I could see a big long fountain in the courtyard. The whole palace belonged to David and it was filled with many angels, all dressed in long white robes. All these angels were dedicated to David's service. I could see that God had done all this for David while he was a young man, and now he had left the palace and gone out into the world. The angels had been waiting for David a long time, and had nothing to do but wander around the palace. They were all extremely grieved and at the point of tears.

As I looked down the long courtyard, I saw a jeep driving into the palace grounds. Two children angels were with the jeep. One was driving and the other was laying on top of the hood. David was in the passenger side. As I watched David coming down the driveway to the palace, I knew David had been living with the Romans and partaking of the debauchery of their world.

The jeep stopped where all the angels were standing. David got out and climbed on

top of the short wall surrounding the fountain. Dressed in a fool's outfit like the court jester, he began to talk about all the wine and the women and the song and joys of living in the debauchery. I could see a wistfulness in his demeanor and eyes — that he still wanted to live that life. When he finished talking about his longings of the world, he said, "A sword has brought me home."

I looked at his body and he wasn't wounded in a physical sense. David, with great submission and even compassion, said, "The sword of the Spirit." At that moment, all the angels in the courtyard raised their hands in unison to the Lord in heaven and began worshipping God. I did the same thing and could not see anything because I was sobbing so much.

[end of dream]

I recently read someone's revelation a while back (I am sorry not to have the reference for this) that said the word "tain" in entertainment meant to hinder or restrain. The Lord gave the revelation to this person that entertainment was hindering people from entering into God's Presence. In the conference some of the testimonies said that Cindy Jacobs was given visions of warring angels waiting to be summoned to fight for America. They had been waiting a long time. She saw God deal death blows to "entertainment spirits" in New Orleans, Hollywood, and Las Vegas. She called for those in bondage to sin -- especially sin of a sexual nature, ie. pornography, masturbation, lust, porno on the internet, etc. -- to come forward and confess their sins and repent. There was an enormous response from the crowd, going forward, confessing, repenting. When I read this testimony I grieved so deeply because this was a conference message to the school of the prophets! I said, "Lord how can we be involved in pornography and be prophetic????" I was shocked at the answer - movies.

Also stated at the conference was 'what we got away with in the outer-courts will get us killed in the holy place.' We are about to adventure into history's most unprecedented hour whereby the glory of God will fall upon earth. The Holy One is going to visit us. Are we going to be killed? Are we going to kill our children because we, the kings, the leaders, the prophets, the intercessors, the worship leaders, the anointed ones, the warriors have caused a breech in the covering over our nation?

Recently I read an article called "The Pride Virus" on grievous prophetic "Words" that are on the Internet. The article talked about the prophets apparent boastfulness and pride in prophesying coming judgments. Like the author, I too have spent countless hours reading the prophetic on the Internet sites and came to the same conclusion... a deeply grieved spirit. In addition to witnessing the prophetic pride emanating from such "Words" I have also deeply grieved over the anger behind so many. I have received dreams from the Lord about these things and His heart is that mercy still triumphs over judgment. And even within judgment, it does not mean that He is angry

with us. He can weep when He spanks.

What the prophetic people do not understand is that we have authority in our vote. And every time we speak anger and judgment we are casting our vote for such to occur. On the contrary, those who are prophetic intercessors are standing in the gap, asking for forgiveness and weeping for the sins of a blind nation. They are still begging that even in severe chastening, God will have mercy and release us from our blind eyes and help us come to a quick repentance. May the Lord have mercy upon us all.

"If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land. (2 Chronicles 7:14 NKJ)

3) To Take The Heat

A story about standing in the gap written by Sandy Warner - posted 2/15/98

Hi Loved Ones,

For several seasons the Holy Spirit has been wooing the hearts of His people and literally fulfilling the following verse: "And he will turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the earth with a curse." (Mal 4:6) When this massive move of the Holy Spirit began to unfold, I witnessed this turning in many ways (especially in the Promise Keepers movement) but I never understood the curse part until recently.

Now everywhere we turn, we hear the prophets speak of coming judgment. Many of us have felt so overwhelmed by the stacked deck we do not realize that we still have a vote in this matter. Scripture tells us that mercy triumphs over judgment whether it is averted totally, or reduced to a spanking. Simply put, judgment hangs in the balance and our vote still counts. At this late hour and with so much against us, how do we cast our vote and stand in the gap for the sins of our nation, our world, our children?

The gap is a breach in our hedge of protection, where the enemy is allowed to start a fire then take advantage of the course it takes. To stand against this, it requires courageous fire fighters, willing to take the heat and battle the flames. There are many ways to fight a fire and it all depends upon the tools we are given. The following story was forwarded to me this week. I believe it portrays God’s answer to the greatest tool we can use, and it also sheds light on the verse, "And he will turn

the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the earth with a curse." (Mal 4:6)

The author writes about reading an article in the National Geographic several years ago: "After a forest fire in Yellowstone National Park, forest rangers began their trek up a mountain to assess the inferno's damage. One ranger found a bird literally petrified in ashes, perched statuesquely on the ground at the base of a tree.

Somewhat sickened by the eerie sight, he knocked over the bird with a stick. When he struck it, three tiny chicks scurried from under their dead mother's wings. The loving mother, keenly aware of impending disaster, had carried her offspring to the base of the tree and had gathered them under her wings, instinctively knowing that the toxic smoke would rise. She could have flown to safety but had refused to abandon her babies. When the blaze had arrived and the heat had singed her small body, the mother remained steadfast. Because she had been willing to die, those under the cover of her wings would live." [author unknown]

"This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends." (John 15: 12,13) If you feel the heat of judgment coming your way, consider what you may do to make a difference for those under your wings. Your vote counts. How do I know? Because love still covers a multitude of sins.

4) Story of the 1989 Yellowstone Fire

The above post sparked a moving moment I had while visiting Yellowstone the spring following the 1989 fires. The devastation was incredible. you would look as far as the eye could see from a hilltop and see nothing but charred toothpicks left standing where a lush forest had once stood.

In the visitor center they showed a remarkable film. You could see the firefighters who were obviously exhausted, all with blackened faces. It was November and they'd been after the many fires for almost 5 months. Many fighters were laying on the ground too tired to do anything but sleep wherever they were. Their faces showed the weariness and the hint of hopelessness and yet the tenacity of their will's to prevail could still be seen. In the midst of all this agony it began to snow.... to see the faces of these men and women as they looked up and saw the answer to their need, having done all that they could do, knowing it was never enough, was almost indescribable. they all stood in awe of the hand of God, and wept... so did I! The center had the gear of 11 fighters that had died on display. It was sad to think of their sacrifice. Sometimes we forget that every battle has it's casualties and losses, just like that mother bird.

From Cherie

5) Understand the Nature of the Battle

Taken from the book Words to Ponder by Sandy Warner

There is much you do not understand when suddenly there is a victory and just as suddenly there is a defeat. This is because you have entered an era where the final battle is in the making. All of the spiritual forces are at work to take ground once and for all. And you are caught in the middle. This is not a time to sleep and be taken unaware. For when the waves of darkness come, they can sweep you off your feet and suddenly you are left sifted and upside down wondering what hit you.

This is a time to prepare for battle and understand the nature of the battle. There are seasons of war and seasons of rest. Likewise, there are seasons of victories and seasons of resting in the victories. These times are just like the waves in the ocean. The enemy forces ride in, gathering strength in numbers, while raising the tides of evil onslaught upon the earth. When this happens, this is the time to stand. Stand with the power to tell the enemy no. Command the darkness to retreat in Jesus Name. Stand armed with the Words I have given you. Do not bow under the circumstances, but stand knowing it is but an enemy wave. Command, praise and trust Me through it and you shall rise above its destructive path.

As My believers stand firm and the strength of the enemy depletes, the evil forces retreat to gather energy for another round. Take advantage of those times to draw near to Me and gather your own strength for the battles to come. Angelic activity and blessings have greater access during this time. Take advantage of this understanding. Gather food to feed your soul, and gather supplies for nurturing those in a weaker condition. Take this time to rest from the heat of war, and seek Me, enjoying the blessings of My Presence. For in those times I draw near to Mine Own ones, and reveal Myself to them. If you understand the nature of this long war, you will learn to ride the waves. Rise above the enemy circumstances when they hit and ride the blessing waves when they arrive.

Always remember that in it all, I AM in control. Everything the enemy does is with My permission. This is a time when the enemy has been allowed to touch the earth with swift judgment. It is a wake up call. I use this for good, to cleanse and bring forth repentance. The enemy intends it for complete destruction. The measure it touches your own life is the degree in which the intercessors stand in the gap against the incoming waves of evil as well as the degree in which you yourself need repentance. If something has touched your life, see the truth, repent and then find the secret place hidden in Me and you will ride out the storms in a place of safety.

There will come a time when it will be impossible to rest in circumstances without genuine faith in Me. To truly understand this is to understand the fear of the Lord and understand I will no longer wink at sin, but bring swift judgment. Take heed and find your covering under the shadow of My wings.

"They which builded on the wall, and they that bare burdens, with those that laded, every one with one of his hands wrought in the work, and with the other hand held a weapon. For the builders, every one had his sword girded by his side, and so builded…. In what place therefore ye hear the sound of the trumpet, resort ye thither unto us: our God shall fight for us. " (Nehemiah 4:17-18, 20)

6) Intercessors Stand Guard

Taken from the book, Words to Ponder by Sandy Warner

I AM raising an army of intercessors who understand the significance of standing in the gap. They may be unseen by others, but they are not unseen by Me. These carry My authority into the spiritual realm and fight on behalf of others. They have been trained to stand strong against the enemy tide, and resist the forces sent against those they encircle. Together, they form a mighty wall of protection for the weaker vessels within.

Now is the time for those trained to defend and stand on behalf of those they love. Be strong, for the heavenly hosts fight with you. Be of great courage, for there are more with you than with the enemy. Stand in My favor and My grace. Know your own sins are forgiven and come into My courts with boldness, declaring defeat of the enemy's destructive forces, and victory for the overcomers who believe in My Name.

Arm yourselves with weapons of My authority. Keep your shields of faith high and quench the fiery darts with My Word. Command the evil forces to retreat in the Mighty Name of Jesus. Loose the angels to go forth and fight. Use the battering rams of praise, worship and speaking My Name. Each blow causes a retreat. Be persistent and use your weapons over and over again, and the strongholds will fall. You will see victories all around you as you are willing to stand guard when I call you to do so. Be on the alert. I give you times of rest and times of war. Learn to discern them and you will learn to take advantage of both for My Kingdom's sake.

"And I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it:" (Ezekiel 22:30)

7) Stand in the Gap

Taken from the book, Words to Ponder by Sandy Warner

As Achan's sin caused the entire camp to fall, so it is when there is a breach in the hedge of protection. However, the reverse principle works as well. Through one man's favor, standing in that gap can cause safety for all those within.

If you could but believe it, I can use you to stand for those you love. Your obedience, your sacrifice, your Godly decisions, your standing against an enemy onslaught on their behalf makes all the difference to their safety. I need someone who is willing to stand in the breaches along the hedge to help form a solid protection around those you love. Will you consider standing for their sake? Do understand the breach is where the enemy rushes in, so you must be willing to stand against such. Yet I give the grace and power to those I call to do so. And if these loved ones belong to you, I have already given you the authority.

"And I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none." (Ezekiel 22:30)

8) Bible Study of Isaiah 58 - God's Chosen Fast

(Taken from the book 101+ Ways God Speaks And How To Hear Him, by Sandy Warner)

ISAIAH 58 - THE FORMAT OF GOD'S FAST

" 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?" (Isaiah 58:6 NKJV)

1. SHARE YOUR SUSTENANCE WITH THE NEEDY (verse 7)

Literal

a. Divide your bread with the hungry

b. Bring the homeless poor into your house

c. When you see the naked, to cover him

d. Don’t hide yourself from your own flesh

Spiritual

a. Share God’s Words with those in famine

b. Pray for the captive to come home

c. Forgive and cover your brother’s sin

d. Pray for your family

2. TAKE AWAY OPPRESSIVE HEAVINESS (verse 9B)

Literal

a. Remove the yoke from your midst

b. Remove the pointing of the finger

c. Remove speaking wickedness

Spiritual

a. Don’t oppress others - not only in deed, but in thought and expectations

b. Do not criticize or judge your brother’s walk

c. Pray and think kind words

3. SPEND YOUR OWN ENERGY FOR THE NEEDY (verse 10 NASB)

Literal

a. Give yourself to the hungry

b. Satisfy the desire of the afflicted

Spiritual

a. Lay aside your own goals for those hungry for God

b. Give hope to those in torment

THE PROMISES OF GOD'S FAST

1. LOOSE THE DARKNESS (verse 8 and 10B)

Physical, spiritual or emotional deliverance from darkness:

a. Your light will break out like the dawn

b. Your light will rise in the darkness

c. Your gloom will become like midday

2. QUICK HEALING (verse 8 NASB)

Healing for body, mind, soul, emotions, spirit:

a. Your recovery will speedily spring forth

3. YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM WILL GUIDE YOU (verse 8B, 11, 9)

He will answer your plea for understanding:

a. Your righteousness will go before you

b. The glory of the Lord will be your rear guard

c. You will call, and the Lord will answer

d. You will cry, and He will say, Here am I

4. QUENCH THIRST AND STRENGTH (verse 11)

In trying times, He will give physical and spiritual strength and refreshment:

a. He will satisfy your desire in scorched places

b. And give strength to your bones

c. You will be like a watered garden

d. Like a spring of water whose waters do not fail

5. RESTORATION OF THE FALLEN (verse 12 NASB)

You will repair other's brokenness:

a. Those from among you will rebuild the ruins

b. You will rise up the age-old foundations

c. You will be called the repairer of the breach

d. The restorer of the streets in which to dwell

THE RESULT AND PURPOSE OF THE FAST IS:

1. DELIVERANCE (verse 6 NASB)

Break satan's chains that immobilize, restrict, and restrain us from freedom:

a. Loosen the bonds of wickedness

b. Undo the bands of the yoke

c. Let the oppressed go free

d. Break every yoke

"If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land. (2 Chronicles 7:14 NKJ)

Isaiah 58 fast - Humility before the Lord and before one another

When the heart is right before the Lord, one will not oppress others, or seek self satisfaction, as recorded in Isaiah 58:3. When the true humility before the Lord comes from the heart, it will show on the outside. For instance how we live and treat others.

In summary, the promises of the fast the Lord chooses in Isaiah 58 are to disperse darkness, quicken healing, provide guidance, quench thirst, restore strength and restore that which has fallen.

9) Rhema - Stand in the Gap

Heard via Grandma Anna 9/3/92

"We have a war on our hands. A country to gain. It's not in the sky. My kingdom on

earth. I will open eyes to see it. Fight the good fight of faith. Stand in the gap. There are fallen ones out there. Stand on what you know. Trust me to bring it about. That's standing in the gap. A good soldier never really dies. That's because I give eternal life."

10) Word study on STANDING in the GAP

"And I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand <05975> in the gap <06556> before me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none. (Ezekiel 22:30)

STAND IN THE HEBREW:

05975 `amad {aw-mad'}

¤ a primitive root; TWOT - 1637; v

¤ AV - stood 171, stand 137, (raise, stand...) up 42, set 32, stay 17, still 15, appointed 10, standing 10, endure 8, remain 8, present 7, continue 6, withstand 6, waited 5, establish 5, misc 42; 521

¤ 1) to stand, remain, endure, take one's stand 1a) (Qal) 1a1) to stand, take one's stand, be in a standing attitude, stand forth, take a stand, present oneself, attend upon, be or become servant of 1a2) to stand still, stop (moving or doing), cease 1a3) to tarry, delay, remain, continue, abide, endure, persist, be steadfast 1a4) to make a stand, hold one's ground 1a5) to stand upright, remain standing, stand up, rise, be erect, be upright 1a6) to arise, appear, come on the scene, stand forth, appear, rise up or against 1a7) to stand with, take one's stand, be appointed, grow flat, grow insipid 1b) (Hiphil) 1b1) to station, set 1b2) to cause to stand firm, maintain 1b3) to cause to stand up, cause to set up, erect 1b4) to present (one) before (king) 1b5) to appoint, ordain, establish 1c) (Hophal) to be presented, be caused to stand, be stood before

GAP IN THE HEBREW

06556 perets {peh'-rets}

¤ from 06555; TWOT - 1826a; n m

¤ AV - breach 14, gap 2, breaking 1, breaking forth 1, breaking in 1; 19 ¤ 1) breach, gap, bursting forth 1a) bursting forth, outburst 1b) breach 1c) broken wall 1d) outburst (fig. of God's wrath)

11) 2 Visions - Intercessors Arise

Posted on 4/7/99

From Sandy Warner

On March 2, 1999 Kathie Walters (kathie@hom.net) posted a vision given to Bob Jones: "He said that he was sitting with some other folk at a table eating. The Lord came to the table and Bob thought 'Oh good, He has come to eat with us', but Jesus said, 'I have not come to eat with you now, I have come to ask you to pray with me, I am raising up the school of intercession.' Bob said this is the time when the Lord is anointing Intercessors and inviting them to pray with Him, out of a spirit of revelation."

The following is a vision of hope, whereby the Lord is restoring intercession. If you do not consider yourself an intercessor, please consider the possibility as you read the following vision. There are people worldwide, whose callings are hidden even to themselves, and the Lord is wanting to restore their position in Him. He is trumpeting a timely and an urgent call to prayer, and it is happening right now.

Vision given to Jeff Ching
worldflair@yahoo.com
(Mercy Seat Church in Lynnwood, WA.)

3/25/99

Part I

I saw a very large mass of intercessors stuck in what I was impressed to be miry clay. I saw different people struggling with this miry clay, most were engulfed up to their hips and some up to their arms. I noticed that they struggled in vain not being able to free themselves. Along the banks I saw many people yelling and they were stretching out sticks and boards and some throwing ropes to help pull out the intercessors. The intercessors reached out to those that were trying to help them but none were being pulled out. I became aware of another large group of intercessors at the right hand of God in Christ. They were interceding to God on behalf of the intercessors stuck in the miry clay. Suddenly I saw the hands of all the entrapped intercessors being lifted heavenward accompanied with great praise and worship from their mouths. Through great open heavens the hand and arm of God reached down and pulled out the intercessors stuck in the miry clay.

Ps 40:2 He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings. (KJV)

Part II

There was before me a very vast forest. In this forest I saw multitudes of intercessors. All in this forest were lost and wandering around not seeming to have direction or purpose. At times a few would meet by accident and pray but because the forest was so thick with brush and blackberry bushes over a persons head they soon lost each other. Most were wandering trying to find a way out of this vast forest. There was a semi-darkness caused by the huge trees that grew everywhere. Things seemed so confused, I had a lost feeling.

Then suddenly there was an extremely bright light that appeared at a distance. I saw all the intercessors in this vast forest turn and head toward that light as if urged or compelled by some great force. At first it was very difficult for them because of the thick underbrush. They beat paths with large sticks through this brush as they made their ways toward this light. As they got closer they found it easier and easier as others closer to this light had made paths for them all heading in the same direction. Soon I looked and started to see at first a few people, and then many on paths all heading toward this great light. An excitement could be sensed in the air. All of these small paths started to join into larger paths until at the edge of the forest their was one large path filled with intercessors praising and worshipping God.

Prov 4:18 But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day. (KJV)

Part III

The next scene was a desert place with sand dunes, and at some places, large rocks. There was little to no plant or animal life. It was a very hot and dry desert. As I looked upon this desert there again were God's intercessors. They were all prostrated in the desert sands. Very little movement came from them and as God showed me a closer look I saw that they were all dying with many near death. Vultures hovered and swooped down on many of these intercessors trying to pluck out their eyes and hearts. It had appeared by their tracks that many had wandered for sometime searching for water and food but could not find any.

They were scattered all over this desert with small groups here and there but mostly individuals separated for some reason or another. I saw a few lift their head, stand up and walk toward what seemed to be an oasis. At first it seemed to be an illusion of some sort that often accompanies such desperate situations. Maybe angel messengers from God? Suddenly, I was standing in the midst of this oasis which was not very large, nor ornately beautiful. It was just an oasis with a few trees and a pond of water. As I looked toward the sand dunes in the distance, I saw a figure of a person rise forth silhouetted against the sky coming toward this oasis. Then looking in other directions a few more. These few soon arrived at the oasis and quickly refreshed themselves and immediately started to praise and worship God.

They started to intercede for others they had met in the desert and soon afterwards more and more started to arrive. Soon the oasis was overcrowded with vast numbers of people. I then realized that the oasis had started to expand and expand and expand. The desert was turning into a beautiful oasis farther than the eye could see. I could see no end to the expansion of the oasis. The oasis had expanded to encompass the intercessors.

Isa 35:1-8 The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose. It shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice even with joy and singing: the glory of Lebanon shall be given unto it, the excellency of Carmel and Sharon, they shall see the glory of the LORD, and the excellency of our God. Strengthen ye the weak hands, and confirm the feeble knees. Say to them that are of a fearful heart, Be strong, fear not: behold, your God will come with vengeance, even God with a recompence; he will come and save you. Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing: for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert. And the parched ground shall become a pool, and the thirsty land springs of water: in the habitation of dragons, where each lay, shall be grass with reeds and rushes. And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The way of holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it; but it shall be for those: the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err therin. (KJV)

From Jeff Ching
worldflair@yahoo.com

12) Vision: Canons of Intercession

Date: 4/7/99

From: whitehal@cfw.com (James and Linda)

Dear Sandy,

I just received your latest email (Intercessor's Arise). I had a vision recently that reminds me of what you sent. I had just returned from a ministry trip and an awesome anointing stayed with me for about a week. When I was alone with the Lord during this time, I saw, in the Spirit, a golden chariot with 4 white horses and an angel driving. I knew I was to get in and commented to the angel what a wonderful chariot this was. He said, "The father thought You would like it". We traveled away from the earth and I saw a giant vortex with a dark tunnel in the center. People were being pulled into it in a terrible current from which they couldn't get free. (This seemed to be the entrance to hell.) We viewed this for several seconds and I told the Lord not to

show me this unless He gave me the power to do something about it.

We traveled some distance and I saw another vortex this one was filled with light. People were walking into this tunnel. We also entered it and found ourselves at a reception area of heaven. When the horses were led away they had no halters or ropes attached to them - they just walked obediently behind the one leading. I stopped to touch one of the horses. (I have horses and was curious how they would feel) The horse was warm to touch and had soft silky hair. He put his face against my chest affectionately and I felt love emanating from Him. The angel said, "the Lord will return on a horse like this.

Jesus met me there. We walked together and I had the feeling of being glued to Him. I seemed to be going with Him without making a decision to do so. I realized I would be glued to Him even when I returned to earth. We are always glued to Him we just can't see Him when we are here.

We sat under a tree by a beautiful body of water and talked. It seemed so natural to be there and to talk with Him. I kept saying, "I don't want to go back", but I knew I had to go back. He told me He wanted me to teach on intercessory prayer. I was surprised, although I considered myself an intercessor, I didn't feel it was my area of expertise. (That may be why He wanted me to do this because since then I have received teaching by revelation from the Holy Spirit.) I talked with Him about my family. Then I explained to Him I had such a heavy burden after returning from my last ministry trip. On this trip I had asked those I was praying for what they wanted me to pray for. They almost always answered, " I want to have a closer relationship with God". Those words had started to burn within me. I didn't know what to about this.

He didn't answer me directly but as I was leaving I said, "I won't leave until you bless me". This was an involuntary statement and I was embarrassed when I heard the words come out of my mouth. He reached His hand toward me and I felt a giant bolt of electricity go through my body. I sensed the blessing was an anointing that would be released when I ministered. It would break the yoke of the oppressed so they could enter into an intimate relationship with Father God.

The next day I received the first revelation about intercession. I saw the steep slope of a big mountain. This slope had rocky ledges. On each ledge there was a cannon. The higher up you looked the bigger the cannon and the further it could shoot. These canons were shooting Glory. They shot into a vast valley. Little areas of Glory (they looked like little towns centered around a church) would arise at the target areas of these guns.

At almost all of these canons there were people with either hands stretched towards heaven in praise or on their faces in intense worship. The Lord seemed to be saying we gain authority (bigger guns) as we are proved faithful in our prayer walk. It all arises out of praise and worship.

Linda White

13) Experience Open Ears - Shofar Blast to the East, West, North & South

Date: 4/7/99 10:32:57 AM Pacific Daylight Time

From: ParkerBean

Hello Sandy,

I just received your post Intercessor's Arise today and had to respond. Just about 3 weeks ago for 2 days I literally heard a shofar blast twice in the morning, I went outside to see or should I say hear if it was coming from somewhere in the community. I waited a long time but did not hear it anymore. Same thing happened the next day.

That Sunday we had our family prayer meeting and the Lord showed up. We baptized one of our foster children and then ended up delivering her from fear. As we were worshipping I felt a strong desire to go outside to our patio and yell "Release the intercessors from the east" facing east then facing west "Release the intercessors from the west" and so forth until I had yelled out on all four directions. I really sensed a darkness hovering over them. By the way I live in San Diego. We then prayed for the church here.

A week later I went to a Women's Aglow meeting and someone from Mike Bickles church was there who had just been released by Mike Bickle to head the intercessors there in Kansas City spoke. First thing he did was what I had done. He spoke to the four directions releasing the intercessors. I really believe God is really going to move in His intercessors in a really awesome way. Anyway just had to let you know.

Your sister in Christ,

Tassia

14) Vision: Saints Tears are a River of Mercy for the Nations

TEARS OF THE LORD AND OF THE ANGELS AND THE SAINTS

The Vision

The Spirit of God showed me a well. In the vision I could see that there were many angels weeping around the well, along with many, many saints. They were all weeping and filling the well with tears. I looked up and I could see Jesus and tears were running down His face, and the tears of the Lord joined those of the saints and the well began to overflow.

The tears flowed out of the well, pouring like a mighty river. The tears had become a torrent of water. Suddenly an incredible wind came and as it blew it dried up the waters. I could see that once the water had subsided, that only salt remained. As far as the eye could see there were lines of salt. The angels and the saints then appeared with baskets and began to fill the baskets with the salt. The salt was then taken in the baskets to the nations where it was scattered on every land.

Interpretation

A short study will follow this vision, because I felt the Lord gave a considerable interpretation and that the vision has greater significance once I had studied the Word in more depth (with regard to the breaking of the 7th seal). For this reason I will give a very short interpretation, followed by the prophecy, followed by a more in-depth teaching.

I believe the Lord is calling us to agonizing intercession. It is time to fill the well of salvation with the tears of the saints. The waters speak of the nations and the well of salvation for the nations. The Lord desires that His children join with Him in weeping His tears for the lost. Now is the time to weep. The wind in the vision speaks of the mighty coming of the Spirit of God. The salt in the vision speaks of the Lord's everlasting covenant with His people and it speaks of tears. It speaks of purification and sanctification of the nations through the Water of Life. The Lord calls us to be salt and light; I believe part of our calling to be salt - is to weep tears for Him - salt is a part of our tears. It is a part of our calling. Jesus Himself made his pleas and petitions in loud cries and with tears to the Father during his time on earth (Hebrews 5:7-10). We are called to be like our Master.

It is important to note that in the first part of the vision, the salt is being used to bring sanctification and purification - the tears of the saints and the angels, and of the Lord around and into the well indicate that the Lord is still upon His mercy seat. The tears become a river that flows to the nations - this is the work of sanctification. The wind

blows and dries up the waters and there remains only salt that is then carried in baskets and scattered on the land. The scattering of salt upon the land would cause plants and vegetation to die - this is a sign of the Lord upon His judgment seat. The vision speaks of both the mercy and the divine judgment of God.

There are many reasons why we weep, the Bible shows us many - and these will be discussed in the teaching.

Prophecy

"My children, I have called you to be salt and light. I have called you to be like Me and I have ordained that you might share My heart. We are in the days of thunder, we are in the days when the winds are being released from the four corners of the earth. My children you must listen carefully to My words. Bring your tears to Me as an offering of your love, bring them as an act of worship, wash my feet with them, for in this act, forgiveness will flow for the sins of the nations.

The days are fast approaching when the 7th seal will be broken. My children listen to the Spirit. Look again to My word, the great and terrible day of the coming of the Lord is at hand. Weep with Me for the time of judgment is nearing. I desire that none should perish and all should come to repentance - share in the desire of My heart. Weep with me for My lost sheep, weep with Me as you have never wept before. There will be great reward in heaven for those who will do this end time work. It is not a ministry, but a calling I place upon each one of your lives. It is not for the few, but for all of you to be a part of this labor of love.

Turn your faces to me once more, My tears are an everlasting covenant, those who sow in tears will reap with much joy. Even though you may feel the weeping remain for many nights, it will bring with it rejoicing in the morning.

Oh that your tears were a thousand wells, for your tears precede the coming of the Son of Man in glory. Oh that you would see as I see, that the tears of the saints are a mighty and a rushing river of mercy, to be poured upon the nations in the time of the pouring out of the Lord's judgment. It is with great anguish that I hold My children before My Father's throne. It is with great anguish that I weep for you who are being lost. My tears are an expression of the depth of My love for you, join with Me in this agonizing Love. Tears precede the coming harvest of joy - know the seasons My children. This is the season when tears will run like streams bringing restoration, when those who plant in tears will see My Word bring forth seed for the sower and bread for the eater. For My Word goes forth and it does not return to me empty, for it accomplishes all that I purpose and desire for it.

The choice wine was diluted by water, but I have restored the wine and I have restored the Righteousness of My People by the pouring out of My grace upon the cross.

Children, know the seasons and weep with Me, that with joy many might draw water from the Well of Salvation, for the tears of the saints will hold back the floodgates of God's judgment until the mercy cup is full. And as this is poured upon the nations judgment will come upon the land, but the Lamb will return in all glory and will wipe the tears from all faces and remove the disgrace of His people upon the earth. This is My everlasting covenant with you and it will not be forgotten."

Amen

Catherine Brown

28.9.98

15) Vision: Intercessors Come to Life

Date: 4/9/99

From: hisgloryfire@yahoo.com (Maranatha GratefulHeart)

The setting of the vision was like an open field. Jesus was with me and taking me somewhere. In front of us were people humped over on their knees with their faces bowed to the ground. They had brownish, monk-type outfits on: hooded and robe-like. They took no notice as the Lord led me through their midst, and I wondered why we didn't appear to harm them as we walked seemingly "on top" of them.

These people were facing the direction the Lord and I were walking. When we had passed through their midst, I saw bodies all over the place, lying immovable on the ground. I knew they were casualties of a war, but there was no apparent life in any of them. Then Jesus and I turned around and faced TOWARD them. These people had different garb on- like battle fatigues.

Jesus didn't "tell" me what to do verbally- but the communication was clear: speak the Word to them. As I spoke Scriptures, they began to move and get up, at different paces, until they were ALL up, standing erect and strong, whole, at which time a roaring shout of triumph went up through the whole "camp."

I knew that prophetic intercession is what had brought them back to their feet, whole, triumphant and ready to go.

Our Lord comes! First the "harvest," then HOME!

Isaiah 60:1-3 Love, Raymonda

16) Angels Waiting to Bring Revival, but First Drop our Stones and Pray

CINDY JACOB'S TRANSCRIPT

http://www.generals.org/

The following is a transcript of Cindy Jacob's prophetic experience recorded at the end of Dutch Sheets message, at the National School of the Prophetic, Colorado Springs, CO, on 1/29/99.

"…The angel of the Lord has come into our midst and he showed me a vision… (the same angel that came to me in 1984 and I saw the finger of God outline South America in fire)… and the Lord spoke to me. The same angel that appeared to a young prophet in Argentina in a 30 foot pillar of flame, 2 years before I came to the nation - then he told the pastors of the nations, "I'm going to use this women for revival." He had not come to me again until this time, (even though many had seen him in America) until I was in Columbia with Bill & Evelyn Hammond. Before I went to the platform, the angel of the Lord came. I didn't see him, but I heard him. He said, "I am here" and I was given to understand he was here for revival. I said, "Lord how will I know it is really the angel of the Lord?" (We were in a stadium of about 14,000.) "To show you I am here, when you stand in front and raise your right hand every one will fall under the power." I didn't tell anyone and when I raised my right hand everyone fell under the power and then he stood in front of me and spoke to me of the revival in Columbia.

And tonight he's here. I didn't think I'd see him here (she broke.) I'm so glad He is a merciful God - I don't deserve to see him. I realized when Bill called the angels to come - they couldn't because of these stones in our hands. We had to drop them. He who has no sin, cast the first stone. The body is in sin. He can't bring what He wants to bring. He can't do it - it includes me too. When the angel came, I can't tell you, it's like a thousand, it's like a thousand bolts of electricity - you think you're going to die - to perish - it's like Daniel falling dead. I don't know how to tell you, but you need to hear it! Because He's a loving God and there is no One like Him. You must heed the Word of the Lord.

That same angel went to Germany - but they didn't hear (she broke again), this is the

same angel that is here. The same one that was warning over those 40 million Jews and as the Lord says, the blood will be upon your hands if you do not pray - oh God, there's something so holy - we don't understood. You must hear, you must hear, you must hear, or your children will die. You don't understand destruction. Famine came to Egypt - oh God, make Your people understand, make Your people understand.

Oh. I'm in another place. I've never been here, its a scary place, a holy place, for the salvation of this nation. I'm unclean. God You know, I'm unclean. God we are unclean! God unless You send Your angels we can't make it, we can't make it. Oh God, supply the blood of Jesus. Give, give, give oh God. More angels are coming. Oh now, I can see. I must tell you what I saw. I've been struck with the thunder from heaven. Don't you hear what the angel said about the Jews? They didn't hear, they didn't hear, they didn't hear. England didn't hear either. None of them heard. There is no peace without cost.

Washington, I saw the army in Washington. The Lord says "I can do all things." But I saw the mall area laid like a coffin. God with His laser beam finger reached to the soil and said, "I will destroy death in this nation." It's a holy time - be careful. I saw the hand of God take the Washington Monument. "I've longed for a generation who will take this evil from this land!" Then I saw the hand of God rip it out of the floor and He cut it down. I don't know if it is literal, physical, I saw the White House, the dome taken off. Be careful this is such a holy place I am in! And I saw the hand of God scoop up the dirt and the filth. He wanted to cleanse the blood from President Clinton. But we did not intercede.

I saw the waterfall and the hand of God gave Gabriel the message from Genesis to Revelation and then he walked into the supreme court. Opened the Book, and the Lords says, "Because My people did not pray, My Word has been a closed Book." I see their black robes come off and their white robes of righteousness. Throw down your stones of judgment of the supreme court. Throw them down. Oh the angels were flying without your prayers. And all the Word, Scripture, He's picking them up off the floor and saying, "Do you see this? "Thou shall not murder."

I saw Him put the plumb line in Congress. I saw all of the stones the free masons planted and I saw them plucked up. And the Lord said, "There's been an angel waiting for each stone and one coming upon the White House lawn and a company of angels waiting. And the Cornerstone removed and He became the Chief Cornerstone Himself. "Do you believe I can do anything?" I saw the ax of God strike the roots! There's going to be a revival among the masons and the Baptist Church and bring a revival to the Southern Baptists.

"BUT to you Charismatic & Pentecostals, throw down your stones for you have not

loosed them. You have judged them therefore the judgments will be turned backwards. Justice will fall in the streets because you said they were sinful when I said, ‘Pray!’ Your body is diseased, you’re killing yourselves." Throw it down right now, right now, do it, do it. A critical spirit is a disease in My members. It’s a sin.

"Even if this happens, I will move in Salt Lake City." I saw Him take that same ax and the Lords says, "Even these Mormons you’ve taught against and you’ve called a cult, your lack of zeal judges you, even though they have been deceived, you did not cry out - for My angels are all around Salt Lake City. They are there with their chariots of fire, waiting for you to throw down your stones! You cannot judge those who have more zeal then you. Throw it down. Surely I will send a host of angels to Salt Lake City and I’m going to send Gabriel this time. There are some of you here who will preach revival in the temple."

"Lord, tonight, - reach with me to the Mormons - The Lord says, "I have waited for so long. I will surely cleanse the land of the sexual sin that came with Brigham Young. I’m going to bring a purity to the youth of Salt Lake City and Utah will be Mine! It will be a jewel in My crown. I’ll send revival in the last likely place."

The Lord showed me another line going from Salt Lake to Las Vegas and I saw that same ax cut that sexual sin from Salt Lake and break it. The Lord said, "I sit in judgment of My body that has not loved the prostitute and those bound in sexual sin and have judged them for selling their bodies. But it is your sin that has stopped them. You have allowed this through your lack of love. Throw down your stones. I will bring lightening to Las Vegas and the electricity of this city will go out for 6 days and you’ll know that God of heaven has spoken." I don’t know if 6 days is a sign of man or literal 6 days.

Mardi Gras. Oh I see a river. The Mardi Gras spirit is the spirit of entertainment. Because of the hours you give over to TV, video, filth, you have no power and jusge Bourbon street. You have worshipped at a temple of idols, made by the god of entertainment. Repent now, repent now. The Lord just tells me, "You don’t know how to repent." Lord teach us how to repent! I speak to the god of entertainment. You have made a covenant with the spirit of entertainment and with Hollywood and with death. Loose ‘em, leave ‘em. Loose ‘em now. (spoke in tongues) I break every soul tie.

We’ve spent more time with the computer than with the Living God. Oh God do this all over Your church in America. The Lord is showing me. Oh we can’t even touch that! But when it gets enough, and His bowl, cup in heaven is full. He’s going to rain on New Orleans, for surely destruction is coming that way. BUT if you will pray - - - He is going to tip the bowl, then the river of His Spirit will fall. Bourbon street will

have new wine and the Lord says, "I'm going to send the young, my young people, the righteous into these streets and they're going to heal transvestites. They'll have sex change operations just like that. I'm going to give them what they need. I'm going to be their Lover!"

Lord You're here, Lord You're here, Lord You're here! The Lord says, "I'm choosing generals, I'm choosing captains, and sergeants and lieutenants and privates." Some of you have been told that already. Even in the United States of America, they can't fill the quota. You must go to war, so there won't be a war. And you from many nations you must take this back. There's a mighty angel going with you. Take it, take it, the rain, the Holy Spirit is here. Some of you even now are standing back and saying is this a circus or is this really You? The one who said that, has already been judged in your heart and in the next 5 days God is going to show you His reality.

Take it, take it, more, more, more, take it, Oh God I'm feeling really weird. I've never done this before God. (Over and over "Take it!" Evidently Cindy was putting her hand out over the crowd of 3,000 as they were falling under the power of God.. and people were weeping and yelling.)…"

17) City Prayer & Warfare - How to Battle Safely

by Sandy Warner

7/7/99

Sometimes we can get ourselves in hot water when we do not understand how to pray for our city, and safely take authority over it. We are in a war, and we can expect some suffering as a part of the package. (2 Tim 2:3) However there are things that open the door to backlash and we can learn to war without excessive suffering.

HOW TO FIGHT A SAFER BATTLE:

1. PRAY FOR PEACE

Just like praying for the peace of Jerusalem (Ps 122:6), we can pray for the peace of our city. A guest speaker recently said that he had gone to Ireland several years ago when it was in great conflict. When he returned, he found a totally different city. The troops were gone, people felt safe in the streets and the heavy spiritual oppression was gone. He asked the spiritual leaders about this and they shared their secret.

They had sent little prayer teams to walk the streets praying for peace… for 8 years. That's all they prayed and it worked!

2. PRAY FOR GOD'S WILL ON EARTH

If we only knew how vital prayer was, we would never stop praying. (I Thess 5:17, Phil 4:6) It is the pipeline that brings heaven to earth. Prayer is a safe and powerful weapon to make a difference for our cities without causing strong enemy retaliation. We are to pray that God's kingdom comes to earth and His will be done in our city. In these last days it is God's will that His glory shine upon the earth, all enemies come under His/our feet, and that all men might be saved. (Matt 6:10, Eze 43:2, Isa 60, Hag 2:7, I Cor 15:25, Rom 16:20, John 3:17)

3. PRAY FOR OUR LEADERS

We are all called to pray and make requests for our leaders. (I Tim 2:2,3) There is a reason for this. All of heaven, both angels and demons operate under a hierarchy of authority working down from the greatest to the least. The same government principle operates on earth and the enemy understands this, therefore he targets leaders because it gives him the greatest area of influence. Leaders on earth have the spiritual authority (both good and evil) to open spiritual doors to bless or curse those whom they govern. We need to raise up the standard of prayer for our leaders so their authority will be used to bless and protect. We can forgive their sins, then pray for their repentance and God's mercy, revelation, wisdom, integrity, Godly counsel, protection, salvation, etc. Praying for our leaders is a very powerful weapon against darkness.

4. PRAY IN TONGUES

When we pray in tongues, we are praying the mysteries of God because our minds do not understand what we are praying. (1 Cor 14:14-15) "Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God." (Rom 8:26-28 NKJV) We can pray in tongues over our city and know in confidence we are praying the mystery and will of God. I have had some of my best warfare breakthroughs, during or right after I have earnestly prayed in tongues.

5. SACRIFICE

In these last days many will become volunteer intercessors where they are willing to sacrifice to stand in the gap for their city. If we understood how powerful just one intercessor is, we would all volunteer, no matter what the cost. (Est 4:16) Each act of intercession is a mighty tool and makes a difference in conquering enemy territory.

There are many forms of sacrifice, and too numerous to mention. Sacrifice is basically giving up something we deem valuable, and offering it to the Lord to use for His purposes. [FYI: A Word study called "The Characteristics of an Intercessor" is at my site under 1999 postings.]

6. WORSHIP

Psalms 149 says the high praises of God in our mouth and a two edged sword in our hand brings judgment upon the enemy and binds their rulers with chains. (These swords are the Word of God. Eph 6:17, Heb 4:12, Rev 1:16, 19:15) In this Psalms, he tells us to praise Him in dance, song, tambourines and stringed instruments. Worship is a powerful tool in warfare. I have been in meetings where the worship is so powerful that people are delivered without any hands-on ministry. Demons can't stand to hear the high praises of our Lord Jesus Christ! I have also seen people delivered when I waved my tambourine over them during worship.

HOW TO CLOSE OUR DOORS TO BACKLASH:

1. BUILD OUR METRON A STEP AT A TIME

The above examples of prayer, sacrifice and worship are ways to fight a safer battle without taking a direct "hit" from the enemy. These examples are important positions in the overall battle, yet are fought further away from the front lines. Using these weapons are different than actually addressing the enemy head-on.

The word "metron" comes from the scripture: "But we will not boast of things without our measure, but according to the measure (3358) of the rule (2583) which God hath distributed to us, a measure to reach even unto you." (2 Cor 10:13 KJV)

Metron is the Greek word metron (met'-ron) (3358) meaning a measure; by implication a limited portion (degree). Rule is the Greek word kanon (kan-ohn') (2583) from kane meaning: 1) A rod used to measure distance 2) A boundary or fixed space within the limits of which one's power of influence is confined as in (a) the province assigned to one (b) one's sphere of activity 3) metaphorically, any rule or standard, a principle or law of investigating, judging, living, acting. [From Thayer's Greek & Strongs]

The Lord has given us authority to bind the enemy and loose God's will. (Matt 16:19) He is wanting us to grow in our measure of authority against the enemy — first over

the lack of freedom within our own lives, then our loved ones, then onto outside circumstances and territory that influence our lives - like work, school, church, etc. As we grow and overcome in the areas that touch our own lives then move onto bigger assignments, our circle of authority over the enemy grows and we are able to stand against greater odds. It is a step by step process of learning to obey the Lord and following Him in what He is asking us to overcome.

Problems arise when we step outside our metron. When the Jewish travelers were trying to cast out demons, one demon replied, "I know Jesus and I know Paul, but who are you?" (Acts 19:15 TLB) The demon injured them and they ran away naked. The demonic world knows us: our faith, our waverings, our strengths, our weaknesses. We must cover our own hedges first before we can expect to war safely on bigger issues.

The comforting part of learning to war in this manner is that He is sovereign and as long as we don't become presumptuous and take on more than He has assigned, then what He allows to touch our lives is strictly portioned one step at a time. (Ps 139) Everything must be cleared by Him first. We are the last day overcomers, and we will place the enemy under our feet and we will be victorious. But that only happens with Him divinely positioning us, and giving us our individual portions to complete. We will each have different assignments, but together we are taking territory. [FYI: A more detailed teaching called "Finding Your Metron" is also in this file.]

2. RESIST SIN

The Lord said that we can not stand against our enemies until we remove the sin from our camp. (Josh 7:12) Disobedience to His Word is an open door for demons to set up camp in our lives. We are living in the day when the accuser has become very powerful because the hedge over our lives, cities, and countries has fallen through sin. God doesn't want the accuser having a foothold, but it leaves little choice when we are the ones giving the accuser ammunition. It all boils down to knowing and following God's Word. (Ps 119:11)

3. AVOID PRESUMPTION

Spiritual warfare is a serious business because we can not see with our natural eyes what is taking place. Therefore we are blind sided by unknown enemies, wondering what hit us! Our only hope is to learn to wait upon the Lord, who does see, and only move forward in battle as He says to move. This means we do not make plans for our lives, our families, our ministries, our churches, our neighborhoods, our towns, our countries, without first praying and asking God for His plan. If God is not behind the plan, we have no hope of ever standing against the obstacles that will come our way. It is hopeless before it ever gets started. The best remedy against presumption

is to give God time. Revelation of His plan takes time as well as waiting for confirmation. (2 Cor 13:1) Waiting may be hard, but it is a lot easier than suffering great loss.

4. CLEANSE THE HOME

Sometimes cleansing the home is necessary. Countries with other religions actually send curses and spirits attached to the objects they export. There are millions of idols today, including children's toys. Many companies are turning to spiritual forces to manipulate the public. When searching your home and heart remember Romans 14 about eating meat sacrificed to idols. Pray and even anoint with oil things in your home, rebuke enemy attachments and loose blessings. Also remember 1 Thess 5:22 that says, "Abstain from all appearance of evil." If the item actually represents evil, why live with it? (Josh 7:12)

5. OVERCOME JUDGMENT WITH MERCY

Twenty eight years ago I learned a powerful lesson about opening the door for judgment to come upon my own life. I had become offended by the behavior and motives of a youth leader and started praying for him. The more I prayed, the more upset I became, and I finally talked to him, saying I had a Word from the Lord for him. Right after I delivered this "Word" the Lord showed me that I had pointed one finger, but had 3 fingers pointing back to myself. I suddenly realized I was guilty of the same motives and I repented. The deeper lesson I learned that day was that when we pray for our leaders we must cleanse our own hearts first. If we stay humble and pray for mercy, this will close doors of judgments to hit our own lives. If we judge, we will be judged. This is a biblical promise. (Luke 6:37) The sooner we truly believe this, the sooner we will stop judging.

6. STAY IN UNITY

The demonic forces are gathering and uniting for greater impact. This is not a time to be an isolated believer, rather it is a time to unite, for we will all be much safer when united. There is greater authority in group prayer, and there is also a greater canopy of protection. The Lord is starting to unite His army, even joining leaders and ministries together for a synergistic effect. He said that 5 can chase 100 and 100 can chase 10,000. (Lev 26:8) That is the power of gathering in His Name.

Tackling territorial strongholds is for groups gathering and taking authority together, united in one accord against a common enemy. I personally think that the reason why some of these strongholds will not come down without the gathering, is so that we WILL gather. Some have asked me how big of a group is big enough? It is my personal belief that the size of a group is not as important as the maturity, training, unity and actual experience of the warriors. On the other hand, the unity of a larger crowd shields individuals, because of the combined synergistic authority to fight

stronger powers. (Lev 26:8)

7. KEEP OUR FOCUS

The enemy wants to challenge us into fighting a war on his terms. When this happens, our focus changes and we get our eyes onto the enemy instead of the Lord. I would like to share a story of some recent experiences because I believe it demonstrates the importance of what it means to keep our focus on the Lord.

Recently our city had a small riot that erupted from 200 anarchists demonstrating against capitalism. At the time the riot began, I came down with a very deep heavy burden pressing against my heart and stomach. I prayed, I warred, I spoke in tongues, I worshipped and it still lasted for about 5 hours before I found relief. Since I am fasting TV, I didn't know about the riot until the next day. Anarchists said their demonstration "got out of hand" causing $18,000 damage to local businesses, also busting driver's windows, and terrorizing motorists. (I wondered what "got out of hand" meant when they came prepared with metal bars, chains, rocks twice the size of softballs, and hoods to cover their faces?) Next they announced they were going to do their "demonstrations" the 3rd Friday of each month. It was easy to figure out where my burden came from especially when it lasted the same duration of the 5 hour demonstration.

I had received a dream in October 98 when I understood that the enemy's desire was to bring the spirits of lawlessness and riots to the streets, so that it would drive the righteous out of the cities. I felt sick. I had just witnessed a beginning seed of this lawless spirit and knew exactly what the enemy wanted to birth. I kept thinking, 200 people inspired by anarchy can eventually cause the righteous to move away? Yes, when empowered by some unopposed heavy-duty principalities.

After the understanding came, I started asking the Lord to raise up the local churches to pray against this. I said, "Lord, it isn't right that we can just let the enemy walk in and take over!" Within days of the riot, our little church happened to have a training conference on demonic warfare and deliverance. Unbeknownst to us, evidently Goliath listened and came knocking on our door that night.

That night the Lord told me the enemy was wanting to break through the hedge and He wanted me to stand. (Eph 6:13) I had no idea what He meant, but I found out. Around midnight a demonic presence appeared in one of our intercessor's bedroom. They got up, took authority and anointed their place with oil. One hour later the same presence jumped on the foot of another intercessor while she was sleeping. The next hour I saw a hole open in the spirit realm and I felt an overwhelming evil presence. I woke up screaming. (I have had many warfare experiences in 15 years and only

woke up screaming one other time.) In spite of it, I stood against it and went back to sleep! The next night, I not only felt it, but heard it. It was a union of 6 powerful forces that had joined together and had come to challenge. Two of the names were intimidation and rebellion. I stood against them for hours, and awoke feeling like I had gotten nowhere. That morning I awoke to a TP'd and fouled yard. My husband and I anointed our property, and everything we could think of with oil, praying and commanding the enemy to stay off our turf. That night my husband and I both saw them. I also felt and heard them, literally wrestling in hand to hand combat for 2½ hours. During all of these experiences, I continued to plead the blood of Jesus Christ, bound them, and commanded them to go to their judgment in Jesus Name. The next night, the minute I closed my eyes I heard and felt the same presence. It felt significantly weaker by about 70%, but I had HAD IT. "THAT'S IT! I'M CALLING IN THE TROOPS!" I called Anna (there is nothing like a mother bear's prayers for her cub) and told her some of this, and she began to war over the phone. As she was commanding, I heard the Lord say, "Warrior." I felt very comforted and had enough peace to go back to sleep.

I slept some, then finally I heard the Lord! "She belongs to ME says the Lord. MY bride!" When I heard this, the emphasis was on ME and MY. I had instant peace! I felt like a love-sick bride whose chivalrous Husband stepped in to rescue her. I felt so deeply loved after such intimidating experiences. I turned over with a smile and slept blissfully the rest of the night. The next morning I called Anna and she was joyfully laughing. She heard the Lord say, "I perceive guard duty is a bit too heavy!" The first words out of my mouth were, "DUH!!!!" That made her laugh, because that is exactly what she had said too!

"For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand." (Eph 6:12-13 NKJ)

There was a lesson in this. During this four day "adventure" I kept searching my heart and asking the Lord for understanding. I have received some heavy duty intercessory assignments, and because they were given by the Lord, they were successfully completed with some big dudes torn down… but they took anywhere from weeks, to months to years to overcome in tiny increments. I searched my heart to make sure that I personally had not challenged this "challenger" when the riot came. I don't remember doing so, rather I prayed that the Lord would raise up intercessors and prayer in the churches. Lord, have I unknowingly sinned? Have I been presumptuous? Have I gone outside my metron? I could not come up with any reason why suddenly this blast would come to our door and want to force its way in. Finally I understood. One of our intercessors shared a vision she'd had years ago when she had been in heavy warfare, and was taken up to the Lord. She kept looking behind her and the enemy was standing right behind her. The Lord took her face several times and turned her eyes back on Him. As she did, she got closer and closer

to the Lord. Some time passed and then He told her to look back. The enemy was very small and in the distance. She got the point. We are called to keep our eyes, our focus on Him. We are to pursue Him.

Because we pursue the Lord, we naturally suffer resistance from the enemy. However, it is a result of going after the Lord, not after the enemy. Without giving the details of our warfare conference, I could see so clearly that our focus changed for a brief moment and opened Goliath's door. Warfare should always be a result of our pursuit of the Lord and keeping our focus upon Him. If you are suffering backlash and have covered every breach in your wall you can think of, perhaps all that is needed is to get your eyes back onto the Lord. I am reminded of Smith Wigglesworth' life when he saw satan appear at his bedside. Smith said, "Oh, it's only you," and turned over and went back to sleep.

May we learn to use our weapons of prayer, sacrifice, worship, and authority safely. May we learn to cover the breaches in our own lives so that we can stand for our cities without retaliation, in Jesus Name.

Lovingly,

Sandy Warner

18) Finding Your Metron

A Teaching to Protect Intercessors Against Backlash

By Sandy Warner

5/13/99

At a conference a few years ago, I overheard a man worshipping the Lord behind me. As he was worshipping, I heard the Lord whisper to me, "A man of authority." This of course stirred my interest and so I had to turn around and peek! I stared right into the face of a loving, prophetic intercessor (soon to be Apostle). I knew his testimony and yes he had definitely earned that title of a man of authority.

A few years ago, this powerful intercessor asked the Lord why so many intercessors were receiving spiritual backlashes and why they weren't covered. He asked the Lord this question for a long time. After unrelenting requests, the Lord finally answered him: "I will build My structure."

Frustrated, he said, "Lord, after my asking all this time and You didn't answer, then You finally answer, and you say THIS?" "What does THAT mean?" I laughed when I heard this, because that sounded so much like God! Through time and revelation, he understood that God would build His government, and did not want the intercessors isolated, but under the covering and protection of the Apostles and Prophets. He applied this personally by asking the prayer backing of God's chosen, when he was taking on assignments against heavy demonic forces.

In recent weeks I also have noticed that the intercessors are suffering backlash, some severely, and I have pondered the above and asked the Lord the same question: "Why is this happening?" The answer was immediate: operate within one's metron. This word metron, also has to do with God's government.

Metron comes from the scripture: "But we will not boast of things without our measure, but according to the measure (3358) of the rule which God hath distributed to us, a measure to reach even unto you." (2 Cor 10:13 KJV) Metron is a Greek word meaning: (3358) metron (met'-ron); an apparently primary word; a measure ("metre"), literally or figuratively; by implication a limited portion (degree).

We are each given a measure of authority, and it is important to understand our metron, or sphere of influence and authority in which He has placed us. We each give (pray, stand in the gap, and war) according to our own ability. He doesn't ask us to give what we don't have, rather He asks us to give what we do have. "If you are really eager to give, then it isn't important how much you have to give. God wants you to give what you have, not what you haven't." (2 Cor 8:11-12 TLB) And therefore, it is important to understand our metron, or sphere of authority. If you are not sure what your metron is, hopefully this small outline will help kindle your thoughts to find it.

1. KNOW TO WHOM YOU ARE CALLED. Whether you a parent, a teacher, a pastor a prophet, a public servant, etc you have a sphere of loved ones in which you have been called to nurture. If they belong to you, you have the authority to pray over what they are facing.

"And he will restore the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the land with a curse." (Mal 4:6 NASB)

2. KNOW YOUR GIFTS. If you don't know your calling, your giftedness can be a mirror of what your cup contains. The Lord equips whom He sends — what equipment has He given you? If you have the gift of mercy, your gift offers mercy for those deserving judgment, needing forgiveness and or needing healing. If you are a warrior and you fight demons, your gifts of discernment, hearing and seeing will

reflect that function. If you have the gift of mercy and have never fought a demon in your life, God is not asking you to single-handedly tear down a stronghold. If God has placed within you the tenacity of a bulldog to knock, knock, knock, ask, ask, ask, then keep on making supplications! These are all gifts and He is calling you to function with what He has given you, not with what He has not.

"For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function, so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another. Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them…" (Rom 12:4-6 NKJV)

3. KNOW YOUR ASSIGNMENTS. As an intercessor, I have been given dreams and visions of specific assignments needing completion. I then "stand" (pray, war, hold onto His promise of victory, sacrifice, follow my conscience, etc) until it is completed. God gives each of us assignments according to our callings and when we face enemy obstacles that are a direct confrontation of completing that assignment, God gives us the authority and grace to complete it. If you have completed that assignment, then you have also won that authority for future battles.

"His master praised him for good work. `You have been faithful in handling this small amount,' he told him, `so now I will give you many more responsibilities. Begin the joyous tasks I have assigned to you." (Matt 25:21 TLB)

4. KNOW YOUR MEASURE OF FAITH. We each have been given a measure of faith, and that faith can grow as He builds it via spiritual exercise. These faith muscles grow as a direct result of pressing against resistance. (When we are standing in the gap and praying, our faith directly affects the angels freedom to go forth and fight battles on our behalf.) We are called to stand, and standing takes some effort in order to resist wavering. That faith can wobble if we live a life that is not pleasing Him. Faith and favor are directly related to following our conscience. The accuser is the first to point out the flaw and that will affect our faith to stand against onslaught. Our metron will be no larger than our faith to be able to stand in His favor.

"For through the grace given to me I say to every man among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think; but to think so as to have sound judgment, as God has allotted to each a measure of faith." (Rom 12:3 NASB)

"Therefore the children of Israel could not stand before their enemies, but turned their backs before their enemies, because they have become doomed to destruction. Neither will I be with you anymore, unless you destroy the accursed from among you. Get up, sanctify the people, and say, 'Sanctify yourselves for tomorrow, because thus

says the LORD God of Israel: "There is an accursed thing in your midst, O Israel; you cannot stand before your enemies until you take away the accursed thing from among you." (Josh 7:12-13 NKJV)

5. KNOW YOUR PATTERN OF SUCCESSES. When entering into new territory, the Lord will build your faith with confirmations, to help you to understand His approval of your moving ahead in prayer. If you can look back and find a link of similar prayer successes, this will be a good indicator of your metron. We have a fellow at our church who began getting Words of knowledge of prayer needs. He took courage and started sharing what he believed the Lord was saying. Each time he did this, someone responded and he prayed for them. Each time they received answers to the prayers. This is a good indicator through a pattern of success, that he has been given a metron to pray for those whom he receives Words of knowledge.

"I will drive them out before you little by little, until you become fruitful and take possession of the land." (Ex 23:30 NASB)

6. KNOW YOUR OPPONENT. It is true that your greatest gifting (and or promise) will also be your greatest testing. Sometimes if you are suffering a backlash it is because the devil considers you a threat and he knows you are influencing his domain. If that is the case, be encouraged that you are making a difference. I know a man who bound the territorial spirit over Kosovo in Jesus Name. Suddenly he was standing in the west, looking east across Europe to Kosovo. He saw a small ball of light from Kosovo, shoot straight towards him and hit just above his head at someone standing right directly behind him. (He figured it was his angel.) I told him that his prayer must have had an impact or threat for the enemy to have noticed!

"Then Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, left the Jordan River, being urged by the Spirit out into the barren wastelands of Judea, where Satan tempted him for forty days. (Luke 4:1 TLB)

7. KNOW REVELATION. The Lord will send you supernatural revelations of your portion. This comes through the many ways to hear Him and they puzzle together to give a good indicator of your sphere of influence. Ask Him for revelation to teach you your metron.

"But the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you, and you do not need that anyone teach you; but as the same anointing teaches you concerning all things, and is true, and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you will abide in Him." (1 John 2:27 NKJV)

8. KNOW YOUR COVERING. God is raising up His government, and He is divinely moving His chosen leaders into place. If the leaders are saying to pray corporately against a demonic stronghold, then that is the covering and guidance in which to safely operate your gifts. Corporately means standing in one accord with other believers against a common cause. There is a synergistic effect when joining with others of likemindedness to fight a common enemy.

"You will chase your enemies, and they shall fall by the sword before you. Five of you shall chase a hundred, and a hundred of you shall put ten thousand to flight." (Lev 26:7-8 NKJV)

I close with a precious forwarded story that has a 2 fold theme. It reflects the heart of any true covering appointed by God, and it also reflects the Lord's heart to us all:

"A mother took her 8 year old son to a great concert hall, black tie event to hear Paderewski the famous composer-pianist. The boy became restless waiting for the concert to start so as his mother visited with friends he slipped from her side and onto the stage. He was drawn by the Steinway and climbed up on the stool and stared wide-eyed at the keys. He placed his small trembling fingers in the right location and began to play "Chopsticks." The roar of the crowd was hushed as hundreds of frowning faces turned in his direction. Irritated and embarrassed, they began to shout: "Get that boy away from there. "Who'd bring a kid that young in here?" "Where's his mother?" "Somebody stop him!"

Backstage the master overheard the sounds out in front and quickly put together in his mind what was happening. Hurriedly, he grabbed his coat and rushed toward the stage. Without one word of announcement he stooped over behind the boy, reached around both sides, and began to improvise a counter melody to harmonize and enhance "chopsticks". As the two played together, Paderewski kept whispering in the boy's ear: "Keep going, don't quit, son. keep on playing.. don't stop....don't quit."

And so it is with us. We hammer away on our project, which seems about as significant as "Chopsticks" in a concert hall. And about the time we are ready to give up, along comes the master, who leans over and whispers: "Now keep going; don't quit. Keep on...don't stop , don't quit!"

19) The Characteristics of an Intercessor

Word Study from Sandy Warner

6/13/99

An intercessor is a person who by calling or by nature chooses to be a mediator on behalf of those who cannot intervene for themselves. Intercessors make requests, urge, plead, beg, counsel, discuss, risk, sacrifice, and make war on issues relating to the weaker ones, and thus they have an impact on the final outcomes for those they serve.

There is a difference between a person who is called an intercessor and a person who prays. Any person can pray, but not all praying people are intercessors. The opposite is true also - an intercessor may live his entire life and live to make only one great act of intercession. The differences of an intercessor are subtle - hidden in the life and heart behind the prayer. There are many examples of intercessors in the Bible, and they walked with the favor to impact and change God's heart. Consider the following role models and their characteristics:

[I] THE FUNCTIONS OF AN INTERCESSOR

TO RISK & SACRIFICE

1) Moses was willing to be blotted out of God's book. (Ex 32:32)

2) Abraham was willing to suffer God's possible displeasure by negotiating Him down to 10 godly men in Sodom & Gomorrah. (Genesis 18:22)

3) When king David disobeyed by taking a census, he was willing to be destroyed in order to seek safety for his people. (1 Chron 21:17)

4) Daniel was willing to talk with God when He was very angry. (Dan 9:16)

5) Jesus was willing to become sin and lay down His life so that others could find forgiveness. (Isa 53:12)

6) The Centurion was willing to approach authority as well as subject himself to it. (Matt 8:5)

7) Martha dared to risk her friendship with Jesus to challenge His decision of delay. (John 11:21-22)

8) A father risked public exposure, fear of man's opinions, and disappointment for the sake of interceding for his possessed son. (Mark 9:17)

9) The Nobleman risked his self-sufficient pride. He could not help his son but he knew who could. He also risked public exposure and reputation. (John 4:49)

10) Stephen was willing to face the murderous rage of a crowd and asked God to forgive them. (Acts 7:59)

11) Esther was willing to perish at risk of defending her people to the king. At the very least she was willing to face a life of ill-favor, isolation and banishment from the king's court. (Esther 4:16)

12) David as a young boy was willing to face death from Goliath for the sake of Israel. At the very least he was willing to face humiliation, failure and defeat. (1 Sam 17:37)

TO BOLDLY DEFEND

Each of the above role models defended with boldness. This does not necessarily mean they had naturally bold personalities. Watch a mother or father bird when a threat comes too close to their nest! God has placed within His creation an instinct to defend the young. An intercessor's heart comes to the surface when they perceive a threat. Suddenly the heart of a pussy cat turns into the roar of a lion. (Heb 4:16)

TO VOLUNTEER

One of the marks of an intercessor is a willingness to do something. A volunteer is someone who is not necessarily asked, rather he/she steps forward in order to accomplish something. Jesus said there is no greater love than to lay down one's life for his friends. (John 15:13)

[II] THE HEART OF AN INTERCESSOR

MERCY

As in the above list, intercessors stand in the gap for another, seeking mercy instead of judgment, life over death. They are willing to face a risk and sacrifice in order to obtain mercy. (James 2:13)

HUMILITY & SERVICE

In each one of these cases, these powerful intercessors wanted to serve those they were interceding for. Their willingness to serve resulted in humility, laying down that which they highly esteemed. (Matt 23:11)

[III] THE RELATIONSHIP OF AN INTERCESSOR

FAVOR

The above role models lived in a place of favor, having a personal and loving relationship with God. They knew what it was to walk and talk with Him, and trust in His goodness. (Prov 12:2)

Others who did not have a personal relationship with Jesus prior to their request, knew His works, listened to His Words, understood His authority and nature. Thus, they anticipated His favor in spite of the risk.

[IV] THE RESULTS OF AN INTERCESSOR

MULTIPLIED SEED

Jesus said, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it produces much grain." (John 12:24 NKJV) The most powerful intercessors, past and present, are ones who have laid down their lives, their dreams, their ambitions, their own personal agendas, everything they have held dear, in order to follow Jesus' footsteps to their own personal cross. The results of such a journey is His promise of multiplication. These intercessors can pray a prayer, make a request, make a stand and have it bear fruit for the masses.

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In the Old Testament, the word intercessor comes from the Hebrew word: paga` (paw-gah'): 06293 paga` {paw-gah'}

¤ a primitive root; TWOT - 1731; v

This Hebrew word is translated:

¤ AV - fall 12, meet 11, reach 7, intercession 4, intreat 2, entreat 1, misc 9; 46

¤ 1) to encounter, meet, reach, entreat, make intercession 1a) (Qal) 1a1) to meet, light upon, join 1a2) to meet (of kindness) 1a3) to encounter, fall upon (of hostility) 1a4) to encounter, entreat (of request) 1a5) to strike, touch (of boundary) 1b) (Hiphil) 1b1) to cause to light upon 1b2) to cause to entreat 1b3) to make entreaty, interpose
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1b4) to make attack 1b5) to reach the mark

In the New Testament, the word intercessor comes from the Greek word (en-toong-khan'-o): (# 1793 entugchano from NT:1722 and NT:5177.

This Greek word means:

1) to light upon a person or a thing, fall in with, hit upon, a person or a thing 2) to go to or meet a person, esp. for the purpose of conversation, consultation, or supplication 3) to pray, entreat 4) make intercession for any one

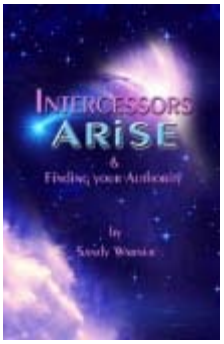
Scriptures share that He wants our input. He still makes the final decisions, but He listens and what we say can have a part in the outcomes. For those who like to study, here are some additional scriptures stating that God is looking for volunteer intercessors, those willing to lay down their lives for a cause: Isa 64:7, Jer 30:13, Isa 59:16, Jer 27:18, Isa 53:12, Ezek 22:30-31, Psalms 106:23.

The Lord is restoring the callings of intercessors to the body of Christ. He is raising up an army of volunteers, who are willing to count THEIR cost because they see what is AT cost.

May we answer His call in Jesus Name.

Lovingly,

Sandy Warner



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Words from the The Quickened Word are excerpts from the journals of Sandy Warner. To better understand how God speaks, read Sandy's book, "101+ Ways God Speaks, And How to Hear Him." Website: www.thequickenedword.com Email: swauthor@usa.net

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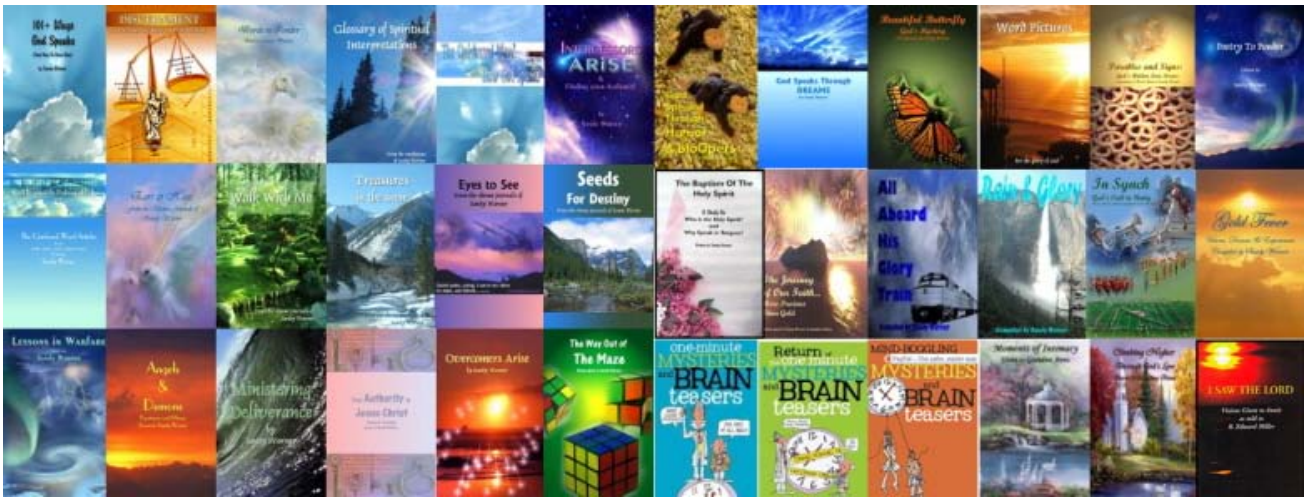


RETURN TO RHEMA INDEX

Sandy Warner ~ ~ swauthor@usa.net ~ ~ www.thequickenedword.com

RHEMA 10/28/07 IMPORTUNITY FOR BREAD
HEARD: *I am not going to do anything until You have fed my kitties. Back on target. Alignment. Tenacious.*

TENACIOUS INTERCESSION: For years and years I have begged the Lord to open my ears and eyes to see and hear His Words. The prayer is always before me to keep my spiritual well dug deep and not get filled in from the mud of demonic hindrances. It is a constant battle and I long for the day I have His open portal straight to the 3rd heaven, to freely come and go unhindered.

Luke 11:8 AMP
I tell you, although he will not get up and supply him anything because he is his friend, yet because of his shameless persistence and insistence he will get up and give him as much as he needs.

Isa 53:11-12 NKJV
He shall see the labor of His soul, and be satisfied. By His knowledge My righteous Servant shall justify many, For He shall bear their iniquities. Therefore I will divide Him a portion with the great, And He shall divide the spoil with the strong, Because He poured out His soul unto death, And He was numbered with the transgressors, And He bore the sin of many, ***And made intercession {6293} for the transgressors .***

MADE INTERCESSION

OT:6293
OT:6293 paga` (paw-gah'); a primitive root; ***to impinge, by accident or violence, or (figuratively) by importunity:***

KJV - come (betwixt), cause to entreat, fall (upon), make intercession, intercessor, intreat, lay, light [upon], meet (together), pray, reach, run.

IMPORTUNITY SYNONYMS: address, adjuration, application, bid, call, claim, demand, entreaty, imploration, importunity, invocation, overture, petition, plea, prayer, proposal, proposition, question, recourse, requisition, solicitation, submission, suit, supplication

Matt 15:21-28 NLT
*A Gentile woman who lived there came to him, pleading, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David! For my daughter has a demon in her, and it is severely tormenting her." But Jesus gave her no reply — not even a word. Then his disciples urged him to send her away. "Tell her to leave," they said. "****She is bothering us with all her begging."***

Then he said to the woman, "I was sent only to help the people of Israel — God's lost sheep — not the Gentiles." But she came and worshiped him and pleaded again, "Lord, help me!" "It isn't right to take food from the children and throw it to the dogs," he said. ***"Yes, Lord," she replied, "but even dogs are permitted to eat crumbs that fall beneath their master's table." "Woman," Jesus said to her, "your faith is great. Your request is granted." And her daughter was instantly healed.***

UPDATE: Today after church a truck pulled up in the lane next to me and suddenly an Irish Setter came over to my side and looked right at me only a few feet away. When I looked straight into the eyes of this beautiful dog, I felt that perhaps one of my angels had moved the dog over to my side of his truck so that he would look straight at me. I knew it was the Lord although I was without understanding. I was gloriously filled with faith and the Presence of the Lord washed me.

QUICKENED MEMORY: UNDERSTANDING COMES
A couple hours later I suddenly remembered that just yesterday I had sent the Irish Setter doggie Word Setter to a friend. It was based upon the intercession of importunity, which is incessantly begging/ knocking upon a door to be fed at the Lord's table.

Luke 11:5-13
And he said unto them, Which of you shall have a friend, and shall go unto him at midnight, and say unto him, Friend, lend me three loaves; For a friend of mine in his journey is come to me, and I have nothing to set before him? And he from within shall answer and say, Trouble me not: the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot rise and give thee. I say unto you, Though he will not rise and give him, because he is his friend, ***yet because of his importunity he will rise and give him as many as he needeth****. And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. For every one that asketh receiveth; and he*

that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent? Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion?
If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?

IT'S A DOG'S WORLD

A Joyous Word About Changing Our Mindsets

10/27/01

Hi Loved Ones,

Last week I had a series of very interesting experiences all in one day. It was one of those road to Emmaus experiences where the Lord is quickening things to you and stirring your heart, but it is only afterwards that you realize He has spoken. I love it when He speaks with quickening then finalizes it with the power punch of revelation and opens our eyes to His Word. (Luke 24:13)

For lunch, my husband and I had gone to what I call the 'peanut place'. While people are waiting for their meal, they can eat from the bucket of peanuts at their table then throw the shells on the floor. The floors are covered with peanut crumbs and shells. While passing the table next to us, I stepped on their pile of shells that had a particularly good "crunch." So I stood and crunched their shells for a moment before moving on. The lady at the table looked quite surprised and then saw the cherub grin on my face, and she couldn't help it, she laughed. I laughed too and throwing my hands into the air, I said, "I'm sorry, but this is so liberating!" It was a sparkling moment between two strangers.

Later I noticed a new arrival was sitting at a table near us. A little baby was leaning way over his highchair looking at all the shells on the floor. He was speaking a lot of very serious gibberish and pointing to the floor. These shells on the floor were obviously very important to him and he really had a lot to say about them. I was close enough to hear. It sounded like a fluent and perfect language of tongues. (I Cor 14:20)

When we were walking to our car after our meal, we saw a very large Irish Red Setter dog sitting in his master's seat. He had the most beautiful and longing eyes peeled on the door of the restaurant. I said out loud, "Well just another day in the parking lot while my master goes to lunch! I just wait and wait and sit and sit, it seems that is all I do is wait. And when he comes out that door, he is going to be smelling like steak! Oh well…" (Matt 25:5 & 13)

We laughed and drove to another parking lot about three minutes away. My husband left for an errand and I waited for him in the car. I habitually reached for our car Bible and opened it at random. At the moment my eyes fell on the following scripture, something caught my attention and I looked up before

reading it. I saw a second Irish Red Setter anxiously looking out the window for his master to come back. This was so powerfully quickened to me by the Lord's Presence, I said, "This HAS to be the Word of the Lord!" And at that exact moment, I suddenly remembered that I had seen a vision that night of an Irish Red Setter sitting under a chair and I had heard the Lord say to me, "I am changing the mindsets of My people." (Rom 12:2)

I was marveling at how many angels it took to set up His Word like this - to place two Irish Setters in 2 parking lots less than 3 minutes away, and to put us at both. As I was praying about what the mindsets might be, I glanced back down to the scripture that I hadn't read. Here is where my eyes fell!!! "Yes, Lord," she replied, "but even dogs are permitted to eat crumbs that fall beneath their master's table." (Matt 15:27 NLT) And I had just come from a restaurant that was covered in crumbs! "Oh my goodness," I said outloud to all the laughing and joyous angels who took the time to set each morsel into place. I had a sense that I was surrounded with their joy.

Matt 15:21-28 NLT

"A Gentile woman who lived there came to him, pleading, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David! For my daughter has a demon in her, and it is severely tormenting her." But Jesus gave her no reply--not even a word. Then his disciples urged him to send her away. "Tell her to leave," they said. "She is bothering us with all her begging." Then he said to the woman, "I was sent only to help the people of Israel--God's lost sheep--not the Gentiles." But she came and worshipped him and pleaded again, "Lord, help me!" "It isn't right to take food from the children and throw it to the dogs," he said. "Yes, Lord," she replied, "but even dogs are permitted to eat crumbs that fall beneath their master's table." "Woman," Jesus said to her, "your faith is great. Your request is granted." And her daughter was instantly healed.

As I pondered the scripture in context, I could see several mindsets. The disciples are set to reject an outsider, they have been taught that she is unclean. Jesus is sent (and thus set) to minister to the Jewish people not the Gentiles. She is set on nagging because she knows He can help her. (Ex 12:45, Phil 3:2, Mat 10:5,6, Luke 11:10)

The dog mentality or mindset was strong. Jesus says in the same story recorded in Mark: "First I should help my own family, the Jews. It isn't right to take food from the children and throw it to the dogs." Jesus had also said at other times, "Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you. (Mark 7:27, Matt 7:6) And the women even acknowledged her own acceptance of the mindset, calling herself a dog: And she answered and said unto him, Yes, Lord: yet the dogs under the table eat of the children's crumbs." (Mark 7:28 KJV)

This was all stirring within me when I got home. But I knew that the Lord had specifically used an Irish Red Setter in the vision and in the confirmations. There had to be a reason. Knowing next to nothing about dogs, I looked up Irish Setters. Here are some facts that were quickened to me. The descriptive

adjectives are direct quotes from various sources and all I did was turn them into examples. I think it is important for you to know that so you can appreciate the quickened Word of the Lord.

* The Irish Setter is an aristocratic and regal hunting dog. He is as bold as he is beautiful. (I Peter 2:9)

* He is friendly, devoted and protective especially among children. (Gal 4:19)

* The Irish setter tends to be slow developing and slow to train because he has a mind of his own and an independent spirit. However, once trained, he is trained for life and rarely needs a refresher course. (Ps 32:8,9 & Jer 4:22)

* This breed does not respond well to shouts or negative reinforcement. Only positive reinforcement training techniques should be used. (Isa 42:2, Isa 30:20-21)

* This dog is highly intelligent and understands what is expected of him. He needs a large amount of exercise. Lack of exercise can make him restless and difficult to train. (Ps 18:33,34)

* The Irish Setter needs a job to do. He is quite capable of working in the field all day, and does not make a very good couch potato. (Isa 52:7)

* The Irish Setter is both a pointer and retriever - particularly good for hunting game birds. The Irish Setter's talents include hunting, tracking, retrieving, pointing, and watchdogging. (Mark 1;17)

* Irish Setters were originally developed in order to help the hunter locate wild birds. The word setter originates from the way the dog was trained to ‘set’ when he approached birds in the bush. Before the use of guns, hunters used nets. The setter was taught to creep up on the birds, indicating by his movements the location of the birds. Then he pointed with his nose and continued body language to the spot. The hunter then threw the net over both the dog and bird. (John 21:6)

* Irish Setters have an excellent sense of smell. (Song 4:10)

* His gentleness, happy and loving personality make him outstanding as a therapy dog as well as a loyal companion. Visiting people in hospitals, nursing homes, schools, and rehabilitation centers involves him in both a rewarding and therapeutic process. (Matt 25:34-40)

* An Irish Setter will pay little attention to a person's age, or physical disabilities, but will accept them, without judgment just as they are. The Irish setter is a sensitive dog and does best in families who shower them with love and affection. (Isa 66:13)

WORD TO PONDER - NEW TRAINING FOR GREATER WORKS

Loved one, My people have a mentality and a mindset that I am going to

change. Some have great longings in their heart for the God of the Bible to come through that door with the delicious meat of healing, deliverance, signs and wonders. But some in the pain of delay are willing to accept even just one crumb from My table. Worse yet, some have become so hopeless and despairing that they think they might even miss the crumb.

Some have become in-house couch potatoes just waiting for Me to come back. Do you think I am coming to pluck you away from the mess, because the world has gone to the dogs? Yes it has gone to the unholy dogs. But I said that when the enemy comes in like a flood, I will raise up a standard against him.

Some are so lowly they think they are nothing more valuable than a dog. But I say that you have aristocratic royalty in your blood. I have called you to be My kings and priests and reign with Me! My kingdom is coming to earth inside of you, so why would I withhold My good gifts from you? Do you think that I stirred your appetite for the life of My Son Jesus Christ, to let you down? Didn't Jesus promise that you shall do greater works? And where are the greater works?

How can this be? I will show you what is to come. Right now, you think that you are just sent to those inside the holy place, lest your pearls become trampled. But I am going to train you for greater works in the field. Let go of your mindsets of what you can and cannot do, what you have or have not done in the past. Things are changing and I have a job for you, and I am preparing you for that job. I have created you to be perceptive with ample intelligence to understand what I will be saying to you. I will be kind and patient, and give you continued positive feedback so that you will learn how to hunt and catch the wild ones! I promise you, once you get the hang of it, you're going to love it. To hunt and catch. You were spirit born to run with this kind of liberating exhilaration!

Hunt, through prayer and waiting for My perfect timing. Catch, through pointing to My Word. It will be a perfect blend of prophetic evangelism. With Words of knowledge you shall point to their heart, and in the evangelistic moment I will capture them. When the time is ripe, you will have the nose to discern My Word and you shall point it out. My angels will have arrived, setting things in motion to catch the wild one in My net. Together you shall be enfolded into My great harvest for souls. And I will make you their loyal friend and protector.

You shall so love your new job and walk with Me that you shall become holy bold and friendly. Your liberating ways shall be a joy for even strangers and you shall have sparkling moments with kindred hearts as you reach out and touch their lives. You may think that all you have to offer is peanuts. Bits and pieces - mere crumbs that are so small you think none would want them. But let Me tell you, that if that is all you had to offer it would be enough. For many are the children of the harvest. My children will love those pieces and these will be like tiny golden nuggets dropped from heaven especially for them, right at their level of perception and interest. They will be delighted with each and every morsel that you give. Their knowledge of Me shall grow and their language with Me shall become fluent in no time. Your heart will be forever

changed as you lovingly watch them grow and blossom with new life.

And what about those unholy dogs who yet rebel? Will I have you hide your pearls behind closed doors? I have chosen you as My regal ambassador to dazzle them with steak and stir their appetite for things they so desperately want and need. In the days to come, they will realize they need Me so badly, that they will be even satisfied with peanuts. And they will even be willing to crawl on the floor to eat crumbs from your table. Does this sound like a role reversal? Most definitely it is.

And so My love, when you think of the floods of the enemy, consider My standard that I AM raising. Slowly and most assuredly I AM raising My standard and I will use you to lift My Son Jesus Christ high without shame. And I will have the joy of watching that "crumb" mentality of yours crumble beneath your feet as you stomp on the discarded shells of old mindsets. I promise, you shall once again laugh as you become holy bold and liberated from the inside out.

Roman 12:2 NKJV

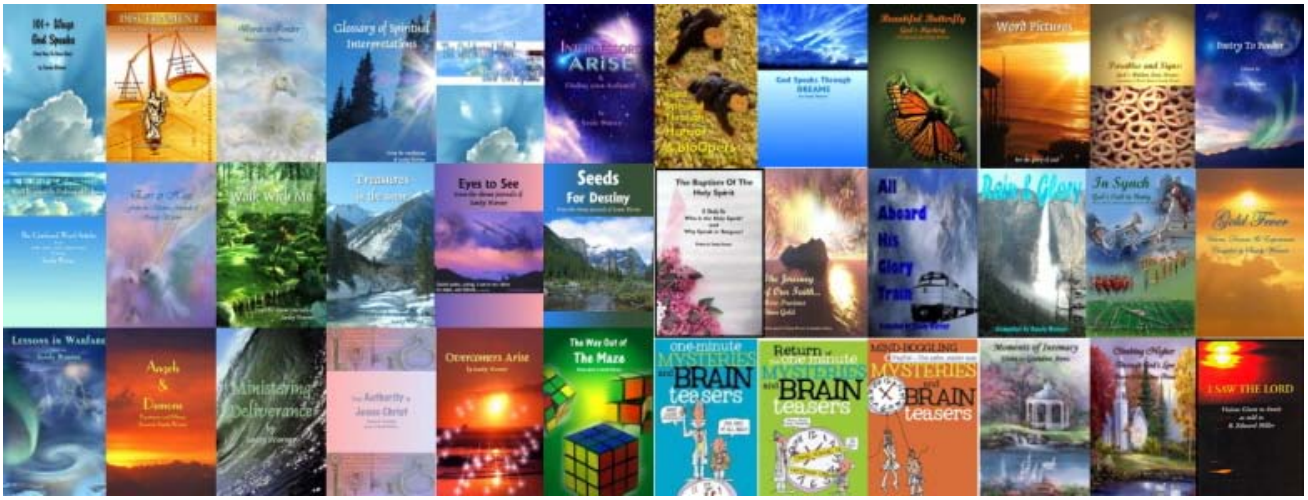
And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

Lovingly,

Sandy

UPDATE COMMENT: 1/24/11 Today as I was looking for the old Irish Setter graphic that went with this post, I heard the Lord say, "Set her."

1 Peter 5:10-11 NKJV
But may the God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you. To Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.



RETURN TO RHEMA INDEX

Sandy Warner ~ ~ swauthor@usa.net ~ ~ www.thequickenedword.com

PENNIES FROM HEAVEN

[Go Sent Ones, You are Commissioned]

For several years the Lord has brought my attention to pennies on the ground. At first I thought it was unusual, especially when I was not looking for them. It wasn't long before the Lord started impressing me that one cent was His Word pun for "One sent." Every time I would see these little tiny treasures just waiting for me, it became a love gift of His precious promises.

I had no desire to pick them up off the dirty ground, but I would always call out, "One sent" and rejoice in these special reminders from Him. My precious husband, however, would bend low and pick up each penny. I don't know if it was a team gift or something, but I saw and called them and he retrieved and kept them.

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A LITTLE PROMPT
One day I bumped into an old acquaintance who was being used by the Lord as a sent one to Israel. She was preparing to move over there instead of taking more trips back and forth. We were standing in the parking lot talking about this and I glanced down at her feet and called out "Sent one!" Her eyes filled with tears as she glanced down, then bent low to retrieve the penny. She said, "This is your penny, you found it." I insisted that it was the Lord's Word to her, that she was called and sent and it was at her feet, and she was meant to have the penny as a reminder. She debated, but finally accepted the penny and that was that. As I left the conversation, the Holy Spirit quickened to me that this gal had been quite persistent because the Lord was

telling me that I was sent and it was my penny. I received it in my heart as a special gift from the Lord, and then I promptly forgot about it.

==========

A STRONGER PROMPT
A few weeks later I was on a prophetic team to teach a workshop on the many ways God speaks. I spent the night in the home of my team mate. I was in her bathroom and there at my feet was a shiny new penny. I happily brought it out to her saying she was a "sent one." Once again, the same exact conversation was repeated that I'd had with the lady sent to Israel.

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HE HAS THE LAST WORD
The next morning I was getting my things ready to shower. I laid my folded towel and washcloth on the carpeted floor in front of the shower because the towel bar was broken. They were one on top of the other, just as I had found them on the counter. However, being out of context without my home shower paraphernalia, I forgot to use the washcloth. When I was through showering, I opened the shower door to reach for the towel. There was the perfectly folded bath towel and the folded washcloth sitting squarely on top of it. Planted like a cherry on top of the washcloth, in the exact center - was that bright, shiny new penny. My mouth hung open and I gawked. I quickly glanced at the bathroom door and it was shut tight. I doubted very much that the hostess would have popped in while I was showering since the shower door was glass. Besides that, the door stuck and was noisy when shutting tightly. Finally I just stood there giggling as I looked at that perfectly positioned penny. It was aligned in exact center position, as though to say, "This was specifically placed there FOR YOU." He got me good, He had the last Word.

Ruth 2:16 NLT
And pull out some heads of barley from the bundles and drop them on purpose for her. Let her pick them up, and don't give her a hard time!"

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UPDATES
A couple of weeks later I finally had the courage to ask the lady if she had come into the bathroom and placed that penny. She assured me she did not. She did have a cat, but the door needed a strong tug to close that tightly. There was no doubt about it, the Lord sent His angel to plant that penny.

A week later I opened my Christmas present from my Sonshine and his sweetheart, our new daughter in law. It was a mouse. With both hands in the air, the little mouse was holding a penny on top of its head. The penny was heads up. A second penny was sitting on its tail, tails up. I put that little treasure on my desk and look at it every day and it warms my heart.

A couple of weeks after that, my husband found a shiny new penny on the ground right in front of our car door. He picked it up and stacked it on top of the mouse's head with the other penny. If you pick the mouse up and tip it over like a tea pot

pouring out, there is a banner that reads, "A penny for your thoughts." Yes indeed, heads or tails, the Lord has the last Word no matter which direction you look.

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UPDATE CONFIRMATION [2/22/04]: After I had written this penny post and entitled it "Pennies From Heaven," Wayne and I were walking in the mall parking lot and he had just said the phrase, "A cascading effect." At that moment I felt a penny drop on the top of my foot and then bounce off onto the road. I had not scuffed my feet and distinctly remember feeling it on the top of my big toe. I wondered if heaven had dropped it! Wayne and I were talking about this amazing penny as we reached the car. I saw that he noticed something on the ground as he was sliding in. Then he leaned out the door and said, "So what's a lug nut represent?" Lord You are just too funny!

Isa 22:22-23 AMP
And the key of the house of David I will lay upon his shoulder; he shall open and no one shall shut, he shall shut and no one shall open. And I will fasten him like a peg or nail in a firm place; and he will become a throne of honor and glory to his father's house.

NOTE: For those interested in 2 other penny stories, use the search feature at my website and type in penny and pennies.

WORD TO PONDER: SHINY TREASURES IN SMALL PACKAGES
My Beloved one, I love to plant My special love gifts just to warm your heart. I will never grow tired of circling My Words to you. I rejoice in reaffirming your calling, giving My never ending love for you and basking in My gratefulness that you love My Word so dearly.

All over the earth I have My sent ones, each a precious treasure planted exactly on the spot, exactly perfect for their mission. And each one of these "hidden in plain view" treasures have My Word tucked within them. As bowed over ones draw near to receive My Word, these shiny ones shall pour out like pennies from heaven, one little Word at a time. With each morsel of quickened Words and deeds, they pour My heart upon a world full of goods, but poor in humble pennies. Soon the whole world shall draw near for just one penny sent from Me. Sent ones, how wealthy you are!

Gen 41:38 KJV
And Pharaoh said unto his servants, Can we find such a one as this is, a man in whom the Spirit of God is?

~ THREE LITTLE PENNIES ~

Hi Loved Ones
The Lord often speaks to me through daily life parables. I love it when He speaks to me this way! It is true when one has a full grown language of interpretation that anything in life can have a symbolic meaning, but He says, only what is quickened by His Spirit gives life. "It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life." (John 6:63 KJV) And

so I have learned to tune into those little daily true life stories that He quickens as His Word. Usually when these kind of "Words" happen, I walk them out, then suddenly He breaths life on them and I realize the spiritual significance to what just occurred and how it applies to what He is saying to me. Even more fun is when I get a word of knowledge that something about to occur is one of those kind of Words. Recently I had one such Word.

As a background to this story, He had told me that He was bringing me into a training time in deeper levels of certain gifts. His key Word was "training." The story begins as I am pulling my cart up to the long grocery store lines and trying to figure out which line is the shortest. I glanced at the shortest line and noticed the sign that said, "Checker in training." The Lord imparted to my heart that He had a parable for me. Now I had some preconceived ideas about this checker in training! He had the shortest line because he was so slow. He would take forever looking up the fresh food. He would make mistakes and have to call the manager. He would not make mistakes and still have to call the manager.

All my life I have been given the wonderful gift of watching, listening and analyzing people's lives, learning from their hard life lessons, and adjusting my choices so I didn't make the same mistakes. This is a part of having a teachable spirit. I had it all figured out ahead of time that the Lord was about to give me one of those negative parables for my own good. "For if we would judge ourselves, we would not be judged." (1 Cor 11:31 NKJV)

I cringed as I took my place in line, watching this checker carefully. Soon it was my turn and I watched every move he made! He greeted me pleasantly. He didn't hesitate, he didn't void out an entry, he didn't call the manager and he made it through the vegies just fine. I had been so expecting him to make a mistake I was disappointed when nothing was quickened to me! While I am writing the check, I asked, "Lord, I don't get it, what was the parable?" I handed him the check and waited for the receipt. He handed me 3 pennies with a smile. Incredulously I stared at the pennies. "You mean I wrote the check for 3 pennies over????" He smiled graciously and said, "Yes." I thanked him and felt like they had been 3 million dollars.

As a child I used to hear people say, "A penny saved is a penny earned." Nowadays pennies don't buy much and no one really cares about pennies. But God still cares about pennies.

He was telling me that in my season of training, He wasn't interested in how slow it took me to catch on, how many mistakes I made, how many times I had to stop everything and call on Him to bail me out and whether or not I had all the correct answers in memory! What He was asking was that I be faithful in the little things and He would take care of the rest. I felt so loved when I left that store.

I pray that if you are carrying loads that are too heavy, you will find your way back to the Lord's lap and ask Him to help you to be faithful in the little things.

Matt 11:28-29 TLB
"Come to me and I will give you rest-all of you who work so hard beneath a heavy yoke. Wear my yoke-for it fits perfectly-and let me teach you; for I am gentle and humble, and you shall find rest for your souls; for I give you only light burdens."

Matt 25:21 TLB
"His master praised him for good work. `You have been faithful in handling this small amount,' he told him, `so now I will give you many more responsibilities. Begin the joyous tasks I have assigned to you.' "
Lovingly,
Sandy

A PENNY FOR YOUR THOUGHTS
9/10/99

Hi Loved Ones,
Since my posting last week on pennies, it seems that there are others out there who also delight in little things like pennies from the Lord and their spiritual penny jars are growing! I was intrigued by some of the responses and felt you would enjoy some of the insights shared.
Lovingly,
Sandy

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Hi Sandy,
I loved the word and teaching the Lord gave you and my spirit is soaring as I write. You see Sandy, the Lord began to teach me a valuable lesson about pennies that started 15 years ago. In the early Morning I would begin my time with the Lord, walking and praying. This way, no one could disrupted our time together. It would make my time with Him so meaningful as I walked my 3-4 miles.

One morning as I walked, I spotted a penny. The Lord prompted me to pick it up...which began 15 years of teaching. He told me not to despise small beginnings and menial tasks. Just as the penny seemed like mere nothings.. add them up and they become worthwhile. I looked forward to our walks and again as I walked very early I began to find more pennies. I would know that these pennies were placed there for me to find and so I began to praise the Lord for each penny I found. He told me not to spend these pennies and so I got a jar and one day my jar became full of wonderful reminders of our times together and His Words to me.

One time I was watching TV and a show had an experiment to see if people would pick up pennies on the sidewalk. Funny, how the majority looked at these pennies but kept walking. It wasn't worth bending over. Some Christians are that way to certain ministries. They want the prestigious work but don't want their hands dirty.

The Lord taught me many things because of the pennies. Just the other day they had a call for pennies because they were getting so scarce. Funny, how valuable something as small as a penny can become.

In His love,
(name)
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Sandy,
Has the Lord said anything else to you about pennies? He is driving me crazy with pennies...has been for over a year...Last year it was one...then in 99 He started giving me two at a time....three days I have had 5 in a day...different places and 5 is Benjamin's portion....

I had 15 in one day last week...a dime and 5 pennies...in different places. I am a nurse and I am finding them at my feet when I get out of the car...at the thresholds of houses I walk into and at my feet at a bedside while caring for a patient.

I have had people say they mean:
One sent
In God we trust
Liberty

I went to the house of one of my patients today...I had shared with her about the gold from Silvania's hair and had shown it to her...I got some when she was here in Atlanta. On my home visit last week, I had told the Lord I would pray for her if He would give me a penny on my way to the car to get my Bible...and He gave me two pennies. I was able to show her the gold and tell her of the miraculous healing of cancer that Silvania experienced.

Anyway, she has cancer too and had been told she had two months to live in February. I asked if I could come back today. It was a glorious time of asking for forgiveness for the sins of the white against the black. She was able to release some past hurts as a result and was able to embrace me as she forgave....as did her sister and daughter.

Since the other day, she has not been in pain and is no longer on pain medicine. Long story short, the pennies are giving me boldness to step out as ONE SENT.

(name)

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Thank you Sandy. It is so amazing to think that God really does care about the little things, and so often we don't even take the time to pray about the little things because we don't want to "bother" Him with these little things. and yet...it is His desire to show us HOW much HE cares even by giving us those little things.

(name)

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Sandy,

Thanks for the really encouraging modern parable about the "CHECKER IN
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TRAINING and the 3 PENNIES".

One thing that stood out as soon I read it was the freshness of the attitude of the young trainee. Sweet, simple and done with excellence and genuineness. This was an example of his stewardship of his responsibility. This is often how it is with someone who is just starting off in some ministry area for the Lord Jesus.

The 'old-hands" sometimes stand-back, be skeptical, think new ones can't do the job adequately maybe not even "stand in their queue". However the Lord knows genuine hearts and we sometimes need to be challenged that He gives the grace to do anything in his Kingdom - be it preach, give a word, serve the tables or sing a new song.

In fact as we stand back, release, open the way, facilitate and believe along with the young sheep, we can have the great joy - with the Lord of the Harvest of seeing the sweet genuineness of fresh new, keen service - TO HIM.

(name)

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Dear Sandy,

I was VERY blessed by your word on the Elijah List.

Another way you could see your event...was that even though we are in training, God is faithful to bring us through in confidence and professionalism. He is there even when we do not know what we are doing and at the same time turn the table on those who may be prejudging us to be a certain way.

I also noticed that #3, as in 3 pennies, is a "divine" number and copper is listed under brass which can represent judgment against disobedience. You were faithful and obedient to support those in training and now He has placed His divine judgment in your hands.

Much Love to you. Thank you again for sharing.
(name)

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Dear Sandy,
Thank you for your three pennies story.

Some time ago the Lord told me to never let the devil steal a single penny from me. That very same day someone shortchanged me a penny in a convenience store, and my soul felt a little awkward and foolish asking for the penny. But I did, and it was given to me.

The Lord cares about the very little things in our lives, and He is also especially concerned about some of the very little ways in which some compromise and give

the devil his way.

He reminded me of the verse:
Take us the foxes, the little foxes, that spoil the vines: for our vines have tender grapes.
~Song of Solomon 2: 15

We may do well at obeying what we perceive to be the larger things and yet lose the battle through doing or not doing the small things. Incomplete or delayed obedience is still disobedience. He used the penny to show me that I was careless in small matters and that some very small matters carried great consequences.

Thank you for your faithfulness in relating this story. God used it to remind me and warn me of certain things in my life.

(name)

~ anonymous ~

Several years ago, a friend of mine and her husband were invited to spend the weekend at the husband's employer's home. My friend, Arlene, was nervous about the weekend. The boss was very wealthy, with a fine home on the waterway, and cars costing more than her house.

The first day and evening went well, and Arlene was delighted to have this rare glimpse into how the very wealthy live. The husband's employer was quite generous as a host, and took them to the finest restaurants. Arlene knew she would never have the opportunity to indulge in this kind of extravagance again, so was enjoying herself immensely.

As the three of them were about to enter an exclusive restaurant that evening, the boss was walking slightly ahead of Arlene and her husband. He stopped suddenly, looking down on the pavement for a long, silent moment.

Arlene wondered if she was supposed to pass him There was nothing on the ground except a single darkened penny that someone had dropped, and a few cigarette butts. Still silent, the man reached down and picked up the penny.

He held it up and smiled, then put it in his pocket as if he had found a great treasure. How absurd! What need did this man have for a single penny? Why would he even take the time to stop and pick it up?

Throughout dinner, the entire scene nagged at her. Finally, she could stand it no longer. She causally mentioned that her daughter once had a coin collection, and asked if the penny he had found had been of some value.

A smile crept across the man's face as he reached into his pocket for the penny and held it out for her to see. She had seen many pennies before! What was the point of this? "Look at it." He said. "Read what it says." She read the words "United Sates of

America."

"No, not that; read further." "One cent?" "No, keep reading." "In God we Trust?" "Yes!" "And?" "And if I trust in God, the name of God is holy, even on a coin.

Whenever I find a coin I see that inscription. It is written on every single United States coin, but we never seem to notice it! God drops a message right in front of me telling me to trust Him? Who am I to pass it by? When I see a coin, I pray, I stop to see if my trust IS in God at that moment. I pick the coin up as a response to God; that I do trust in Him. For a short time, at least, I cherish it as if it were gold. I think it is God's way of starting a conversation with me. Lucky for me, God is patient and pennies are plentiful!

When I was out shopping today, I found a penny on the sidewalk. I stopped and picked it up, and realized that I had been worrying and fretting in my mind about things I cannot change. I read the words, "In God We Trust," and had to laugh. Yes, God, I get the message.

It seems that I have been finding an inordinate number of pennies in the last few months, but then, pennies are plentiful! And, God is patient...

VOLUNTEER SENT ONES FOR THE YEAR 2011 AND BEYOND
9/18/10 DAY OF ATONEMENT

PIX: I saw several inches of pennies inside a coffee can on the street.

HEARD: Those who are willing, will take a journey.

[Lord does each penny represent one person being sent?]
HEARD: yes.

PIX: I saw the word, YOU being written.

HEARD: You. You can do this. How? By listening. Keep your eye on the ball. I will be pitching to you really slow.

HEARD: The Bible tells us we must be born again. Find it.

John 3:3-8 NKJV
Jesus answered and said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." 4 Nicodemus said to Him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" 5 Jesus answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. 6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. 7 Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' 8 The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit."

1 Peter 1:22-25 NKJV
Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart, 23 having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever, 24 because "All flesh is as grass, And all the glory of man as the flower of the grass. The grass withers, And its flower falls away, 25 But the word of the Lord endures forever." Now this is the word which by the gospel was preached to you.

PIX: I saw someone give a cassette tape and a transcript of the Word that they gave a person.

RHEMA 9/10/10 MY PURPOSES FOR YOU ARE UNIQUE

HEARD: My purposes for you are unique.

EXPERIENCE: I was speaking in tongues and heard penny.

HEARD: Penny. Exactly right on target. I agree. Both. Yes.

COMMENTS: The year 2010 began a birthing of God's power (with Psalms 110:3 being the scripture of the year) for those who are willing to pray for people. That year, 5770 is a foundation for a decade of years to 5780. Every year there will be more and more pennies (sent ones) sent to the streets to pray for strangers, give them the Word of God, healing, deliverance and salvation.

WORD TO PONDER: SENT ONES, I WILL TEACH YOU 9/18/10
Dear volunteers, brave in your obedience and driven by compassion, I will teach you how to be sent outside of church walls. Keep Your eyes and ears in listening mode, to be divinely and instinctively led to the right people at the right time. I will give you signs as clues to their need, I will halt your attention and focus and you will clearly see to the matter at hand. I will send you My Word and if you keep your focus in seeking My lead, you shall hit home runs and bring salvations, healings, deliverances and prophetic Words to those who would never walk into a church without your rescue. You may feel that all you have to offer is a simple penny to the cause, but when I send you, you are backed with heaven's resources and we shall work along side you to minister into the hearts and lives of men.

Ps 110:3-4 NKJV
Your people shall be volunteers In the day of Your power; In the beauties of holiness, from the womb of the morning, You have the dew of Your youth. The Lord has sworn And will not relent, "You are a priest forever According to the order of Melchizedek."

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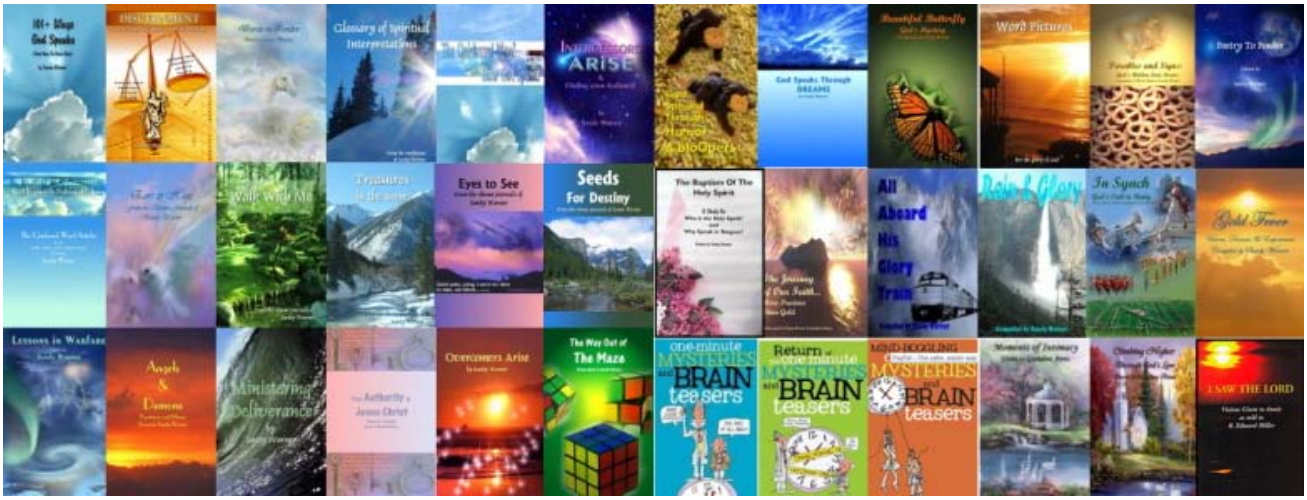

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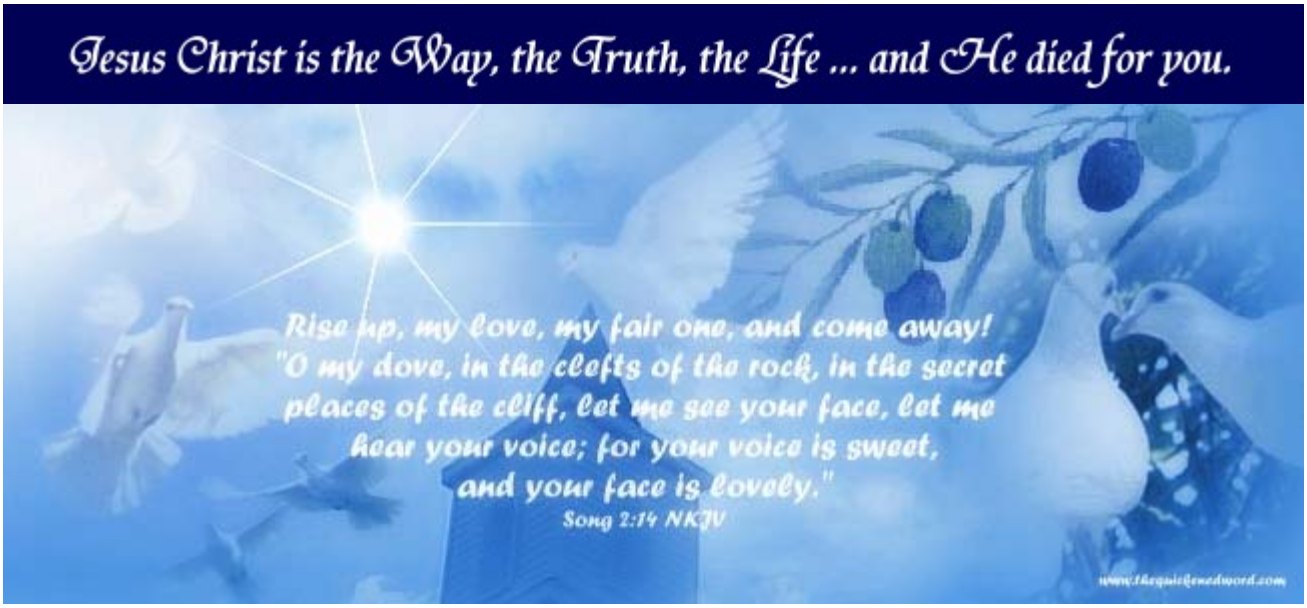

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THE DOVE COMPANY IS COMING

TRANCE VISION 3/13/85*: I was given a trance vision about the sons being birthed and then manifested in the fullness of time, which is Shibboleth, meaning the full ear of corn. I was playing the Battle Hymn of the Republic on the piano. (In 1973 the Lord gave me an awesome arrangement of that song, it was very powerful and I performed it many times.) I could hear my music resounding in heaven as intercession. When I was done, I saw all these corn cobs fall from heaven. They landed straight up and down as though planted in the earth.*

I had x-ray eyes and the corn cobs looked like miniature wombs, each one holding a turtle dove. The doves had their heads down, just like a baby does when it turns in the womb and is ready to be born. They looked like they were all dead, just simply stuck in the ground waiting. Then in the fullness of time and the same season, one by one, they came out of their husks and walked the earth as people. The husks were peeled away and that was a "manifestation" and birthing of what was inside.

These were the ones who were the sacrifices, just like turtle doves were sacrificed unto the Lord. I heard the Lord say to me the Word, "Shibboleth." Then He referred me to Song of Solomon, 2:12 "The flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds is come, and the voice of the turtle (dove) is heard in the land."

> *Ps 50:5 NKJV*
> *"Gather My saints together to Me, those who have made a covenant with Me by sacrifice ."*

Shibboleth is a mystery word meaning to come to full fruition of 100 fold fruit, not 60 or 30 fold.. Click here for the file on the mystery word shibboleth as having to do with this corn.

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BOB JONES QUOTES FROM CD AT TORONTO CONFERENCE JUNE 2006.

THE BIRTHING OF THE DOVE COMPANY

“A couple years ago I saw the incubators in heaven. They had 3,000 eggs in the incubators. And the Holy Spirit was brooding over them just like He did in Genesis 1. When He brooded over the body of Christ again. When I saw those eggs I said, Oh boy the heavens will surely be full of eagles. Well, people like me don't know everything. Recently He began to tell me they weren't eagles, they are doves. I have a first nation blanket hanging onto a balcony in my house. On March 17, (2006) something happened to that red birthing blanket. It got full of dove feathers. I mean hundreds and hundreds of them. Where I have already given hundreds away. There are taped in a lot of Bibles different places. You've already got eagles, but what is coming out of the hard shell is doves. The cocoon of the anointing is breaking off of doves.”

Ezek 36:26.
Verse 26 is a brand new heart that has a Papa and knows what their DNA is.

> *Ezek 36:25-27 NKJV*
> *Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. 26 I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.*

“You know, you are the result of your parents. I just learned that the blood in conception, it doesn't come from the mother, it comes from the father... The blood of Jesus in you would come forth in a new purity. There is a mother church urge to feed the babies, nurture them, to cleanse them. But the God sperm seed is coming forth is pure in you. It will bring forth a generation that will change the world.”

“So what is being birthed are doves. He came as a dove, He came in weakness. So that the Holy Spirit and His Father can show strength in Him. Some have you been brought to be doves. In Romans 16:20 a dove represents peace. It isn't the God of war that subdues satan there, it is the GOD OF PEACE that puts satan under your feet. Papa is talking about these doves? You know what a peacemaker is? A peacemaker is Matt 5:9. They are sons of God. These doves are sons and daughters of God. And where they walk, they are going to take the land. They are going to subdue the enemy because they've got peace. They've got peace like a river that cannot keep from overflowing. There is a generation right now that is not going to be

afraid."

> *Rom 16:19-20*
> *For your obedience has become known to all. Therefore I am glad on your behalf; but I want you to be wise in what is good, and simple concerning evil. 20 And the God of peace will crush Satan under your feet shortly.*

> *Matt 5:8-9 NKJV*
> *Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.*

"There is at least 3,000 in the first hatching. And these hatchings are going to go on and on. And they are going to reproduce. The dove is a sacrifice for the poor. God has got His vision on the poor. A lot of your wealthy are not going to change, but they are sure going to be unhappy. But the poor are ready. It is time we become a living sacrifice for the poor nations on this earth. For it is time for the snow white dove. And it is a time where He is giving supernatural signs like these feathers."

"... Those who will seek His voice and obey. It is one thing to even hear His voice, but another thing to obey. We coming to a time when these doves will not only hear, but in their weakness God will show Himself strong on their behalf. It is in their weakness that God will open doors through out the entire world...."

{end of Bob Jones quotes}

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THE DOVE COMPANY

RHEMA 7/04/06
Today I was thinking about the dove resting upon the shoulders of those who do not strive. And the Lord reminded me that Noah sent out the dove and Noah's name means rest.

Gen 5:28-29 NKJV
Lamech lived one hundred and eighty-two years, and had a son. And he called his name Noah, saying, "This one will comfort us concerning our work and the toil of our hands, because of the ground which the LORD has cursed."

Noach
OT:5146 Noach (no'-akh); the same as OT:5118; rest; Noach, the patriarch of the flood:
KJV - Noah.

OT:5118
OT:5118 nuwach (noo'-akh); or nowach (no'-akh); from OT:5117; quiet:
KJV - rest (-ed, -ing place).

Gen 8:8-12 NKJV
He also sent out from himself a dove, to see if the waters had receded from the face of the ground. But the dove found no resting place for the sole of her foot, and she returned into the ark to him, for the waters were on the face of the whole earth. So he put out his hand and took her, and drew her into the ark to himself. And he waited yet another seven days, and again he sent the dove out from the ark. Then the dove came to him in the evening, and behold, a freshly plucked olive leaf was in her mouth; and Noah knew that the waters had receded from the earth. So he waited yet another seven days and sent out the dove, which did not return again to him anymore.

WORD TO PONDER: THE SIGN OF NOAH AND MY DOVE 7/04/06
I named Noah “Rest” (Hebrew meaning) as a sign to the world, because Noah carried a new beginning through the flood waters into a new resting place. When he first sent forth a dove, she found no resting place. Then he drew her into himself and waited. Again he sent the dove and she returned with an olive leaf, My symbol of peace. Thus he knew the waters had receded, and a new beginning had emerged upon the earth. On the third try, his dove went forth and found a resting place upon the earth. And all eight who came forth out of the ark, followed the dove and repopulated the earth.

Likewise, My Dove will dwell with those who are rising above the flood waters of the dragon. My Dove will go before you and be a sign unto you when your doors of hope are opened. My Dove will find rest with you in your new beginnings. My Dove will rest upon the shoulders of those who are at rest from the strivings and works of their flesh. My dove will rest upon those who would walk in peace. Would you also walk the earth with My dove and birth new children?

John 1:32 NKJV
And John bore witness, saying, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and He remained upon Him.

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POEM: GO FORTH OH SONS OF DOVE! 1/14/07
Deep within the breast of the dove
A gentle heart beats with God's love.
Softly cooing, deeply yearning
Always beating, ever stirring.

Humble in nature, pure and white
Are the dove ones, God's pure delight.
Called in heaven, sent to the earth
Having waited long to be birthed.

Eyes opened, awakened from sleep
Penetrated shells cracked so deep.
Until their hearts became broken
Their shells would never be opened.

Wiser now through silent suffering
From deep groanings under their wings.
Long they have waited for their God.
Heaven releases, earth applauds.

Go forth sent ones, doves of great worth!
Peacemakers sent to walk the earth.
Covering cracks with righteous prayers
Establishing rule, as God's heirs.

Interceding Words, bridge the gap
That which offends covered and wrapped.
Praying for those not innocent
Grieving over all that is bent.

Knowing God, they tremble with fear
At what they see, at what they hear
Of wicked tares sown in the dark
Of what tares reap outside the ark.

Candled with floodlight, hearts are shown.
A dove's defense is God alone.
Sacrificed covenants; they're spent.
Not for their own sake, they defend.

With the olive branch in their beak
They're sent as signs to those who seek.
Not from striving, but in His rest
Believing God's Word as their best.

Lifted up in God's holy hand
He's set them free, they'll walk the land.
Salted sacrifice; heavens' sons
Sprinkling the earth as glorious ones.

Matt 3:16-17 NKJV
Behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him. And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

Matt 12:18-21 NKJV
"Behold! My Servant whom I have chosen, My Beloved in whom My soul is well pleased! I will put My Spirit upon Him, And He will declare justice to the Gentiles. He will not quarrel nor cry out, Nor will anyone hear His voice in the streets. A bruised reed He will not break, And smoking flax He will not quench, Till He sends forth justice to victory; And in His name Gentiles will trust."

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COLUMBUS 6/02/07

Randy Demain shares the following revelation:

The word Columbus = DOVE

The following is a parable of the same spirit that tried to kill Moses, Jesus and the manchild.

- Columbus day storm (10/12/62)
- In the eastern United States, only hurricanes of Category 3 or higher have brought winds of the magnitude witnessed in Oregon on Columbus Day, October 12, 1962.
- School shooting at Columbine (4/20/99)
- Space Shuttle Columbia (2/01/03)
- On February 1, 2003, Columbia disintegrated during re-entry over Texas, on its 28th mission. All seven crew members aboard perished.

Columbus was a forerunner like Noah, sent to find the new land. Noah sent out the dove prior to settling.

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RHEMA 10/10/08 KEEPING THE EGGS WARM

PIX: *I saw little circular stainless steel alcoves and there were doves sitting in each one nesting over eggs.*

HEARD: *They are Mine. I am keeping them. Precious and united.*

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RHEMA 10/22/08 PACK EM UP, WE'RE MOVING THE EGGS

HEARD: *Packing the eggs and then we rest. Who'se hatching your egg? You are. You all are. Multiple seeds. Multiple shoulders.*

LIKE AN EGG 4/14/98
Just like an egg, I will bring you to birth. Growing from a tiny state, what I conceive grows in secret behind the shell of My covering. Ordained in perfect seasons, each stage of growth is built upon another until all comes to fruition.

One day I will call forth that which I have created within you. You will begin to break your own walls of confinement and come out of your shell. This requires strength and tenacity to break your own restraints. It requires a courageous heart to face the outside world. This process is not something I do for you, because if I were to do so, the strength you need to face your surroundings would not be fully developed. I need your cooperation to bring you to birth. I promise you My help and protection, but you must be willing and persistent to break your own yokes.

You will know it's time when you grow so big that you can no longer stay within

your established borders. You will know it's time when you want to come out. You will know it's time when everything in you says, “Yes! … It is time!” And when it is time, you will have the strength and the tenacity to break free.

“And it shall come to pass in that day, that his burden shall be taken away from off thy shoulder, and his yoke from off thy neck, and the yoke shall be destroyed because of the anointing.” (Isa 10:27)

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POPPING THE EGG 5/20/05

Yes My love. All those years of delay have been accumulating. You have been sitting on a large nest egg and it has grown larger and more valuable with time. Did you think that when I gave you My promise, and then you had to wait, that I would give you a stone? Never, My love.

Those seeds of My Words in your life, the ones that you held onto, the ones that you brought into your dwelling place, those rich and fertile eggs are like multiplied pearls ready for harvest. Each and every year that you have waited and trusted Me, I have added increased wealth to your basket. Rich and full and overflowing, My abundance is popping out all over. Travail is very painful, it is true. But oh such joy comes when the baby is birthed!

John 16:21-23 AMP
A woman, when she gives birth to a child, has grief (anguish, agony) because her time has come. But when she has delivered the child, she no longer remembers her pain (trouble, anguish) because she is so glad that a man (a child, a human being) has been born into the world. So for the present you are also in sorrow (in distress and depressed); but I will see you again and {then} your hearts will rejoice, and no one can take from you your joy (gladness, delight). And when that time comes, you will ask nothing of Me {you will need to ask Me no questions}. I assure you, most solemnly I tell you, that My Father will grant you whatever you ask in My Name {as presenting all that I AM}. {Ex 3:14.}

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EGG-SPEC-TATIONS 8/11/06

I am forming precious new giftings inside the wombs of those who have waited upon Me for their promises of new joys. Hover over your egg-spectations and keep them warm. Do not leave the nest unguarded. The hope you have in your heart for a new life, role and function is incubating right now. What you expect will look differently when it is made manifest, but you will be given glimpses of it as it secretly grows through its pre-determined stages. Let nothing come through strife or vainglory, let it be birthed naturally. Lay your expectations down as to how all unfolds, but let your egg-spectations be filled with faith, hope and love. Love will never fail you dear one, never.

Rom 8:19-20 NKJV
For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God.

CLICK HERE FOR MORE ON THE DOVE COMPANY

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Words from the The Quickened Word are excerpts from the journals of Sandy Warner. To better understand how God speaks, read Sandy's book, "101+ Ways God Speaks, And How to Hear Him." Website: www.thequickenedword.com Email: swauthor@usa.net

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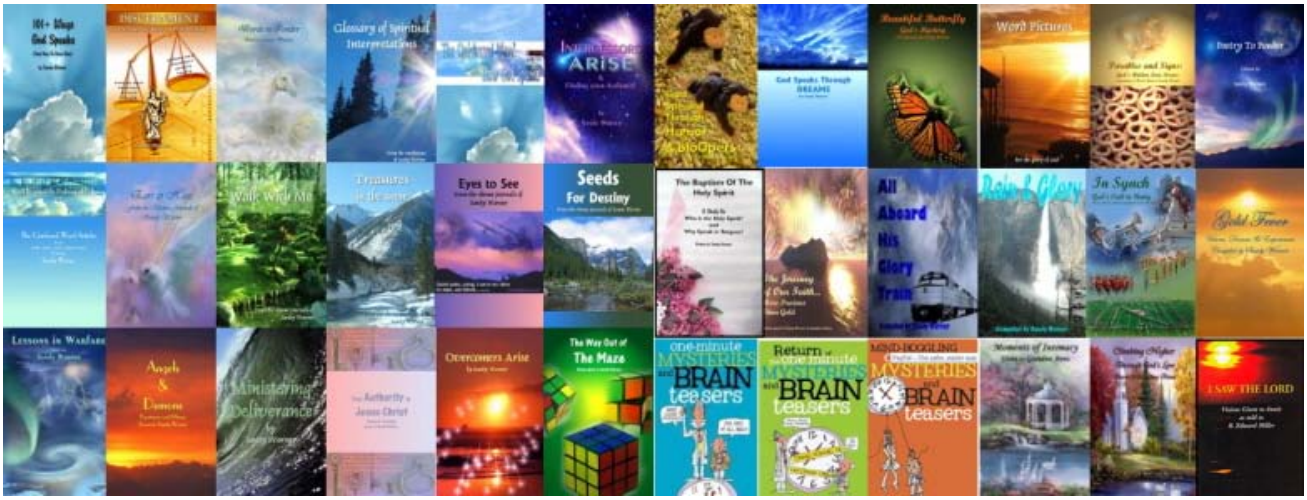
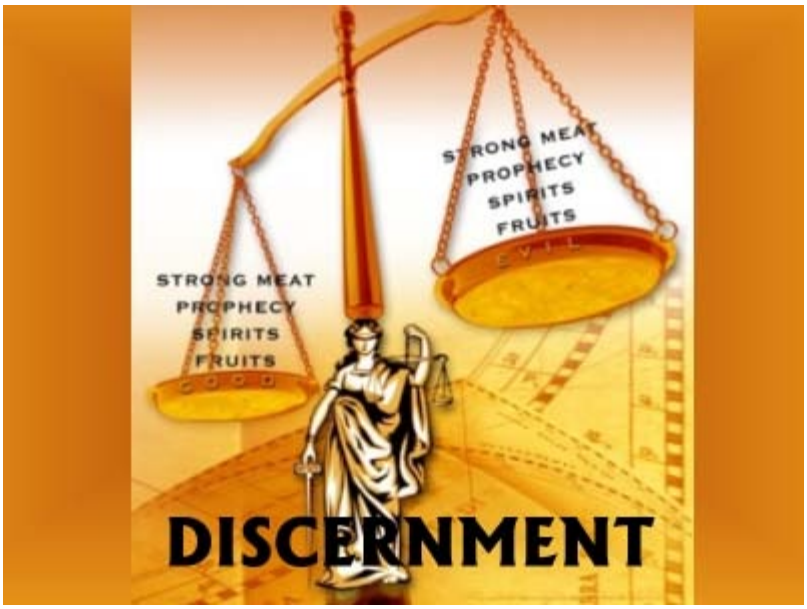


RETURN TO RHEMA INDEX

Jesus Christ is the Way, the Truth, the Life ... and He died for you.



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DISCERNMENT:

LEARNING TO SEPARATE

THE HOLY & THE PROFANE

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OUTLINE

PART ONE - WHAT IS DISCERNMENT?

I. DISCERNMENT IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

A. What is Discernment?

1. B. We are to Discern Spiritual Food
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C. We are to Discern Prophesy

D. We are to Discern Spirits

1. the spirit of man

2. the Spirit of God

3. angelic spirits

4. demonic spirits

E. We are to Discern Fruits

1. false apostles

2. ravening wolves

3. thorns & thistles

4. grapes & figs

II. DISCERNMENT IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

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A. The Need for Discernment

B. Exposing the Enemy Plans

C. Pitfalls of Discernment

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D. Overcoming the Pitfalls

1. Article on overcoming word curses and judgments

2. Standing in the gap

3. Two kinds of "throne room ministry"

IV. THE ETERNAL PURPOSE OF DISCERNMENT

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V. DISCERNMENT LEADS TO A FORK IN THE ROAD

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II. ABOUT DISCERNING PEOPLE

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C. Giant and Flesh List

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IV. ABOUT DISCERNING A MESSAGE

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V. ABOUT KNOWING GOD

1. The list of the character and nature of God

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PART THREE

I. SUMMARY

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PART ONE - WHAT IS DISCERNMENT?

I. DISCERNMENT IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

A. WHAT IS DISCERNMENT?

Discernment in the Greek language means judicial estimation, discern, disputation. It comes from a word meaning to separate thoroughly, withdraw, oppose, discriminate, decide, hesitate, contend, make to differ, doubt, judge, be partial, stagger, waver. (#1) So if you wrestle with wavering in what you discern, now you know why. These words describe the process the receiver of discernment goes through! When the discerner is confronted with something that appears good on the outside, but isn't, it becomes a stumbling block to his spirit. His flesh sees good signs, but his spirit is disputing, opposing, hesitating, contending, differing, doubting, staggering, and wavering against the outward appearance. Discernment is an internal war as one grapples to line up what they perceive, with Who God is, and what is being offered.

In the Bible, we have numerous examples in the Hebrew & Greek language revealing that discernment is connected to words having to do with the judicial process. Further on, there will be a bible study to reveal this. The bottom line is that discernment is like a pair of judicial balance scales. A person carefully weighs evidence, both pro and con. They separate the evidence into two piles…. Good and evil, right and wrong, true and false, holy and profane, etc.

Note that discernment is the actual PROCESS of separating into two piles, it is NOT the decisions based upon what is separated. As compared to a judicial court case, the word discern would be equivalent to the process of hearing a case and separating the evidence. Discernment would be separating the facts, good and bad, then distributing them into 2 piles. In one pile would be the bad and on the other would be the good. This process is like what a jury goes through to deliberate evidence. The jury does not have the power to pass a sentence of punishment for the results of
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lawlessness. They merely separate the facts and decide whether someone is innocent or guilty.

B. WE ARE TO DISCERN SPIRITUAL FOOD

When we receive spiritual food, through any means, we are to chew the good and spit out the bones. This happens when we separate what is from the Lord, from the enemy and from flesh. The following are 3 different translations of the scripture about discerning spiritual food. Each are worth reading to get a better understanding on discernment.

Heb 5:12-14 NLT

"You have been Christians a long time now, and you ought to be teaching others. Instead, you need someone to teach you again the basic things a beginner must learn about the Scriptures. You are like babies who drink only milk and cannot eat solid food. And a person who is living on milk isn't very far along in the Christian life and doesn't know much about doing what is right. Solid food is for those who are mature, who have trained themselves to recognize the difference between right and wrong and then do what is right."

"But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil." (Heb 5:14 NKJV)

"But solid food is for full-grown men, for those whose senses and mental faculties are trained by practice to discriminate and distinguish between what is morally good and noble and what is evil and contrary either to divine or human law." (Hebrews 5:13,14 AMP)

Strong's Exhaustive Concordance Numbers to the Greek words:

But solid [4731] food [5160] belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use [1838] have their senses [145] exercised [1128] to discern [1253] both good [2570] and evil [2556].

SOLID FOOD

As a baby grows, eventually he or she comes off pure milk and needs solid food and meat to grow strong and healthy. During the breakdown of food in the stomach the particles separate. The good part is sent to the cells, the waste is sent away.

Discerning spiritual food is similar to the process of digesting various Words from the Lord, through an impure or a mixed source, including our own distorted perceptions. First we separate what we hear by pondering it in bite size pieces. After we swallow, the food unravels or separates mixture: nutrient vs. waste. The nutrient feeds our relationship with the Lord, and the waste is unused and discarded.

As an example of this lengthy discernment process, I went through a long blind season when I couldn't see what the Lord was doing in my life. At first I questioned what was happening, and the Lord told me it was a season of "winging it on in." Having little idea of what that meant, I continued to plod through my days. The season stretched on and on and I began to doubt if I heard the Lord about the season and if I was in His will. I was at a loss and could not discern the answer. Prior to this time, I had received a little bird house for Christmas. The inscription said, "Wing on in." So when the Lord had said, "Wing on in" I thought of that birdhouse. I interpreted it to be something like, "Fly by the seat of your pants!" That didn't sound too great to me. It was solid food, (strong meat) and I wasn't sure I liked chewing it.

Later I began to complain about being so blind and without understanding, and finally His 3-fold answer came to me. One night I was watching Star Trek about Diana Troy who had lost the gift of her unique intuition. She said it was as though she had lost her sight and had become blind. (That grabbed my attention because I had been complaining how blind I was to the Lord.) They said her loss was an opportunity to develop her other assets and make them stronger. So my first answer was "OK, He has put me in a blind season to help me develop other capabilities."

That night as I was pondering this answer, I flipped through some magazines and read two stories. The first one was about a student who was painstakingly learning to write the alphabet. The letters seemed almost perfect to the student. He held his breath waiting for the instructor's feedback. "No, no, you are trying too hard!" the instructor said in exasperation. "There is no feeling." He took the student down the hall into a darkened classroom. "Now work here in the dark" and closed the door. Stunned, the student sat there fumbling with the pens. But gradually he began to relax and let his feelings rather than his eyes guide the pen. He began to let his creative side take over and felt the freedom of expression. He was no longer struggling to perfect his movements. He let the process flow.

I thought about how this applied to me. The words wing on in, inner abilities and now creative side seemed to have something in common. It still shouted fly by the seat of your pants! But what for? I thought, like the student writer, maybe I had been too uptight about discerning His will in my life. Maybe He wanted me to learn to relax and trust that He was leading me on the inside, in my conscience.

The last story was about a young girl who landed a small airplane because her father had a heart attack. Not knowing specifically how, but being a passenger many times in childhood, she operated the plane by a little knowledge and memories. When she approached the runway she knew she was going too fast to make the landing in a difficult cross wind. She closed her eyes to all the dials and buttons and listened to the motor. At first she would slow down too much, then would readjust her speed. She finally heard the right pitch to the motor and subconsciously knew it was right and landed successfully.

Thinking through this second story, I again saw the connection with "wing on in, inner abilities and creative side" but literally added, "Fly by the seat of your pants!" However this time I realized the girl wasn't using just her instinct to come up with guesswork. She was NOT making uneducated choices. She had been trained and educated in past experience, she just hadn't realized it.

Finally the three stories came together and I realized He wanted some hidden

training I'd had in my past to come to the surface and become stronger. That was enough for me! Realizing I was in the Lord's will, I was just going to have to tough it out and hang in there. I needed to stop struggling with this season, knowing He was silently with me in this sightless place and I was to hang in there until it was over.

When I went through this process to unravel the three stories that night, (Diana Troy, the student writer, and the pilot) a crimson thread of blindness tied them together: lost insight, placed in a darkened room and flying with closed eyes. They matched my situation (were quickened) and I knew (revelation) the Lord was trying to answer my complaints. But the process of how I figured out WHAT He was saying was discernment. It was just like digesting the good parts of the stories that were pertinent to me, and discarding the rest. That process took effort on my part to think it through.

Digestion, using the helpful and discarding the waste, takes time. To run a long race you need the strength of muscle which is built by protein. Protein or meat is not quickly assimilated into the body. Meat takes longer to break apart and be assimilated, in order to release energy. In comparison to the quick burst of His quickening energy of something sweet, God gives us something to discern (meat to chew on) to give us strength to run the race.

When the Lord quickens solid foods, the energy received is not a quick burst as from milk, but a gradual process of increased strength. Therefore the quickening and revelation of solid food is not easily identified as milk. The quickening of spiritual mild is an instant, "OH that fits!" and "OH, that's Him!" Solid food doesn't give a quick OH! Rather, it's an "OOOOOOOOOOOOOH!" It's the same Holy Spirit, and the same quickening and revelation, but one takes longer!

In the previous example of the three stories, there is a difference between quickened "milk" Words from the Lord and quickened solid food from Him. The night I received the answer to my questions was milk - they were concepts, like blindness and instinct, that were quickened right on the spot. I knew (revelation) He was talking to me. Now that's the kind of Words we like to hear from Him all the time! Quick and easy.

However, the original Word from Him was, "Wing on in," and that was not quickened at the time, rather it caused me to question what it meant, and eventually whether it was actually Him speaking. "Wing on in," was solid food. I didn't like it. It took a long time of chewing (thinking about it and questioning) before I was able to finally "swallow" that Word from Him.

Solid food is sometimes a barrier to Christians. They are used to receiving milk from the Lord and assimilating it quickly. The fact that solid food requires time to chew and time to digest, causes some to spit it out because it is not a familiar process.

"But solid food belongs to those who are of full age,
*that is, those who by **reason of use** have their **senses***
***exercised** to **discern** both good and evil." (Heb 5:14 NKJV)*

BY REASON OF USE

This Greek word use [1838] is only used one time in the Bible. In context, it means that our senses are consistently trained until they become a habit. A habit happens

by doing something over and over again. It is interesting that a foundation word [5157] for the word meat in this scripture, means revolution or turning. It is like a cow chewing its cud over and over again. Food rolls around in the mouth and breaks down into parts.

In this case it is our senses that are turning over and over again, becoming practiced and trained in the process of turning. It is similar to "gears" turning round and round in someone's brain while he is thinking!

SENSES

The word senses [145] implies using our cognitive abilities to understand. Sometimes when the original Greek or Hebrew words do not give us a full understanding of a meaning, we can look at other scriptures that use the same original word and see the context of how they were used. In this instance the only other place this Greek word is used is where Jesus had just told his disciples that He was going to be betrayed. "But they did not understand this saying, and it was hidden from them so that they did not perceive [145] it; and they were afraid to ask Him about this saying." (Luke 9:45 NKJV)

EXERCISED

The word exercised [1128] comes from a word having to do with training. It is our perceptions that are to become transparent, laid bare, naked or have nothing hidden or cloaking our understanding. This comes through a training process of doing something repeatedly over and over again. It is like stripping our thought process bare until we finally come to the naked truth.

DISCERN

This word discern [1253] perfectly describes the process of discerning between good and evil. When one perceives something that opposes the Holy Spirit, he will naturally withdraw, oppose, hesitate, doubt, waver, stagger, even if he does not have the words to understand why he feels this way. It is like an inner wrestling contest to try and distinguish between the real truth and the false.

This wrestling happens while what is being wrestled with turns over and over in the mind, like the cow chewing his cud. The mind might weigh the pros and cons, it might compare with the scriptures, might compare with the nature of God or the testimony of Jesus, it might test it to see if it is quickened by the Holy Spirit.

- The purpose of discernment in this context is to discern between good and evil spiritual food. By discerning the difference, we examine, prove or try it as though closely observing under a microscope, or taking it through a test of questions and answers or pros and cons.

C. WE ARE TO DISCERN PROPHESY

The scripture says, *"Do not stifle the Holy Spirit. Do not scoff at prophecies, but test everything that is said. Hold on to what is good. Keep away from every kind of evil." (1 Thess 5:19-22 NLT)* Notice that this Greek word test is also translated discern.

Strong's Exhaustive Concordance Numbers to the Greek words:

Quench not the Spirit. Despise not prophesyings.
Prove [1381] all things; hold fast that which is good.
Abstain from the appearance of evil. (1 Thess 5:19-22)

Prove

NT:1381
dokimazo (dok-im-ad'-zo); from NT:1384; to test
(literally or figuratively); by implication, to approve:
KJV - allow, discern, examine, X like, (ap-) prove, try.
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NT:1384
dokimos (dok'-ee-mos); from NT:1380; properly, acceptable
(current after assayal), i.e. approved:
KJV - approved, tried.
~~~~~~~~~~~~

NT:1380
dokeo (dok-eh'-o); a prolonged form of a primary verb,
doko (dok'-o) (used only in an alternate in certain tenses;
compare the base of NT:1166) of the same meaning;
to think; by implication, to seem (truthfully or uncertainly):
KJV - be accounted, (of own) please (-ure),
be of reputation, seem (good), suppose, think, trow.

- The purpose of discernment in this context is to discern between true and false prophesy. When we discern prophesy, we discern the message. How to discern a message is in part two.

D. WE ARE TO DISCERN SPIRITS

*"But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all… to another **discerning of spirits**… (1 Cor 12:7-8, 10) The more acquainted we are with the HOLY Spirit, the easier it will be to recognize the unholy ones.*

1 Cor 12:7-11 NKJV

*"But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all: for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another **discerning of spirits [4151]**, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills."*

Strong's Exhaustive Concordance Numbers to the Greek words:

Spirits

Greek NT:4151

pneuma (pnyoo'-mah); from NT:4154; a current of air, i.e. breath (blast) or a breeze;
by analogy or figuratively, a spirit, i.e. (human) the rational soul,
(by implication) vital principle, mental disposition, etc.,
or (superhuman) an angel, demon, or (divine) God, Christ's spirit, the Holy Spirit:
KJV - ghost, life, spirit (-ual, -ually), mind. Compare NT:5590.

There are four types of spirits in the above Greek word: man's spirit, God's Spirit, angelic spirits and evil spirits. The gift of discerning of spirits is the ability to discriminate these four types of spirits. In discerning spirits, this is the same word "discerning" already discussed in the strong meat scripture. It is the same gift, the same process, only this is the ability to discern spirits.

1. The spirit of man

Samuel went through the process of discerning the spirit of man, in choosing David to be king. God told him not to look on the outward appearance when going through the selection process. He discerned the brothers who stood before him, refusing each as the choice to be king over Israel. God allowed Samuel to go through this process until David stood before him. The Lord then spoke and said, "This is he." (1 Samuel 16:6-13)

The Lord discerned Saul's heart when He said to Samuel: "I greatly regret that I have set up Saul as king, for he has turned back from following Me, and has not performed My commandments." (1 Sam 15:11 NKJV)

Achish discerned David's spirit to be like an angel: "And Achish answered and said to David, I know that thou art good in my sight, as an angel of God: notwithstanding the princes of the Philistines have said, He shall not go up with us to the battle." (1 Sam 29:9 KJV)

When we discern the spirit of man, it is more like discerning their motives. Motives are the intent or reasons for ones choices and behaviors. We can discern evil motives like ambition, jealousy, compromise, lust, competition, anger, unforgiveness, rebellion, unteachableness, pride, etc. These evil motives are like seeds within man's heart that eventually lead man into making sinful choices. (If we do not repent of these things, they are nurtured and come to sinful fruition within our lives.) When we have the gift of discernment, we will be able to easily tell when people say things, why they are saying them and from what "motive" it is coming from. Most of the time this will be quite obvious and be an instant knowledge.

2. The Spirit of God

Eli discerned God's Spirit was talking to the boy Samuel, when Samuel could not:

"So now the LORD called a third time, and once more Samuel jumped up and ran to Eli. "Here I am," he said. "What do you need?" Then Eli realized it was the LORD who was calling the boy. So he said to Samuel, "Go and lie down again, and if someone calls again, say, `Yes, LORD, your servant is listening.' " So Samuel went back to bed. And the LORD came and called as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel replied, "Yes, your servant is listening." (1 Sam 3:7-10 NLT)

The easiest way to discern God's Spirit, outside of comparing it with the scriptures is to check whether it is quickened to your own spirit. *"It is the spirit that quickeneth; the*

flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life." (John 6:63 KJV) God's Spirit gives life. He can give only good gifts. (James 1:17)

3. Angelic spirits

Hebrews 13:1 says*, "Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so doing some have unwittingly entertained angels." (NKJV)* The Lord's angels are not always obvious in their appearance. Sometimes we need to discern that they are angels.

Every one of us who are Christians have seen angels in our dreams! They appear as people that we do not know personally. They have personalities, appearances, countenances, voices, and within our dreams they are our helpers and encouragers. *"Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation?" (Hebrews 1:14 NKJV)* They may speak to us in our dreams and because they appear human, we do not know they are angels.

We can also see pictures, which are quick flash visions of angels. I have seen many, many pictures of angels. Sometimes they appear as flashes of light, sometimes lightning, sometimes in human attire, sometimes with gold or bronze skin with powerful muscles, sometimes dressed in battle armor, sometimes smiling faces.

We can also hear angels. I have heard conversations of angels where they are talking to one another and not to me. I have heard them sing. I have heard them talk to God. I have heard them talk to me. Many have felt the literal and physical touch of an angel.

Angels play an important role in our life, for they serve us as a gift from God. One of the reasons they do not make a habit of openly declaring themselves is because they are created to glorify Jesus and to serve, not to publish their own identity and find followers.

In this day and time there is much renewed interest in angels. Unfortunately, the new age movement has also incorporated this. So beware when you listen to angel stories. Be on guard for any enticing story that would encourage a long time relationship with a guardian angel or even a friendship. The Bible says the enemy can be camouflaged as an angel of light, and the new age movement encourages having spirit guides who can appear in the form of an angel. They say each person should get in touch with these beings and have a relationship with them.

The difference is subtle, for angels are active in our lives, and they do love and encourage us, and sometimes talk to us, as the Bible says. I have read many stories of people who were delivered by angels, and I believe in times of intense long term trauma, an angel can have a temporary relationship with that person. However, the Lord wants us to seek Him and have a relationship with Him. He doesn't want our faith displaced towards angels being our source, HE wants to be our source.

I personally believe that angels are dispatched with assignment, at the moment we pray. "Bless the Lord, you mighty angels of his who carry out his orders, listening for each of his commands. Yes, bless the Lord, you armies of his angels who serve him constantly" (Ps 103:20-21 TLB) I also believe an intercessor's faith can actually strengthen the angel's ability to fight through enemy territory as well as dispatch

immediate help to people in need. (Daniel 10: 12,13) However the angels do not want the glory for this, as they are here to serve the Heavenly Father and us who are heirs of salvation. Stories about angels can be very encouraging, just keep your priorities straight and love our Father more for sending them to help us. (Colossians 2:18)

I had a funny experience having to do with angels. The Lord was trying to teach me that angels are my helpers, and they are dispatched with assignment the moment I pray. They are actually waiting for us to understand our authority, so they can get busy and do what they do best. Often we have the resources available to help many people, but they are not dispatched via the angels because we do not pray.

Anyway, I had been thinking about angels, and wondering about my guardian angel. Because I hear so much from the Lord at night, I often get enemy opposition. So I have learned to take authority over such until I hear Him clearly. One night I was wondering what giant, husky, warring angel the Lord had posted beside me and feeling kind of cradled by the thought. Then bam, I heard the enemy, so I rebuked it in Jesus Name, then prayed the blood of Jesus over our door posts and then asked for a nice giant warring angel to stand guard.

I heard the enemy say, "I think they want us to leave!" As I heard that, I realized the enemy was talking about the angel standing guard as well as myself and I was encouraged. Then I saw a picture vision of the face of a very pretty girl angel. Her smile was so loving and precious and it was kind of a tongue in cheek smile. I saw her eyes literally twinkle, and then she winked at me! I was so astonished and then immediately I thought, "THIS is my husky, giant, warring angel?????" My faith went to about zero. Then I remembered the subtle ploy of trusting in angels, instead of the Lord, and also the authority He's given me. It was very funny and I instinctively knew that the reason she winked was to say, "I guess we showed them!"

I learned something that day. Number one, I was a chauvinist! Number two, the Lord wanted my faith in Him and in the authority He's given me, not my faith in the angel standing guard. Number three, my authority must be more than I thought, or else with so much opposition, I would certainly need a nice, burly angel to protect me - at least one with a sword! [Sorry Lord, I just had to put that in!] The whole thing was very funny to me and we all had a good laugh.

4. Demonic spirits

Paul opposed the evil spirit that was actually saying something good: *"These men are the servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to us the way of salvation." Paul discerned the spirit to be one of divination, and rebuked it. (Acts 16:16-18 NKJV)*

Demons also appear in our dreams. They appear as wicked people opposing us and all that is good and righteous in our dreams. Often they will have weapons to try and wound us, or perhaps we will be fighting them. The scripture also says that the enemy can be disguised as an angel of light, therefore we must discern whether the angel serves the Lord or the enemy. (2 Corinthians 11:14)

"Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world." (1 John 4:1 KJV)

Strong's Exhaustive Concordance Numbers to the Greek words:

Beloved, believe [4100] not every spirit [4151], but try [1381] the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.

Believe

NT:4100

pisteuo (pist-yoo'-o); from NT:4102; to have faith
(in, upon, or with respect to, a person or thing),
i.e. credit; by implication, to entrust (especially one's spiritual well-being to Christ):
KJV - believe (-r), commit (to trust), put in trust with.

Spirit

NT:4151

pneuma (pnyoo'-mah); from NT:4154; a current of air,
i.e. breath (blast) or a breeze; by analogy or figuratively, a spirit, i.e.
(human) the rational soul, (by implication) vital principle,
mental disposition, etc., or (superhuman) an angel,
demon, or (divine) God, Christ's spirit, the Holy Spirit:
KJV - ghost, life, spirit (-ual, -ually), mind. Compare NT:5590.

Try

NT:1381

dokimazo (dok-im-ad'-zo); from NT:1384; to test
(literally or figuratively); by implication, to approve:
KJV - allow, discern, examine, X like, (ap-) prove, try.
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NT:1384

dokimos (dok'-ee-mos); from NT:1380; properly,
acceptable (current after assayal), i.e. approved:
KJV - approved, tried.
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NT:1380

dokeo (dok-eh'-o); a prolonged form of a primary verb,
doko (dok'-o) (used only in an alternate in certain tenses;
compare the base of NT:1166) of the same meaning;
to think; by implication, to seem (truthfully or uncertainly):
KJV - be accounted, (of own) please (-ure),
be of reputation, seem (good), suppose, think, trow.

As I was reading the following scripture one day I noticed something I had not seen before: *"Most assuredly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door, but climbs up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep hear his voice; and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. And when he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them; and the sheep follow him, for they* ***know [1492]*** *his voice. Yet they will by no means follow a stranger, but*

*will flee from him, for they do not **know [1492]** the voice of strangers." Jesus used this illustration, but they did not understand the things which He spoke to them." (John 10:1-6 NKJV)*

I realized that in this scripture it does not say that the sheep will not hear the voice of a stranger, rather it says it will not follow the voice of a stranger. The word "to know", both in knowing the Lord and not the stranger means to see, perceive, to understand, to know. As sheep, we follow Jesus, becoming more like Him, and recognizing Him the more we know Him and follow Him. We resist following the stranger because he is not like Jesus and we have the eyes of our heart set upon Him.

Strong's Exhaustive Concordance Numbers to the Greek words:

And when he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them; and the sheep follow him, for they know [1492] his voice. Yet they will by no means follow a stranger, but will flee from him, for they do not know [1492] the voice of strangers." Jesus used this illustration, but they did not understand the things which He spoke to them." (John 10:1-6 NKJV)

Know

NT:1492

eido (i'-do); a primary verb; used only in certain past tenses, the others being borrowed from the equivalent NT:3700 and NT:3708; properly, to see (literally or figuratively); by implication (in the perf. only) to know:

KJV - be aware, behold, X can (+not tell), consider, (have) know (-ledge), look (on), perceive, see, be sure, tell, understand, wish, wot. Compare NT:3700.

I had a false visitation that shows how subtle the enemy can be. I heard a voice say that I needed to make myself available and receive this visitation of the Lord Jesus. Then I saw a light on the corner of our property, shining in the darkness. I had the impression that something baring light was approaching our property. Then I saw cloven tongues of fire.

The speaker had spoken the words, "Lord Jesus." Whoever was approaching had light, and the tongues of fire was Biblical. I had been visited by the Lord before, and in those times my soul and spirit leaped at His approaching because His Presence was so near. When the Lord approaches, we know His Presence, even if we can not recognize His voice.

In this instance, I had no feelings at all as I watched this light walk closer to the corner of our property. I could not see who was bearing the light because our hedge was covering the view. I could only see a dim light coming closer and growing brighter and larger as it approached. I prayed, "Lord it has been a long time since You have visited me. I would love for You to come in a visitation! However, if this is not You, I bind the forces of the evil one and command you to leave right now in Jesus Name!" Immediately I saw an evil face and heard yucky things and understood the enemy was trying to deceive me with this visitation!

As a background to this, Wayne & I have always prayed a hedge of protection around our property lines. We have consistently told the enemy he can not cross our borders. It was interesting to me that the voice was saying I needed to make myself

available to receive the visitation, all the while approaching our property line. It was saying without admitting this, that it needed permission to come to me.

I was then taken up and wrestled with a baldheaded principality. He had a very powerful grip and we tumbled in circles and we wrestled. I bound and rebuked and called on the name of the Lord Jesus as we fought. Finally I came out of the vision and prayed and warred in my cognizant state.

When I fell back asleep and had a vivid vision, this time from the Lord:

It was starting to rain. The rain was not drops, but like falling mist that was glistening in the sun beams. I ran outside saying, "Oh this is the kind of rain that brings rainbows!" I searched for a rainbow and saw the tail end of the left hand side of a rainbow. Only instead of it being rainbow colors, it had three distinct color stripes that were red, white and blue. As I noticed the American colors, the view changed into a panoramic vision where I realized that the arch I had seen was just a small portion of the side of a huge, red, white & blue gigantic crossbow that literally filled the sky. It looked like the scroll thing } that is placed on a musical staff, only it was a giant bow. I heard the Lord say, "Do not fear. The captain of the Lord of hosts is with you."

One might ask why I had this wonderful vision back to back on the same night as the demonic visitation. The scripture says the following back to back: *"Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you." (James 4:7-8 NKJV)*

When Bobby Conner was given his Shepherd's Rod visitation 2000, he was told by the Lord to expect a visitation on the night of the Day of the Atonement. He had set aside all for seeking the Lord and had been preparing himself for this. When the time came, he saw a warrior-being fly into his window and look around the room for Bobby. When he saw Bobby, he immediately flew to him and Bobby felt his head become dizzy so Bobby cursed the thing in Jesus' Name and rebuked it. He watched it melt and shrivel onto the floor before his eyes. Then Bobby was excited and ready to get down to business! The point is that when the Lord sends us visitations, the enemy knows this and sends opposition along the way!

Paul opposed the evil spirit that was actually saying something good: *"These men are the servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to us the way of salvation." Paul discerned the spirit to be one of divination, and rebuked it. (Acts 16:16-18 NKJV)*

Remember some of the Greek definitions for discerning have negative connotations: dispute, oppose, hesitate, contend, differ, doubt, be partial, stagger, waver. These words also happen to describe the process the receiver of discernment goes through. The enemy is a liar and deceiver. He tries to camouflage his works by attempting to look good. When the receiver of discernment is confronted with something that appears good on the outside, but isn't, it becomes a stumbling block to his spirit. His flesh sees and hears that it is good, but his spirit is disputing, opposing, hesitating, contending, differing, doubting, staggering, and wavering against the outward appearance.

I had an occurrence where I heard a spirit say to me that there would be a break through in a meeting that I was attending that day. It was a good message, and even

said something about the Lord. But my spirit hesitated even though it was a good message and then suddenly I knew that this was a religious spirit. I rebuked it in Jesus' Name, and it gave me all kinds of clack, being very angry because the Lord had made it manifest. It was a lesson that not all things heard, even though they sound like the Lord's voice, are truly His voice. Christians need discernment, especially when it comes to the supernatural.

- The purpose of discernment in this context is to discern between good and evil spirits.

E. WE ARE TO DISCERN FRUITS

"Beware of false prophets who come disguised as harmless sheep, but are really wolves that will tear you apart. You can detect them by the way they act, just as you can identify a tree by its fruit. You don't pick grapes from thorn bushes, or figs from thistles. A healthy tree produces good fruit, and an unhealthy tree produces bad fruit." (Matt 7:15-18 NLT)

"Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?" (Matt 7:15-16 KJV)

In looking up these words I thought it most interesting that the words ravening and fruits had identical foundation words. One is speaking of the evil wolf and the other is speaking about good fruit. These identical words are: to seize, catch, pluck, pull, take by force, to take for oneself, to choose, to lift up, to take up or away, to raise, keep in suspense, to sail away, away with, bear, carry, lift up, loose, make to doubt, put away, remove, take.

It is also interesting that Jesus connected false prophets, wolves, thorns and thistles together in context. Ravening wolves have sharp teeth in which to seize, catch, pluck, pull, take by force, to take for oneself, etc. Thorns and thistles are sharp and can catch prey.

These are a very good description of false prophets! A wolf may dress like a sheep, but when it bares its mouth, there is no disguise. Likewise, we shall know a false prophet by his mouth. Is he biting and devouring others? Does he slander, gossip, criticize, judge? Does he seize the sheep for his own ambitious purposes? Does he pluck them for his own use?

Strong's Exhaustive Concordance Numbers to the Greek words:

Beware of false prophets [5578], which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening [727] wolves.
Ye shall know them by their fruits [2590].
Do men gather grapes [4718] of thorns [173], or figs [4810] of thistles [5176]?

False prophets

NT:5578

pseudoprophetes (psyoo-dop-rof-ay'-tace); from NT:5571 and NT:4396; a spurious prophet, i.e. pretended foreteller or religious impostor:

KJV - false prophet.

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NT:5571

pseudes (psyoo-dace'); from NT:5574; untrue, i.e. erroneous, deceitful, wicked:
KJV - false, liar.

Ravening

NT:727

harpax (har'-pax); from NT:726; rapacious:
KJV - extortion, ravening.

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NT:726

harpazo (har-pad'-zo); from a derivative of NT:138; to sieze (in various applications):
KJV - catch (away, up), pluck, pull, take (by force).

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NT:138

haireomai (hahee-reh'-om-ahee); probably akin to NT:142; to take for oneself, i.e. to prefer:
KJV - choose. Some of the forms are borrowed from a cognate hellomai (hel'-lom-ahee);
which is otherwise obsolete.

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NT:142

airo (ah'-ee-ro); a primary root; to lift up; by implication, to take up or away; figuratively, to raise (the voice),
keep in suspense (the mind), specially, to sail away (i.e. weigh anchor); by Hebraism [compare NT:5375]
to expiate sin: KJV - away with, bear (up), carry, lift up, loose, make to doubt, put away, remove, take (away, up).

Know

NT:1921

epiginosko (ep-ig-in-oce'-ko); from NT:1909 and NT:1097; to know upon some mark,
i.e. recognize; by implication, to become fully acquainted with, to acknowledge:
KJV - (ac-, have, take) know (-ledge, well), perceive.

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NT:1097

ginosko (ghin-oce'-ko); a prolonged form of a primary verb; to "know" (absolutely) in a great variety of applications and with many implications (as follow, with others not thus clearly expressed):

KJV - allow, be aware (of), feel, (have) know (-ledge), perceived, be resolved, can speak, be sure, understand.
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Fruit

NT:2590

karpos (kar-pos'); probably from the base of NT:726; fruit (as plucked), literally or figuratively:
KJV - fruit.

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NT:726

harpazo (har-pad'-zo); from a derivative of NT:138; to sieze (in various applications):
KJV - catch (away, up), pluck, pull, take (by force).

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NT:138

haireomai (hahee-reh'-om-ahee); probably akin to NT:142; to take for oneself, i.e. to prefer:
KJV - choose. Some of the forms are borrowed from a cognate hellomai (hel'-lom-ahee);
which is otherwise obsolete.

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NT:142

airo (ah'-ee-ro); a primary root; to lift up; by implication, to take up or away; figuratively,
to raise (the voice), keep in suspense (the mind), specially, to sail away (i.e. weigh anchor);
by Hebraism [compare NT:5375] to expiate sin:
KJV - away with, bear (up), carry, lift up, loose, make to doubt, put away, remove, take (away, up).

Thorns

NT:173

akantha (ak'-an-thah); probably from the same as NT:188; a thorn:
KJV - thorn.

Thistles

NT:5146

tribolos (trib'-ol-os); from NT:5140 and NT:956; properly, a crow-foot (three-pronged obstruction in war),
i.e. (by analogy) a thorny plant (caltrop):
KJV - brier, thistle.

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NT:956

belos (bel'-os); from NT:906; a missile, i.e. spear or arrow:
KJV - dart.

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NT:906

ballo (bal'-lo); a primary verb; to throw (in various applications, more or less violent or intense):
KJV - arise, cast (out), X dung, lay, lie, pour, put (up), send, strike, throw (down), thrust. Compare
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NT:4496.

Grapes

NT:4718

staphule (staf-oo-lay'); probably from the base of NT:4735; a cluster of grapes (as if intertwined):
KJV - grapes.

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NT:4735

stephanos (stef'-an-os); from an apparently primary stepho (to twine or wreathe); a chaplet (as a badge of royalty, a prize in the public games or a symbol of honor generally; but more conspicuous
and elaborate than the simple fillet, NT:1238), literally or figuratively:
KJV - crown.

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NT:1238

diadema (dee-ad'-ay-mah); from a compound of NT:1223 and NT:1210; a "diadem" (as bound about the head):
KJV - crown. Compare NT:4735.

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Figs

NT:4810

sukon (soo'-kon); apparently a primary word; a fig:
KJV - fig.

- The purpose of discernment in this context is to discern between good and evil spiritual fruit.

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II. DISCERNMENT IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

A. WHO USED THE GIFTS TO DISCERN?

1. Kings Discerned

The two predominate duties of the king were to judge the people and lead them in warfare against their enemies. The Israelites demanded that they be given a king patterned after other nations: "Nevertheless the people refused to obey the voice of Samuel; and they said, Nay; but we will have a king over us; That we also may be like all the nations; and that our king may judge [8199] us, and go out before us, and fight our battles." (1 Sam 8:19-20 KJV)

Similar to our Supreme Court, issues not settled by the elders were taken to the king to judge. Listen to Solomon’s prayer as he begs for discernment:

Therefore give to Your servant an understanding heart to judge Your people, that I may discern between good and evil. For who is able to judge this great people of Yours?" The speech pleased the LORD, that Solomon had asked this thing. Then God said to him: "Because you have asked this thing, and have not asked long life for yourself, nor have asked riches for yourself, nor have asked the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern justice, behold, I have done according to your words; see, I have given you a wise and understanding heart, so that there has not been anyone like you before you, nor shall any like you arise after you. (1 Kings 3:9-13 NKJV)

Strong's Exhaustive Concordance Numbers to the Greek words:

Therefore give to Your servant an understanding [8085] heart to judge Your people, that I may discern [995] between good and evil. For who is able to judge [8199] this great people of Yours?" The speech pleased the LORD, that Solomon had asked this thing. Then God said to him: "Because you have asked this thing, and have not asked long life for yourself, nor have asked riches for yourself, nor have asked the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding [995] to discern [8085] justice [4941], behold, I have done according to your words; see, I have given you a wise and understanding heart, so that there has not been anyone like you before you, nor shall any like you arise after you. (1 Kings 3:9-13 NKJV)

Notice that in the Lord's answer, the Hebrew words were switched or interchanged between understanding and discernment. Solomon asked for understanding [8085] to discern [995] between good and evil. The Lord quoted back to him the opposite: understanding [995] to discern [8085] justice.
This implies that the two words were very close to the same meaning.

Understanding

OT:8085

shama` (shaw-mah'); a primitive root; to hear intelligently (often with implication of attention, obedience, etc.; causatively, to tell, etc.):

KJV - X attentively, call (gather) together, X carefully, X certainly, consent, consider, be content, declare, X diligently, discern, give ear, (cause to, let, make to) hear (-ken, tell), X indeed, listen, make (a) noise, (be) obedient, obey, perceive, (make a) proclaim (-ation), publish, regard, report, shew (forth), (make a) sound, X surely, tell, understand, whosoever [heareth], witness.

Discern

OT:995

biyn (bene); a primitive root; to separate mentally (or distinguish), i.e.(generally) understand:

KJV - attend, consider, be cunning, diligently, direct, discern, eloquent, feel, inform, instruct, have intelligence, know, look well to, mark, perceive, be prudent, regard, (can) skill (-full), teach, think, (cause, make to, get, give, have) understand (-ing), view, (deal) wise (-ly, man).

Judge

OT:8199

shaphat (shaw-fat'); a primitive root; to judge, i.e. pronounce sentence (for or against); by implication, to vindicate or punish; by extenssion, to govern; passively, to litigate (literally or figuratively):

KJV - + avenge, X that condemn, contend, defend, execute (judgment), (be a) judge (-ment), X

needs, plead, reason, rule.

Judgment

OT:4941

mishpat (mish-pawt'); from OT:8199; properly, a verdict (favorable or unfavorable) pronounced judicially, especially a sentence or formal decree (human or [participant's] divine law, individual or collective), including the act, the place, the suit, the crime, and the penalty; abstractly, justice, including a participant's right or privilege (statutory or customary), or even a style:

KJV - + adversary, ceremony, charge, X crime, custom, desert, determination, discretion, disposing, due, fashion, form, to be judged, judgment, just (-ice, -ly), (manner of) law (-ful), manner, measure, (due) order, ordinance, right, sentence, usest, X worthy, + wrong.

God said Solomon needed discernment for:

a) matters that needed justice,

b) people that needed sentences passed for their unlawful behaviors. Solomon asked for discernment between good and evil.

- The purpose of discernment in this context was to discern between good and evil behavior and possibly motives.

2. Judges Discerned

In the process of Moses judging [8199] and settling problems, he was given advice from his father-in-saw to set up elders who helped. They were appointed as leaders over groups of people to judge between right and wrong and resolve the two with justice. And later, just as Solomon prayed for discernment to judge between right and wrong, the elders duties and needs were the same.

Ex 18:13-25 NLT

"The next day, Moses sat as usual to hear the people's complaints against each other. They were lined up in front of him from morning till evening. When Moses' father-in-law saw all that Moses was doing for the people, he said, "Why are you trying to do all this alone? The people have been standing here all day to get your help." Moses replied, "Well, the people come to me to seek God's guidance. When an argument arises, I am the one who settles the case. I inform the people of God's decisions and teach them his laws and instructions." "This is not good!" his father-in-law exclaimed. "You're going to wear yourself out--and the people, too. This job is too heavy a burden for you to handle all by yourself. Now let me give you a word of advice, and may God be with you. You should continue to be the people's representative before God, bringing him their questions to be decided. You should tell them God's decisions, teach them God's laws and instructions, and show them how to conduct their lives. But find some capable, honest men who fear God and hate bribes. Appoint them as judges over groups of one thousand, one hundred, fifty, and ten. These men can serve the people, resolving all the ordinary cases. Anything that is too important or too complicated can be brought to you. But they can take care of the smaller matters themselves. They will help you carry the load, making the task easier for you. If you follow this advice, and if God directs you to do so, then you will be able to endure the pressures, and all these people will go home in peace." Moses

listened to his father-in-law's advice and followed his suggestions."

And now scroll up to the above translations of these Old Testament words, understanding, discern, judge and judgment and compare them to the New Testament words for discern: "But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern [1253] both good and evil." (Heb 5:14 NKJV) They are very similar. They are connected to the judicial process.

NEW TESTAMENT:

Discern

NT:1253

diakrisis (dee-ak'-ree-sis); from NT:1252; judicial estimation:

KJV - discern (-ing), disputation.

NT:1252

diakrino (dee-ak-ree'-no); from NT:1223 and NT:2919; to separate thoroughly, i.e. (literally and reflexively) to withdraw from, or (by implication) oppose; figuratively, to discriminate (by implication, decide), or (reflexively) hesitate:

KJV - contend, make (to) differ (-ence), discern, doubt, judge, be partial, stagger, waver.

NT:2919

krino (kree'-no); properly, to distinguish, i.e. decide (mentally or judicially); by implication, to try, condemn, punish:

KJV - avenge, conclude, condemn, damn, decree, determine, esteem, judge, go to (sue at the) law, ordain, call in question, sentence to, think.

- The purpose of discernment in this context was to discern between good and evil behavior and possibly motives.

3. Prophets Discerned

Daniel, the seer was given discernment to understand visions and dreams. With this gift he was able to separate the various symbols and nuances the unravel the mysteries of God.

Dan 1:3-4, 17

And the king spake unto Ashpenaz the master of his eunuchs, that he should bring certain of the children of Israel, and of the king's seed, and of the princes; Children in whom was no blemish, but well favoured, and skilful in all wisdom, and cunning in knowledge, and ***understanding [995]*** *science, and such as had ability in them to stand in the king's palace, and whom they might teach the learning and the tongue of the Chaldeans… As for these four children, God gave them knowledge and skill in all learning and wisdom: and Daniel had* ***understanding [995]*** *in all visions and dreams.*

Strong's Exhaustive Concordance Numbers to the Greek words:

...and skilful in all wisdom, and cunning in knowledge, and understanding [995] science, and such as had ability in them to stand in the king's palace, and whom they might teach the learning
and the tongue of the Chaldeans… As for these four children, God gave them knowledge and skill in all learning and wisdom: and Daniel had understanding [995] in all visions and dreams.

Discern

OT:995

biyn (bene); a primitive root; to separate mentally (or distinguish), i.e.(generally) understand: KJV - attend, consider, be cunning, diligently, direct, discern, eloquent, feel, inform, instruct, have intelligence,
know, look well to, mark, perceive, be prudent, regard, (can) skill (-full), teach, think, (cause, make to, get, give, have) understand (-ing), view, (deal) wise (-ly, man).

He was given end time revelation of the antichrist and because of his discernment he was able to discern between the good and evil of those days to come:

"His army will take over the Temple fortress, polluting the sanctuary, putting a stop to the daily sacrifices, and setting up the sacrilegious object that causes desecration. He will flatter those who have violated the covenant and win them over to his side. But the people who know their God will be strong and will resist him. "Those who are wise will give instruction to many." (Dan 11:31-33 NLT)

- The purpose of discernment in this context is to discern between good and evil spiritual food.

4. Watchmen discerned

The watchmen looked for good and bad news and then announced such with their voices or their trumpets. In the Hebrew language they had 3 different words that described the various watchmen.

a) Sentinels on the city walls and in watchtowers. Because of the height of where they stood, they were able to see long distances and their voices traveled a great distance too. They rotated various hours keeping the watch. It was their duty to peer in the distance looking for any possible danger, or even good news coming from without the city walls. There also built watch towers in the middle of vineyards. These were placed to protect the harvest from being stolen or rampaged.

(2 Sam 18:25; 2 Kings 9:18; Ps 127:1; Isa 62:6, Isa 21:6, Isa 5:2; Matt 21:33; Mark 12:1)

Strong's Exhaustive Concordance Numbers to the Greek words:

Watchman #1

OT:6822

tsaphah (tsaw-faw'); a primitive root; properly, to lean forward, i.e. to peer into the distance; by implication, to observe, await:
KJV - behold, espy, look up (well), wait for, (keep the) watch (-man).

b) Watchmen that go about the city. These were perhaps like roving security guards whose duty it was to protect the innocent from unlawful behavior and answer the questions of wanderers.

(Song 3:3; 5:7)

Strong's Exhaustive Concordance Numbers to the Greek words:

Watchman #2

OT:8104

shamar (shaw-mar'); a primitive root; properly, to hedge about (as with thorns), i.e. guard; generally, to protect, attend to, etc.:
KJV - beward, be circumspect, take heed (toself), keep (-erself,), mark, look narrowly, observe, preserve, regard, reserve, save (self), sure, (that lay) wait (for), watch (-man).

c) Watchmen on a hill top. These were warriors who stood their ground to defend their turf, or to offensively take ground by secretly waiting to besiege territory.

(Jer 31:6, 4:16)

Strong's Exhaustive Concordance Numbers to the Greek words:

Watchman #3

OT:5341

natsar (naw-tsar'); a primitive root; to guard, in a good sense (to protect, maintain, obey, etc.) or a bad one (to conceal, etc.):

KJV - besieged, hidden thing, keep (-er, -ing), monument, observe, preserve (-r), subtil, watcher (-man).

Like the various duties of the watchmen in the cities, walls and towers, the Lord used this analogy to appoint spiritual watchmen to alarm of incoming danger. These spiritual watchmen brought messages from God showing people their sins, threatening judgment, calling for repentance and announcing pardon. Although scripture does not tell us that they had the gift of discern, the very nature of their calling required discernment. Even as the watchmen on the walls looked for good and bad news and then announced such, so it was for the spiritual watchmen. The spiritual watchmen needed to discern between the good and bad news and announce accordingly.

The prophet Ezekiel, was commissioned from the Lord to be a spiritual watchman. The people of that day were acquainted with the duties of a watchmen and so the allegory communicated well.

Ezek 33:1-9 NLT

"Once again a message came to me from the LORD: "Son of man, give your people this message: When I bring an army against a country, the people of that land choose a watchman. When the watchman sees the enemy coming, he blows the alarm to warn the people. Then if those who hear the alarm refuse to take action--well, it is their own fault if they die. They heard the warning but wouldn't listen, so the responsibility is theirs. If they had listened to the warning, they could have saved their lives. But if the watchman sees the enemy coming and doesn't sound the alarm to warn the people, he is responsible for their deaths. They will die in their sins, but I will hold the watchman accountable. "Now, son of man, I am making you a watchman for the people of Israel. Therefore, listen to what I say and warn them for me. If I announce that some wicked people are sure to die and you fail to warn them about changing their ways, then they will die in their sins, but I will hold you responsible for their deaths. But if you warn them to repent and they don't repent, they will die in their sins, but you will not be held responsible."

- The purpose of discernment in this context is to discern between good and evil news.

5. Priests Discerned

Priests

The priests were to approach God on behalf of man. They were like mediators standing in the breach of man's sins against God. They did this through identification as one person, on behalf of all the people. The sins of many (the people) became the sins of one (the priest) and the sins of one (the priest) became the sins of many (the people). Trespasses & consequences were passed both ways. (Ex 28:12, 19, Lev 4:3) The priests' function were to offer sacrifices for the atonement of these sins. (Heb 5:1; 8:3). They were also to teach the people the difference between the holy and the profane and to judge in matters of controversy between people.

Neh 8:7-9

*And the Levites, **caused [995]** the people to **understand [995]** the law: and the people stood in their place. So they read in the book in the law of God distinctly, and gave the sense, and **caused [995]** them to **understand [995]** the reading. And Nehemiah, which is the Tirshatha, and Ezra the priest the scribe, and the Levites that **taught [995]** the people, said unto all the people, This day is holy unto the LORD your God;*

Ezek 44:23-24 KJV

*And they shall teach my people the difference between the holy and profane, and cause them to **discern [3045]** between the unclean and the clean. And in controversy they shall stand in **judgment [4941]**; and they shall **judge [8199]** it according to my judgments: and they shall keep my laws and my statutes in all mine assemblies; and they shall hallow my sabbaths.*

Strong's Exhaustive Concordance Numbers to the Greek words:

Discern

OT:3045

yada` (yaw-dah'); a primitive root; to know (properly, to ascertain by seeing); used in a great variety of senses, figuratively, literally, euphemistically and inferentially (including observation, care, recognition; and causatively, instruction, designation, punishment, etc.) [as follow]:

KJV - acknowledge, acquaintance (-ted with), advise, answer, appoint, assuredly, be aware, [un-] awares, can [-not], certainly, comprehend, consider, X could they, cunning, declare, be diligent, (can, cause to) discern, discover, endued with, familiar friend, famous, feel, can have, be [ig-] norant, instruct, kinsfolk, kinsman, (cause to let, make) know, (come to give, have, take) knowledge, have [knowledge], (be, make, make to be, makeself) known, + be learned, + lie by man, mark, perceive, privy to, X prognosticator, regard, have respect, skilful, shew, can (man of) skill, be sure, of a surety, teach, (can) tell, understand, have [understanding], X will be, wist, wit, wot.

Judgment

OT:4941

mishpat (mish-pawt'); from OT:8199; properly, a verdict (favorable or unfavorable) pronounced judicially, especially a sentence or formal decree (human or [participant's] divine law, individual or collective), including the act, the place, the suit, the crime, and the penalty; abstractly, justice, including a participant's right or privilege (statutory or customary), or even a style:

KJV - + adversary, ceremony, charge, X crime, custom, desert, determination, discretion, disposing, due, fashion, form, to be judged, judgment, just (-ice, -ly), (manner of) law (-ful), manner, measure, (due) order, ordinance, right, sentence, usest, X worthy, + wrong.

Judge

OT:8199

shaphat (shaw-fat'); a primitive root; to judge, i.e. pronounce sentence (for or against); by implication, to vindicate or punish; by extenssion, to govern; passively, to litigate (literally or figuratively):

KJV - + avenge, X that condemn, contend, defend, execute (judgment), (be a) judge (-ment), X needs, plead, reason, rule

- The purpose of discernment in this context is to understand the laws about good and evil.

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III. DISCERNMENT IN THE LAST DAYS

I have attended many special meetings where special speakers have blown through the doors and out the other side again… and they have left their mark. Some of these marks have come through genuine role models that shine such love, compassion and humility that my heart has swooned and I am left feeling that Jesus Himself has held me in His arms. Unfortunately other marks have left great wrestlings indelibly printed upon my heart. And this has put me at the feet of Jesus agonizing and groaning with these wrestlings of discernment. Anyone with the gift of discernment understands EXACTLY what those wrestlings are because the scripture says, "Judge not, lest you be judged." It also says we are to discern between good and evil. (Matt 7:1, Heb 5:14) Anyone along the road of discernment eventually comes to the same stop sign and questions, "How do I discern and not judge?"
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THE PARADOX

In attending these various meetings I perceived ALL of them were supernatural meetings. What I mean is that I experienced the Lord's Presence, I saw gold teeth, gold dust, gold flakes, people falling under the power, people thrown under the power, people healed, people delivered, and people saved. I also saw supernatural & prophetic manifestations in the worshippers who were responding to His Presence. I love it when He shows up, when we experience His Presence and He displays awesome signs of His love! So by the end of some of these meetings, why was my heart genuinely aching with intercession?

This is what I discerned operating in a few speakers in some meetings:

1. Control, domination, and intimidation. These were a type of witchcraft which attempted to force or override people's free will. These characteristics were consistently used against God's flock in areas like:

a) giving of their substance.

b) being pushed into falling, etc.

c) condemning those who did not respond to words of knowledge, salvation, etc.

d) blaming those who did not receive healings or touches from the Lord.

e) stopping people's worship prematurely for personal agendas and self promotion.

2. Arrogance, boasting, strutting. Pride is the opposite of gracious humility and the Lord's servants are to SERVE and to lay down their lives. In certain ministers, I saw them strut their gifts like a circus parade in peacock's attire. Their tones of voice, mannerisms and messages were arrogant and boastful. I was deeply grieved over this.

3. Anger. Anger is a short fuse in someone who does not get their own way. God's love is patient and suffers long. Using anger to preach God's Word does not represent a shepherd's heart. A good shepherd does not whip and beat God's sheep. I heard chastisement and abuse over those who were sick, in poverty or broken.

I was agonizing in great quandary: "Lord Your people are so hungry for You, they are so sick, they are so desperate for You, they'll take anything offered them in Your Name." "And Jesus, when He came out, saw a great multitude and was moved with compassion for them, because they were like sheep not having a shepherd." (Mark 6:33-34 NKJV) Father, bring in Your godly role models. Please raise up a holy standard, that the people would know the difference between the holy and the profane!" I felt this was a serious wake up call to the times we are now in.

There is a new level of supernatural ministries being released and within these ministries, there are some who are or will become the false ones. All will preach Jesus, all will have signs and wonders, all will cast out demons. But not all will know the Lord. "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your

name, and done many wonders in Your name?' "And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!" (Matt 7:21-23 NKJV) If ever there was a need for discernment, it is now.

THE HARVEST

Bob Jones prophesied that before the great harvest of souls, the Lord is going to harvest US. The good and evil seeds within our lives are coming to fruition. These things that have been hidden for so long are coming to the surface and bearing fruit. This is going to become a great time of deliverance, where the Lord is going to open our eyes to the demonic realm and the fact that the body of Christ needs massive deliverance.

In several intercessions I have seen Leviathan, the great dragon. In one particular vision I saw him wrestle in the sky with some white eagles. (White eagles represent the prophetic.) It was his intention to make them fall to the ground. Then I saw him dive into a river that a school of chosen leaders were swimming in, and he began going after those leaders. I believe he is wanting to claim the harvest of his evil seeds and entice these leaders to choose the wrong path based upon seeds he has planted in their individual pasts.

When the turn of the century passed, it became very obvious to me that the Lord had changed courses in His river. Up until then, He was giving His loved ones a refreshment and renewing by His Presence. Now He is beginning to go deeper and bring hidden things to the surface, so that they be purged and healed. The change in the river is a definite mark in holiness.

Those who continue on the party path, and continue to indulge in carnal compromise will find themselves being given over to spirits of deception. They may find exactly what their hearts really want, and they may end up in a supernatural life, but it will be fed by Leviathan. They will be given over to counterfeit spirits, familiar spirits, spirits of delusion and doctrines of demons. I knew all of this when I attended these meetings. That is why I agonized so deeply.

A. THE NEED FOR DISCERNMENT

Beloved of the Lord, all that glitters is not gold and we are fast approaching some very serious years of counterfeit infiltration of signs and wonders. Jesus said, "For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect." (Matt 24:24 NKJV) The enemy’s long range intent of these deceptions is to eventually lead many into taking the mark of the beast and losing their soul. We wonder how that can happen to a seemingly educated population, but if we understand the subtlety of the deception, we will see how serious it is. It is for that means that I have compiled what the Lord has taught me in my journey of learning to discern good from evil. It is my prayer that this can truly make a difference in your years to come.

It is true that the greatest detectors of counterfeit bills have gone to school. And in spite of what one might think, actually their schooling is in handling real money. They have spent so many hundreds of thousands of hours touching the real thing, they are able to detect counterfeit money merely by its "feel." Even before their brain knows, they can feel the difference.

In my journey, after my calling and anointing, the Lord took me to "Alphabet School." He spent several years teaching me the language of how He speaks, how to discern it is Him speaking and how to understand what He is saying. The result of those wonderful years of sitting at His feet are compiled in my book, "101+ Ways God Speaks (And How to Hear Him). It was in those years that I spent countless hours touching the "real gold", so to speak.

However, I discovered in my pursuit of the Lord that I also had an enemy that stood in my way. In the process of much warfare against opposition, I learned valuable things that I feel important to pass on about the counterfeit. However it is my hope and intention that this file will be edifying and in the end you will know how to discern better, because you will know Him better. To begin I want to share with you several visions that reveal the plans of the enemy. If you are not aware that these plans are even now taking place, the exposure of these may be startling to you.

B. EXPOSING THE PLAN OF THE ENEMY

1. VISION OF THE ENEMY'S BATTLE PLAN

Given to Hollie Moody

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As I was praying on April 25th, 2000, I began to see in my mind a picture of the Lord. He was sitting on a rock and groups of people of all ages were gathered around Him. They all seemed to be laughing and talking together. I felt joy and peace and happiness as I viewed this scene. At times, the Lord would reach down and bring a child onto His lap. Or, He would reach out and a baby would be placed into His arms. He would then gaze down into the face of the baby and speak softly and tenderly to the baby. At other times, someone would draw close to His side, and He would place His arm around them, and draw them closer to Him.

An angel approached the Lord. The crowd before the Lord parted to allow the angel to draw near to the Lord. A silence fell over the laughing, joyous crowd as the angel stopped before the Lord and began to speak. From the way this angel was dressed, I sensed immediately that this was a warring angel. Being a warring angel and well aware of the coming battle plan of the enemy, he spoke with a strong sense of urgency and even perplexity in his voice. He was very concerned.

"There is work to be done," the angel said to the Lord. "Why do the people only sit here idly? These are dangerous times. The people should be doing battle in prayer and in the spirit. Instead, they sit here at Your feet, laughing. They are completely unaware of what is even now transpiring in the courts of hell." With great concern in his voice, the angel asked, "Why are You allowing this?"

[Before continuing the vision, as a side bar to that conversation, I had the impression the angel and the Lord had been in each other's presence numerous times and had many conversations with one another. What the angel said did not sound disrespectful or challenging at all. I could feel how he was feeling, and it was a genuine question in the midst of such perplexing opposition to come.]

The Lord gazed with love at the angel before Him. "Before I answer your questions,"

the Lord replied, "take this child of Mine and show them what is being planned by the enemy."

Both the angel and the Lord then turned their heads and stared at me. "This will be too much for her," the angel protested.

"Take her, and show her," the Lord repeated. (The angel bowed his head to the Lord, then turned towards me.)

I began to back nervously away as the angel approached me. "Where are you taking me?" I asked the angel.

"To the enemy's camp," the angel replied.

"Go with him," the Lord instructed me.

I felt very nervous and afraid, but allowed the angel to touch me. As soon as the angel touched me, we were in darkness. I felt fear engulf me.

"Fear not," the angel said to me, and instantly, the fear vanished.

The darkness seemed to dissipate, and I discovered that the angel and I were in what appeared to be a great court. A man was sitting on a large throne, and before him were gathered all types of creatures and men. (This "court" had the appearance of a cave. When I first viewed this scene, I felt stunned. I'm not sure why. It was like something "rebelled" in me at what I was seeing.)

"Who is that man on the throne?" I asked the angel. "And who are the creatures and men gathered before him?"

"That is the accuser of the brethren and his armies," the angel replied.

I then realized that I was in the presence of satan. (When the angel informed me that this man was satan, the fact that he was sitting on a throne amazed me. Later, when I prayed about this aspect of the vision, I felt that the Lord said that satan was trying to copy everything that was God's in heaven, for himself.)

Satan was speaking, and I heard him say, "This will be our strategy." He then got up from his throne and went to stand in front of a large map on the wall behind him. As I stared at the map, I became aware that it was a map of the entire world. (It is very hard to describe this "map." The map wasn't actually "pinned" or "hanging" on the wall, but it was in front of the wall. But, it was like I could see it from all angles. And also, I could see like "air waves," "wind currents," the tides of the seas, etc. I could also see the hemisphere around the world ~~ moons, stars, planets, etc. I really have no words or way to correctly put down the appearance of this "map.")

Satan began to divide the world into sections. Then, he called out some names. I saw the creatures and the men gathered before satan part, and very large and strong looking angelic beings approached satan. (I saw four of these mighty looking angelic beings.) I could sense the power of these beings, and sensed the evil and wickedness of that power. A hush had fallen over the crowd.

"Who are these beings?" I whispered to the angel who I was with.

The angel I was with seemed concerned. "They are satan's princes."

Satan began speaking again, and he was assigning sections of the world to each of these "princes."

"You will need your armies," satan said to them. "Choose whoever you will. All is at your disposal."

The large beings then began to pick and choose who would be in their particular army. (This was by no means "orderly." There was a great deal of arguing, bickering, etc.) When they were finished, they all turned back to satan and stared at him.

"Each prince will teach you our strategy to deceive and to destroy and to slay mankind," satan said. "Go with them."

The princes and their armies began to exit from the presence of satan. The angel and I began to follow one of the groups. They went into what appeared to be a school room. The prince went to the front of the room and began to instruct his army on how to deceive, destroy and slay the people in their particular section of the world that had been allocated to them. The angel and I then went to each "classroom." The same plans and strategies were being "taught" in each "classroom." (By the "same" plans, I don't mean each class was teaching the exact same thing. What I mean, is that each class was very thorough in what it was teaching, and on how to apply what was being taught.)

In some of the classrooms, they were studying political leaders. Their families, homes, lifestyles, etc., were being closely scrutinized. I felt very frightened and helpless, very overwhelmed, as I saw and heard how very thorough these "lessons," for lack of a better word, were. Nothing was left to chance. Every area of these political leaders' lives was being dissected and investigated and studied. Demons were being assigned on how to "attack" and influence and "control" each of these political leaders, their families, and even their friends and co-workers. Nothing was left to chance. Nothing was overlooked. The books they read, the radio stations they listened to, etc., everything, everything was being discussed. The enormity of all of this was absolutely mind boggling to me. This also occurred with the religious leaders.

It was the "religion" classes that frightened and shocked me the most. In these classes, religions of the nations were being studied and discussed. Even New Age and occult, wicca, tarot, etc., were being discussed. Buddhism, Hinduism, etc., were being discussed. The bibles and books and other writings for all of these religions were being read and studied. Each denomination of Christianity was being studied. The Bible being studied was the major source of information for these "lessons." This was truly horrifying and shocking to me that demons were reading and studying the Bible. And, it was all for the intent to twist what was written, and to seek ways to misinterpret, misrepresent, etc., it to Christians. The demons were discussing ways to "dilute" the Gospel. They were discussing ways to "incorporate" major beliefs from all the religions into one big acceptable "gospel for humankind."

Some of the demons in these religion classes were ordered to "infiltrate" churches, were being taken into actual churches, and were watching how the people prayed, worshipped, sang, etc. They were studying how messages were being delivered to

the congregations in numerous churches. They were studying the individuals who were used in the operation of the gifts of the Spirit. These individuals were followed around constantly by assigned demons, who watched and listened to everything these people said and did. The friends and family members of these individuals were also studied. The demons discussed ways to drive wedges, etc., between those people who were truly being used of God, and the people they went to church with, and even how to cause these peoples' own pastors and spiritual leaders to lose faith and confidence in these people who were used in the gifts of the Spirit. I felt so angry and frustrated and helpless as I saw and heard how this was to be accomplished, and how it had already been initiated in many, many congregations, and how it was largely succeeding.

Many of these "religious" demons, for lack of a better word, were being taught how to sing in churches, how to dance in the Spirit, how to pray and teach. I felt at times as if I were going to vomit as I witnessed many demons in these classrooms "practicing" how to worship the Lord, and how to be a Christian. Seeing a demon "dancing before the Lord" is so awful, and so sickening, that there are just no words to describe it adequately.

Some of these more "major" demons, could also work "signs, and wonders, and even miracles." Some of these demons, were also being taught how to be "Christ." This was being done, by actually studying the scriptures. Seeing some of these demons acting and speaking like Christ, shocked me speechless. Seeing them reading the Bible, was like an abomination to me.

In some of these classes, even UFO's and aliens were being discussed, and how to deceive people through these phenomenon. There were classrooms where food and dress and slang words — yes, slang words(!) were being studied. Crops were being studied and discussed. All of this was just so vast, it overwhelmed me.

Suddenly, the "classes" began to leave the rooms. The angel and I followed them. They congregated back in front of satan.

"Report," satan said. "How will we deceive, destroy and slay mankind?"

One of the princes came forward and began to outline their plans and strategies to satan.

"The people want signs and wonders and miracles from their religious leaders," the prince said. "We know that our enemy will be, and has begun already, to grant this unto his children. We will slip in with a counterfeit move, and deceive many. We have taught our armies how to mimic worship, praise, and looking and acting like a true believer. We will give unto our armies the ability to work signs, wonders and even miracles. But while all become focused upon these outward manifestations, others of us will begin behind the scenes to dilute the message of the gospel. We will accomplish this partly through speaking to the people about God's 'true' nature. We will allow the people to create God into what and who they want Him to be."

"Good," satan said. "Very good."

The prince began to speak once again. "When the people have created their own version of God, then, we will give them OUR god."

The crowd before satan began to cheer wildly.

"We must depart !" the angel urged me.

Suddenly, we were back before the Lord. He was still in the midst of His children; laughing with them, talking to them, touching them.

A silence fell over the group once again as the angel I was with once more approached the Lord. The angel reported to the Lord all we had heard and seen in hell.

The angel was very concerned and distressed, asking, "Why are You just sitting here with the people? Why haven't they been sent to begin battle? How will they be able to discern this coming great deception if they aren't even aware that one is coming?"

The Lord became grave. His face as He looked at His children was alight with His great love for them. I noticed tears in His eyes. Then, He turned His head and looked at the angel speaking with Him.

"My children will know the false, by knowing the true," the Lord said. "The longer they spend in My Presence, the more they will know My voice when they hear it. A voice of a stranger, they will not follow."

"But the enemy has those who have been taught to speak just as You do," the angel protested. "They sound almost just like You."

"Almost," the Lord replied gently. "Almost they sound like Me. Only My sheep who have lingered long in My Presence will know the voice of their true Shepherd. And this is why I spend so much time with My children. I spend as much time with them as they allow Me to. I know very well what the enemy is planning. My plans are plans of love and fellowship."

The angel and the Lord both fell silent as they gazed at the crowd before the Lord. "Love them well!" the angel replied.

"Yes, a battle is coming," the Lord sighed, and I saw tears in His eyes. "Great wickedness and persecution upon My children; My true children who know My voice. A time of wickedness and persecution such as has never been seen or experienced. Yet in the midst of it all, I will move, I will bless, I will speak, I will love. I will win. There are those of My children who sense much of this. They are the ones who will never stop praying and interceding; not even in times of seeming peace."

"What about me, Lord?" I asked.

The angel and the Lord looked at me. "Pray," the Lord replied. "Tell the prayer warriors to strengthen themselves and their brothers and sisters in the times of peace. I will be pouring out of My Spirit upon all nations and peoples. It will spread to even the most unlikely of places: television, magazines, newspapers, radios, even the Internet. And it will be here that the battle will truly begin, and the deception begin."

The Lord stood up.

"It is time?" the angel asked Him.

"It is time," the Lord replied.

Then, I was no longer with the Lord or the angel, but praying once again.

John 10 is in my mind; especially verse 14: "I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine."

2. LYING SIGNS

FROM ANNIE'S VISIONS, BK 2, PG 64

Annie Schisler

[Her books are sold at www.thequickenedword.com]

"After a couple of hours I was able to press through the opposition the Lord had appointed for me. Through that most glorious cross of tangible light He brought me, and there in the awesome presence of that great Cloud of glory-fire He sent forth His love, covering and enveloping me. How unlike that love is from anything known of His love here upon the earth! Covering and filling my whole inner being with that love He directed me to look.

There upon the earth I saw the souls of the sons of light to whom had been given a work of power to do. This work was a miracle to them and was a true sign of His working - a gift of power that had come from Him.

As soon as the sons of light began to work rejoicing in this manifestation of Jesus in their midst, the sons of darkness accompanied by the shadows of the enemy forces of evil also began to work miracles and do wonderful things. The signs that they brought were even greater and more spectacular than those of the sons of light - Deriding the lesser signs and wonders that the others had worked, the evil ones mocked and scoffed with great delight. Not only did the false lying signs and wonders show greater power but also they were far more numerous. These false wonders deceived many, and some, who at first had looked to the true works of God, now turned away after these greater, yet false signs. When the Lord would do one work as a sign, then the enemy would work many even greater wonders.

He said to me, "I have given this power unto the enemy, yet he shall not deceive My own unto whom I shall give sufficient light so that they shall be able to discern and know which are the true works of My hand. I shall do this to refine and purify them. They will have to choose which wonders are right and which are of Me. Those who truly desire to follow Me shall correctly define things as they are and shall not be deceived or led astray. But those who are not truly following after Me and do not desire Me shall choose the way of the greater and more numerous wonders and false signs. Deceiving themselves, these shall follow after the lying workers and miracles because they seek not to follow Me and are deceived in themselves."

As I watched, I saw great numbers follow after the greater, yet false signs and miracles, being greatly deceived. (Yet His own were not deceived.) Following after the false wonders they did not return to those sons of light in whom He was present nor look any more at those apparently lesser miracles that He was working in their

midst. Those who followed the lying signs became ensnared and at last were destroyed.

No longer were those who accepted the false wonders present among the sons of light who remained alone with Him."

3. THE DISGUISED ONES

ANNIE'S VISIONS, BK 2, PG 32

Annie Schisler

[Her books are sold at www.thequickenedword.com]

"Because I was in considerable pain and discomfort I found it difficult to rise above it to meet with Him. Nevertheless, He enabled me to push it all aside and draw near unto Him. Welcoming me from out of the glory of His Cloud, He showed me far below upon the earth a great road. In that road was Jesus, not in the manifestation of His great Cloud of fire, but much reduced in size, His glory being greatly hidden. Following Him in that road were a large number of people.

Suddenly I saw a dark, deformed monster of evil. As I watched, I saw this huge, horrible being put on a mask that completely covered its hideous features, making it appear nice and good. Then it took white clothing of a certain imitation shining which did not look like the light that shines in celestial regions, but appeared more like a much inferior manmade light of some kind. Gathering together many smaller but equally disguised evil beings, this evil monster and his wicked consorts mixed with the multitude of those who were following Jesus. Scattering out among them, they began to deceive and to persuade some to follow them out onto a side road and to leave the way in which they were walking.

With some they were successful. Others paid them no attention whatsoever, but went right on following the Lord. After a while - for this seemed to be a long process and not a short incident - in which a large number of His own had been deceived and drawn aside from the way, He turned and beckoned unto them, not allowing them to be completely drawn away. When He beckoned to them, I saw that a light went out from Him and illumined them. They immediately comprehended the truth about the disguised ones. Although the evil ones were not stripped of their masks or customs of false light, His own were given to see through all their disguise and deceit.

To a number of those who were not His own ones that light did not come, and they went right on following the evil ones into the ways of deceit and destruction. They remained blind and deceived, being greatly attracted to those evil ones who appeared to be good.

Jesus spoke to me, saying, "I will not let My own ones be deceived nor led astray." He opened their eyes in such a manner that they could see right through those disguises and know the hideous evil that was underneath the mask. As I watched I saw that He destroyed those deceiving ones and those who allowed themselves to be deceived by them."

4. THE FALSE LIGHT

ANNIE'S VISIONS, BK 4, PG 49

Annie Schisler

[Her books are sold at www.thequickenedword.com]

"After being caught up into the heavenly spheres, I saw a dazzling and powerful light full of strange forces being directed by some unseen will and flowing out to some who were among His own ones. God told me that this wasn't His light and that He hadn't sent it; it was a light sent forth to deceive those who were not of the elect.

Although this light was already operating and trying to deceive, it could in no way deceive His own ones, for it was utterly different from the light that comes from God. They rejected it because it was lifeless and lacked those high qualities of glory, purity, holiness, and radiant life of the light of God. Although this other light did not attract nor deceive His own ones, nevertheless, many of those who were among His own ones were deceived and did receive the false light."

5. THE EVIL MAN REIGNING

ANNIE'S VISIONS, BK 2, PG 76

Annie Schisler

[Her books are sold at www.thequickenedword.com]

After a difficult battle I was enabled to come through the door of the cross of light into the presence of that mighty Cloud of highest glory and fire. After bathing me in His love for a while and speaking away my fears and renewing my whole being in Him, He told me to look.

There upon the earth was a terrible throne upon which a great man of evil was reigning as if he were God. He was frightening in his power and prepotency. His kingdom grew until He had brought all the people of the earth under his dominion. Terrible in evil and great in power, he took upon himself all the kingdoms of the world, usurping the place of God.

I saw that not only was he taking unto himself all power over all the people of the earth, but also over the sons of light who were greatly hindered under his reign. They were so blockaded that they were unable to reach unto God. This amazed me greatly. So terrible was the power of this great one that the sons of light were apparently overcome. Many who had appeared to belong to Jesus left the ranks of the sons of light and were captivated by this great king of evil who took full power over them.

Then I heard the Lord speak to me from out of His great Cloud: "All those who have accepted the reign and kingship of this reigning one shall see his destruction." After this He reached forth and took that great one of evil in His control and wrung him out, squeezing him as one would wring a garment dry. When He had wrung from him all of his power and strength, He destroyed him without mercy.

Furthermore, I saw that all those who had belonged unto the kingdom of the evil one and had accepted his evil reign watched the destruction of this man of great evil. But

even this great destruction did not cause them to repent, turn back to God, or come to their rightful King. Rather, I saw that they persisted continually in their same ways until at last they, too, were destroyed in the same way. The sons of light, now set free, were no longer persecuted or hindered.

6. SPYING ON THE ENEMY'S WAR ROOM

A Word to intercessors through Rance Ramsey, Port Lavaca, TX

Rance's email: ranceramsey@usa.net

April 07, 2000

Our intercessors began to receive direction from the Lord this week through dreams and visions that I feel is a directive for intercessors worldwide. One lady saw a black book that was opened to her and she understood that it was the enemy's play book. She had full access to the book and could go through it as she willed. Another lady had a dream in which she was instructed to plant listening devices into the enemy's camp.

We began to seek the Lord on what He was saying and what we were to do with this information. He instructed us to symbolically and prophetically go into the enemy's war room and plant listening, seeing and other spying devices. The Lord told us that the room was empty and led us inside. The atmosphere was very calm. We were able to do what He told us to do and get out again simply and without danger or complication.

We felt like the Lord was saying that just as Gen. Schwartzkopf of Desert Storm knew the strategies of the enemy, their placement, their weapons, their strongholds, etc., it is necessary that we know the same things about our enemy. As we were obedient to symbolically place the devices into the enemy's war room, we understood that the Lord would begin to show us the very plans and strategies of the enemy against His Bride, the church.

Intercessors will begin to strategically see by the Spirit with pinpoint accuracy the exact plans of the enemy against the move of God, the revelation of God, against youth and old alike, against the local church and against the church universal. The plans will be

revealed in a depth of detail that He has never released before. As the plans are revealed to the intercessors, the church is going to be enabled to launch an offensive against the enemy and take new ground and territory with speed and accuracy. New understanding of the structure, rank and formation of the kingdom of darkness will be laid out for us with names, maps, etc. Great advancements for the Kingdom of God are eminent.

I feel like the Lord is saying that intercessors should "plant listening devices" in the enemies camp and be ready when his "play book of schemes" are revealed. The Lord is going to give us keys to avert the enemy's attempts at personal, corporate, national, and worldwide destruction.

Prayerfully,

Rance Ramsey

Cornerstone Assembly

Port Lavaca, TX

C. PITFALLS OF DISCERNMENT

1. Judging

People with the gift of discernment have an inward sense, an instinctive knowing that is sometimes without words. It is a common quandary that when these feelings rise to the surface and become "opinions", so does guilt. This is because Jesus told us not to judge. Many with the gift of discernment become frustrated, confused, condemned, ashamed, and even self loathing simply because they are not able to understand how to use their gift nor understand what it is for!

Jesus said, "Judge not, that you be not judged. For with what judgment you judge, you will be judged; and with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you." (Matt 7:1-2 NKJV)

Judging is clearly defined in the Bible as wrong behavior and Jesus said that whatever portion we judge others we will receive the same portion of judgment back. It is like a boomerang principal; a counter punch. If we punch a punching bag it comes back to us the same measure of force we sent it!

Strong's Exhaustive Concordance Numbers to the Greek words:

Judge [2919] not, that you be not judged [2919]. For with what judgment [2917] you judge [2919],
you will be judged [2919]; and with the measure [3358] you use, it will be measured back to you."
(Matt 7:1-2 NKJV)

Judge

NT:2919

krino (kree'-no); properly, to distinguish, i.e. decide (mentally or judicially); by implication, to try, condemn, punish:
KJV - avenge, conclude, condemn, damn, decree, determine, esteem, judge, go to (sue at the) law,

ordain, call in question, sentence to, think.

Judgment

NT:2917

krima (kree'-mah); from NT:2919; a decision (the function or the effect, for or against ["crime"]):
KJV - avenge, condemned, condemnation, damnation, + go to law, judgment.

Measure

NT:3358

metron (met'-ron); an apparently primary word; a measure ("metre"), literally or figuratively;

by implication a limited portion (degree):
KJV - measure.

Mete

NT:3354

metreo (met-reh'-o); from NT:3358; to measure (i.e. ascertain in size by a fixed standard);
by implication to admeasure (i.e. allot by rule):
KJV - figuratively, to estimate:

2. Condemning

"Judge not, and you shall not be judged. Condemn not, and you shall not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you."

(Luke 6:37-39 NKJV)

In this second scripture Jesus said that the same counter punch principal works for forgiving and giving. In other words, if we sow judgment, we will reap judgment, if we sow forgiveness, we will reap forgiveness. Notice that in these two scriptures, they are both in context to the same Greek word measure. The harvest of judgment and forgiveness in our own lives depends on how much we sow the same in others.

Strong's Exhaustive Concordance Numbers to the Greek words:

Judge [2919] not, and you shall not be judged [2919]. Condemn [2613] not, and you shall not be condemned [2613]. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure [3358] that you use, it will be measured back to you."

Judge

NT:2919

krino (kree'-no); properly, to distinguish, i.e. decide (mentally or judicially); by implication, to try, condemn, punish:
KJV - avenge, conclude, condemn, damn, decree, determine, esteem, judge, go to (sue at the) law, ordain,
call in question, sentence to, think.

Condemn

NT:2613

katadikazo (kat-ad-ik-ad'-zo); from NT:2596 and a derivative of NT:1349; to adjudge against, i.e. pronounce guilty:
KJV - condemn.

I witnessed an excellent example of condemning and judging.

Condemn: I heard a lady say that her Mother had cancer and the Lord told her it was because the mother had not learned to forgive. Whether this was accurate or not, she

had pronounced her mother guilty of unforgiveness.

Judgment: Then she said that her sister had breast cancer and had been clean for 6 years. But the Lord told her that the cancer would come back if she did not learn to forgive. Then she said that the Lord told her that she too would get cancer if she did not forgive. These were statements of judgment or consequences for the unforgiveness.

3. The dilemma of discernment

The dilemma: The word judge in the Greek is the same root word for discern! To unravel this, let us consider that in the above scripture Jesus said not to judge and not to condemn. Even though they are similar, these are 2 different steps within the judicial process. They are two different Greek words. To condemn means to declare someone guilty of misconduct. To judge means to state the reward for such behavior.

If we were to add discernment in this judicial court case, to discern would be equivalent to hearing the case, all the while weighing the scales with evidence. Discernment would be separating the facts, both and good and the bad and distributing them into 2 piles. On one side of the scale would be the bad and on the other would be the good. In logical order, this discernment process would proceed the condemning, then judgment.

Notice again the following scripture and its word for discern. This word starts with #1253, saying that word is from #1252, and that #1252 is from #1223 and 2919. The history of this word displays the same process. It says to discern means to dispute or argue. And that leads to separating the evidence and separating the facts leads to the final judgment:

But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern [1253] both good and evil.

Strong's Exhaustive Concordance Numbers to the Greek words:

Discern

NT:1253

diakrisis (dee-ak'-ree-sis); from NT:1252; judicial estimation:
KJV - discern (-ing), disputation.

NT:1252

diakrino (dee-ak-ree'-no); from NT:1223 and NT:2919; to separate thoroughly, i.e. (literally and reflexively)
to withdraw from, or (by implication) oppose; figuratively, to discriminate (by implication, decide), or (reflexively) hesitate:
KJV - contend, make (to) differ (-ence), discern, doubt, judge, be partial, stagger, waver.

NT:2919

krino (kree'-no); properly, to distinguish, i.e. decide (mentally or judicially); by implication, to try, condemn, punish:
KJV - avenge, conclude, condemn, damn, decree, determine, esteem, judge, go to (sue at the) law,

ordain, call in question, sentence to, think.

So we see that the very process of discernment, which is what we are required to do in separating good from evil, easily leads to judgment! Help Lord! Can this be resolved? Yes, keep reading.

4. A watchman's downward spiral

It is natural for a prophetic person to see what is wrong, because by the very nature of their calling, they are watchmen. In the Old Testament, the watchmen stood on the towers and scanned in the distance for good and bad news. They called out what they saw. If they saw something of concern coming, they gave warnings. These warnings were for the protection and welfare of all those involved, not for their destruction.

It is easy for a watchman to go downward into a descending spiral when they discern evil. They can become:

1. Critical
2. Faultfinding
3. Judgmental
4. Pessimistic
5. Skeptical
6. Angry
7. Bitter
8. Resentful
9. Depressed
10. Hopeless
11. Apathetic

There are various degrees of all of these. On the lower end of the scale is a critical nature. This is the personality of a faultfinding person. The person tends to have a pessimistic attitude about most anything, and even if you say how pretty the sky is, he will note the cloud in the distance. It is as though these kinds of people wear tinted glasses and everything they see is viewed through a negative lens. Because of this, they can become angry, bitter or resentful, or depressed, hopeless and apathetic.

I have seen these kinds of prophets take a downward spiral and instead of pleading the case to the Lord, they plead it to people. They complain and murmur, and when that doesn't relieve them, they backbite and slander, eventually they assassinate the character of the Lord's anointed or the Lord's work and they end up passing judgment. It gets worse, they prophesy judgment as a deserving penalty for what they "discern" and it gets worse, for they will eventually pray the judgment come to pass.

Jesus rebuked his disciples for this same kind of spirit. In this scripture the disciples had come up with a sentence or judgment for their enemies: *"And when His disciples James and John saw this, they said, "Lord, do You want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them, just as Elijah did?" But He turned and rebuked them, and said, "You do not know what manner of spirit you are of. For the Son of Man did not come to destroy men's lives but to save them." And they went to another village." (Luke 9:53-56 NKJV)*

"As surely as I live, says the Sovereign LORD, I take no pleasure in the death of wicked people. I only want them to turn from their wicked ways so they can live. Turn! Turn from your wickedness, O people of Israel! Why should you die?" (Ezek 33:10-11 NLT)

If one has either a critical nature, a pessimistic attitude, or even a critical sprit, and does not forgive they become judgmental. Judging is clearly defined in the Bible as wrong behavior and Jesus said that whatever portion we judge others we will receive the same portion of judgment back. It is like a boomerang principal; a counter punch. If we punch a punching bag it comes back!

Judging is making a decision about a person and what he deserves. The word judge (#2919) in the Greek means to distinguish, decide, try, condemn, punish. The word is translated as avenge, conclude, condemn, damn, decree, determine, esteem, judge, go to (sue at the) law, ordain, call in question, sentence to, think.

When one judges a person, they make a decision about that person and their deserving punishment. When one discerns, they make a decision about the person's behavior and intercedes so the person does not get what the behavior deserves. In other words, judging is making a decision about people, discerning is making a decision about behavior. Jane Doe is an evil criminal and needs to be in jail verses Jane Doe is making sinful decisions and needs the Lord's deliverance. The response to a judgment is a sentence of punishment. The response to discernment is to plead for good.

It is natural for a prophetic person to see what is wrong, because by the very nature of their calling, they are watchmen. In the Old Testament, the watchmen stood on the towers and scanned in the distance for good and bad news. They called out what they saw. If they saw something of concern coming, they gave warnings. These warnings were for the protection and welfare of all those involved, not for their destruction.

When the Lord gives someone discernment, it comes with the responsibility to pray and cover what they discern. Love covers a multitude of sins. *"Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. Love does not demand its own way. Love is not irritable, and it keeps no record of when it has been wronged. It is never glad about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance." (1 Cor 13:4-7 NLT)*

God is a just God. He is perfectly holy, perfectly righteous and holds a perfect standard to measure us and our behavior by. We simply can not measure up to His standard. However, He is also perfect love. And in His love, He sent His beloved Son to stand in our place and die for us, so that we could come to Him. In all cases, love triumphs, love balances the scale of justice. The bottom line of deciding whether or not we are judging or discerning is to ask ourselves, "Is my response to this person or situation loving?"

D. OVERCOMING THE PITFALLS OF DICERNMENT

1. ARTICLE ON OVERCOMING JUDGMENT (From the Quickened Word newsletter)

LABELS, LABELS AND MORE LABELS

A revelatory teaching from Sandy Warner

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Website: www.thequickenedword.com

11/14/00

Hi Loved Ones,

I had an interesting prophetic thing happen a few days ago. He had already been talking to me about "opinions" before this happened. It happened on a day where there was a war going on in my mind about a particular person. I had been criticized and felt judged and so I forgave, I released, I prayed, and I still had this war going on inside my thoughts. It became really ridiculous and I knew that this was a spiritual thing of fighting spirits, certainly not the person. Even after I understood this, I went right back to the mind war. I thought, "Whatever I do, it is not good enough."

At that moment in history I was reaching for an envelope on a shelf and bumped into a plastic box the size of a very large drawer. The box turned upside down and hundreds and hundreds of labels fell out on the floor in a huge mass. I stood there staring at the contents of this box with my mouth hanging open. I saw little round garage sale stickers, filing labels, sticky notes, diskette labels, removable labels, Xstampers and ink, filing labels and plastic inserts to hold the labels. The tally continued, and with my mouth still hanging opened, I realized what I had just thought was an opinion that was exactly like a label. It was like a word curse upon myself in the form of a self applied label.

THREE STORIES

Years ago as a newly born, naïve, prophetic child the Lord sent me to a person of authority, who formed an opinion about me. He labeled me, eventually judged, and finally rejected me. From the beginning, I was instantly hurled into a spiritual battle of such magnitude, that I did not know what hit me. It was my training ground and my teeth cutting days. All prophetic people go through this training, and I learned a lot of lessons back then. One thing I learned was that since this person was very anointed, he carried a lot of authority in the spiritual realm and his opinions of me were actually loosing evil spirits upon me. I knew this was true, but could not find the scripture to support this revelation. Through the years I saw this happening to others when they were judged, and I kept asking the Lord to send me confirmation. During the past couple of weeks, He finally answered that prayer. Before I share with you the scriptural insights, I want to share 2 more stories.

A couple of years ago, I was listening to a father speak negatively about his daughter. He was upset about a decision she had made and he brought several things into the conversation about her past mistakes. Feeling awkward about correcting an elder, I listened and by the time I was finally able to disconnect myself from the conversation, I felt slimed. I had compassion for the gal whose father had spoken like this about her and I prayed for her. That very day, a few hours later, I ran into her and she told me that she had a particularly bad day of bombarding negative

thoughts. During a lengthy car drive that morning, she suddenly started thinking about all her past mistakes. Her mind was a battle ground of trying to overcome condemnation, guilt, shame and also trying to defend herself to no one but her own miserable thoughts. She said it was such a war that she had to finally yell at the devil to stop bugging her and she started speaking the Word of God over her past. I was so amazed at her volunteer confession, I asked her what time this happened. It was the exact time that her father was speaking these things about her. Then I knew beyond a shadow of a doubt that people's opinions, conversations and judgments release evil tormenting spirits to others.

A few days ago I was listening to a sermon on a cassette tape. It was the story of a traveling speaker who discovered that sometimes after he spoke at various churches, he would have these terrible wars going on in his mind. He would wake up and start thinking, "Maybe I should have said, this, or that.. I didn't quite cover that right, I meant to say this… etc, etc!" It was becoming quite an issue of unrest with him. He realized it was a spiritual battle and started praying over it.

After one battle, he called one of the churches where he had just ministered, and mentioned to the pastor that he had not heard from him, and wondered if everything was all right. The pastor told him that they had not received what he had shared. When he got off the phone, he realized his thoughts of condemnation were bombarding him via evil spirits sent to him from the congregations' inability to receive what he had shared. He started declaring out loud to the spirit world, "God's Word will not return void!" A couple of days later, he called the pastor back, and the pastor said everything had changed and they had received him. In another church he had no bombarding thoughts, and so he wondered why! He called, and the pastor and congregation were very pleased with what he had shared. This was a real revelation to him of why he was having such unrest and this bombardment of 'thought wars'.

As I listened to this tape, I knew the Lord was speaking to my prayer of so long ago. Here a preacher had also discovered that people's opinions can loose curses in the form of evil spirits upon us. At the same time, I was working on a deliverance file for ministry teams (eventually to be placed at my site) and I was doing a study on curses. The scriptures came alive to me and gratefully I finally found the scripture connections to back up this revelation. I hope that I can relay this to you in a way that you can see it too. It has really helped me and given me some good tools in overcoming what I call 'word curses' that are sent to us from opinions of others and even ourselves.

THE SCRIPTURAL REVELATION

Scripture One: "Like a flitting sparrow, like a flying swallow, so a curse without cause shall not alight." (Prov 26:2 NKJV)

King James says, "As the bird by wandering, as the swallow by flying, so the curse causeless shall not come." The word causeless in the Hebrew means devoid of cost, devoid of reason or devoid of advantage.

What this means is that a curse will not land upon us unless we give it a reason to stay. Most often, that reason is our own sin or our own unforgiveness. The scriptures tell us that all of have sinned and deserve all the curses for disobedience to the laws of God, but that Jesus became a curse for us and paid the cost so that we could be

set free of those curses. (Deut 28:15, Matt 18:34, Rom 3:23, Gal 3:13-14)

Please note that in Matt 18:34 it is a PROMISE that if we do not forgive, we are delivered to our tormentors! "And his lord was wroth, and delivered him to the TORMENTORS, till he should PAY all that was due unto him. So likewise shall my heavenly Father do also unto you, if ye from your hearts forgive not every one his brother their trespasses."

Scripture two: *"But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you…" (Matt 5:44-45 NKJV)*

"Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse…. Repay no one evil for evil… Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord. Therefore "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; If he is thirsty, give him a drink; For in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good." (Rom 12:14,17,19 -21 NKJV)

This is a command to bless when we have been cursed and a promise that this "subdues, conquers, prevails and gains the victory" over evil. (Greek for the word overcome.) This very promise took place in Job's life.

"And the LORD turned the captivity of Job, when he prayed for his friends: also the LORD gave Job twice as much as he had before." (Job 42:10 KJV)

Scripture three: *"When you are invited into someone's home, give it your blessing. If it turns out to be a worthy home, let your blessing stand; if it is not, take back the blessing. If a village doesn't welcome you or listen to you, shake off the dust of that place from your feet as you leave." (Matt 10:12-15 NLT)*

King James says "And if the house be worthy, let your peace come upon it: but if it be not worthy, let your peace return to you." (Matt 10:13 KJV) The word return means to revert, come again, to convert. When we give something away, we receive it back again.

To me, this verse implies that when we give a blessing to someone unworthy, it returns to us and we get blessed. Therefore, when we bless our enemies and those who curse us, it comes back to us as a blessing. I can see that this is similar to the concept that a curse will not stay without reason for it to stay. In the same way, a blessing will not stay without reason for it to stay. It comes back to us and we receive the benefit.

In pondering this verse that Jesus said first bless, then shake the dust off your feet, I wondered how these connected together since they seemed opposed to one another and implied some kind of a judgment against the unworthy enemies. I knew that couldn't be correct since we are commanded not to judge, but to forgive. (Matt 7:2, Luke 6:37) And that was the moment of revelation.

Scripture four: *"So it [the demon] returns and finds that its former home is all swept and clean. Then the spirit finds seven other spirits more evil than itself, and they all enter the person and live there. And so that person is worse off than before." (Luke*

11:25-26 NLT)

Back then they did not have carpeted floors. When the people literally swept their homes, they swept dirt and dust carried in on their feet. In this scripture Jesus was comparing a swept home with being clean of evil spirits. I suddenly understood that when He told the disciples to shake the dust off their feet from the towns that did not receive their testimony, that He was saying shake the demonic dust, dirt, grime, filth off their feet as they left. So in context, we bless the people who do not receive us, then shake off the evil spirits that are biting our heals on the way out the door!

THE COUNTER PUNCH

I believe this concept works the opposite as well. If we judge and do not forgive those who judge or label us, it looses evil spirits upon them. These evil spirits keep them from repentance and make them worse than they were before. Therefore we have every reason to forgive, pray for, and even bless those who judge us, for in doing so they may change their heart.

SUMMARY

Getting back to the box of dumped labels, God wants to dump our boxes out, and help us get rid of all the labels from our past that are still hindering us today. Labels are like being confined in a box and they restrict our freedom to come and go. In that box we fight tormentors in the form of our thoughts and unrest. Labels come upon us from other peoples opinions, their criticism, their conversations, and their judgments of us. They also come upon us when we label ourselves. These opinions become word curses and evil spirits are sent through these channels to harass us. These curses are also allowed to harass us when we sin and when we do not forgive.

In summary, how to be overcomers of evil labels:

1) We confess our sins so that He will cleanse us. (1 John 1:9)

2) We forgive so we will not be tormented. (Matt 18:34)

3) We pray for our accusers so that our captivity will be turned. (Job 42:10)

4) We bless those who curse us, so that we may receive the blessing and not the curse. (Matt 10:12-15)

5) We shake the demonic spirits off of ourselves so our walk is free and unhindered. (Matt 10:12-15)

May the Lord help us to overcome evil with good in Jesus Name.

Lovingly,

Sandy

2. STANDING IN THE GAP

There is no higher honor in life than to be called the friend of God. When we are God’s friend, we stay close to Him and care about what He cares about. He shares

with us His secrets. Why was Moses such a friend of God? (Ex 33:11) Was it because he was talented, or good at what he did? No it was because he had God's heart and was willing to nurture and carry a multitude of people out of bondage. He loved God so much and he loved the rebellious people so much that he was willing to stand between the two and plead their case. This touched the Lord's heart like no other. Moses was willing to lay down his life for them. "But now, please forgive their sin--and if not, then blot me out of the record you are keeping." (Ex 32:32 NLT) Moses was a great intercessor.

When I consider Moses, the great intercessor and friend of God, I also ponder why did God let him know when the people were in serious trouble and ready to be annihilated? Why did God forewarn Moses, instead of just killing everyone right on the spot? He told Moses because He wanted someone to stand in the gap and give Him a reason not to destroy them!

The following scripture is the heart of our God: "So I sought for a man among them who would make a wall, and stand in the gap before Me on behalf of the land, that I should not destroy it; but I found no one. Therefore I have poured out My indignation on them; I have consumed them with the fire of My wrath; and I have recompensed their deeds on their own heads," says the Lord GOD." (Ezek 22:30-31 NKJV)

I once heard a prophetic intercessor say something that I have never forgotten. He said, "If a prophet sees what is wrong with the church and does not cover it in prayer, that prophet WILL become critical." This is the downfall of having discernment. It is also the key out of the downward spiral. The purpose of being told what is wrong is so that we will intercede. The Lord doesn't impart to us all the problems so that we will carry it on our own shoulders, so that we will be over burdened and turn inwardly critical and bitter, so that we will assassinate His people. He shows us what is wrong so that we will learn the secrets of intercession.

An intercessor always stands for mercy and forgiveness. He looks beyond the faults and see the needs of the people. An intercessor pleads their case and asks the Almighty Judge to consider forgiveness and mercy, over destruction.

Jesus gave the answer to this dilemma in the same scripture. He said instead of judging and condemning, replace it with forgiveness and giving.

"Judge not, and you shall not be judged. Condemn not, and you shall not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you."

(Luke 6:37-39 NKJV)

In these two scriptures, they are both in context to the same Greek word "measure". The harvest of judgment and forgiveness in our own lives depends on how much we sow the same in others.

3. TWO SCENES IN THE THRONE ROOM

In these last days there are two opposing scenes going on in the throne room. On one side, Jesus is our high priest, always making intercession for us. On the other

side, satan is bringing the sins of God's people before the Righteous Judge and wanting permission to destroy them. He accuses day and night, and constantly brings the faults, sins, evil natures, wrong motives, choices and behaviors to Him. I am sure that God does not enjoy listening to satan rant and rave about our sins. And I am sure that it must hurt the Lord very much when He searches our behavior and motives for any shred of reason NOT to agree with satan.

However it must be much worse, when satan uses US, God's loved ones, to accuse His beloved people, and then God hears it doubly from us as well as satan. How much pain we cause Him when we agree with satan!

In the great throne room/ court room scene, there are only two positions available. One is intercession the other is accusation. One agrees with Jesus the other agrees with satan.

Thankfully Jesus Christ is still making constant intercession for us.

"Who then will condemn us? Will Christ? No! For he is the one who died for us and came back to life again for us and is sitting at the place of highest honor next to God, pleading for us there in heaven." (Rom 8:34 TLB)

"But Jesus remains a priest forever; his priesthood will never end. Therefore he is able, once and forever, to save everyone who comes to God through him. He lives forever to plead with God on their behalf." (Heb 7:24-25 NLT)

Likewise, Jesus wants to use US for intercession. He wants us to plead one another's case, so that the accuser will be thrown down, out, and finally be overcome. The gift of discernment is to see the truth, and agree with Jesus. The gift of discernment is to know God's heart and make a way through intercession so that which does not line up, will come into divine order.

"Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, "Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down. And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death." (Rev 12:10-12 NKJV)

The throne room is like a giant court room, with two opposing attorneys. One is the plaintiff and the other is the defendant. They are battling out the evidence of our lives. All the while, the Righteous Judge places the evidence on a balance scale and weighs them. Without Jesus, our scales we are miserably lacking! "Tekel means `weighed'--you have been weighed on the balances and have failed the test." (Dan 5:27 NLT)

THE DILEMMA

Because discernment is a part of the judicial process that weighs and separates everything, the bottom line is just like the scripture that says, "You have been weighed in the balances, and found wanting. (Dan 5:27 NKJV) The Living Bible says it this way: "Tekel means 'weighed'-you have been weighed in God's balances and have failed the test." (Dan 5:27 TLB) Why? Because "All have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." (Rom 3:23 NKJV)

The problem is that if what we are discerning came through man, it will be found wanting. The problem is that God uses fallen man. The problem is that satan uses fallen man. The problem is the problem. That's why Jesus came.

SO WHAT DO WE DO?

So we have only ONE human role model… and what did Jesus do? Jesus was a priest and a king. As a priest, He stood in the gap between our sin and our need, asking forgiveness and mercy. He jumped on our side of the balance scale and even with satan weighing us down on the other side, the scales are tipped in our favor!

As the King, Jesus weighs every motive, thought and intent. These are like grains that are all filtered through a sieve of faith, hope and love and He comes up with perfect and righteous judgment. And remember, kings pardon.

So what do we do with what we discern? We stand in the gap, asking the Lord for mercy to cover the sins, the evil motives, the blind pursuits. We ask Him to forgive what we see. And we pardon as well, for He has given us the power to retain and remit sins. (John 20:23) Then we ask Him to bring what we see into alignment with His will… praying with faith, hope and love.

Love covers a multitude of sins. "Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. Love does not demand its own way. Love is not irritable, and it keeps no record of when it has been wronged. It is never glad about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance." (1 Cor 13:4-7 NLT)

As priests and kings, we are to love by choosing to look beyond the faults of what we discern, and pardon through forgiveness. And then we pray:

EXAMPLE

"Lord I just saw the forces of witchcraft being used in this servant, in Your Name! Please forgive him Lord, please have mercy on this man. Lord may Your will be done on earth in this man's life, as You have declared it in heaven. Please open His eyes so that he may see the road on which he is traveling so that his soul will not be in jeopardy! I forgive him of his unholy presentation of You Lord, and ask that You look beyond his faults and see his need. Purge him Lord from these evil seeds in Jesus Name.

Father, protect Your children in the process. May what is going on not become a stumbling block to their faith. May they understand You use fallen vessels. MAY THEY UNDERSTAND THAT A DEMONSTRATION OF YOUR POWER DOES NOT VERIFY, JUSTIFY, OR ENDORSE THE MESSENGER OR EVEN THE MESSAGE. Keep them so that they do not stumble with what they see.

Lord, right the wrongs and defend the purity and holiness of Your righteous standard! Your people perish without a vision, they perish without godly role models. Teach them the difference between the holy and the profane, oh Lord. We ask this in Jesus' wonderful Name."

After we intercede and finally release these issues to the Lord, we make a

commitment to be very discreet in discussing our reservations with others. Greater levels of discernment can become a stumbling block to those who do not see and this can stumble their faith and their ability to receive God's good gifts. Remember all have fallen short of God's glory. God uses anyone, anytime to minister to those He loves. He even uses donkeys.

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IV. THE ETERNAL PURPOSE OF DISCERNMENT

A. TO BECOME LIKE JESUS

It is our destiny to become like Jesus. Jesus was the firstborn of many who would follow in His steps and Jesus is a King and a Priest. Therefore, we are to become kings and priests.

"For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified." (Rom 8:28-30 NKJV)

"For at the right time Christ will be revealed from heaven by the blessed and only almighty God, the King of kings and Lord of lords." (1 Tim 6:14-15 NLT)

"That is why we have a great High Priest who has gone to heaven, Jesus the Son of God. Let us cling to him and never stop trusting him. This High Priest of ours understands our weaknesses, for he faced all of the same temptations we do, yet he did not sin. So let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his mercy, and we will find grace to help us when we need it." (Heb 4:14-16 NLT)

B. TO BECOME KINGS AND PRIESTS

"And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen." (Rev 1:6 KJV)

A king makes decisions and rules according to what he discerns through the careful weighing of evidence. If the king discerns correctly and comes up with the scales balanced toward judgment, the king also has the power to pardon! Likewise, a priest has the power of intercede for the penalty if that evidence is found wanting. God is wanting to merge the king and the priest together.

God is a just Judge. He is perfectly holy, perfectly righteous and holds a perfect standard to measure us and our behavior by. We simply can not measure up to His standard. However, He is also perfect love. And in His love, He sent His beloved Son to stand in our place and die for us, so that we could come to Him. In all cases, love triumphs, love balances the scale of justice. (Mercy triumphs over judgment. James 2:13)

As kings and priests, the Lord gives us things to discern, to weigh and test in order that we may learn to rule and reign with Him. And when we rule and reign, we will do it like Jesus, Who is the perfect role model of a King and the Priest. As kings we
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pardon through forgiveness. As priests we love by praying and covering what we discern.

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V. DISCERNMENT LEADS TO A FORK IN THE ROAD

To tie this study together, let me summarize what has been revealed via all these scriptures:

- To discern is to separate and weigh evidence.
- To condemn is to make a decision of guilty, based upon what was discerned or weighed.
- To judge is to speak a penalty for the guilty verdict.
- In the New Testament, the root word to "discern" comes from the same two words to "judge and condemn".
- In the Old Testament, the kings, watchmen, priests, prophets, judges and elders discerned. This "discerning" came from the same word to "judge".
- In both New Testament and Old Testament, it is like a court battle to separate the good from the evil. The process is the SAME.
- We are told to become kings and priests but we are also told not to judge. The journey of discernment is a road. The road no matter which way you come to it, is the same road.
- The reason why so many fall into the trap of becoming critical in the process of learning discernment is that they fail to see the fork in the road. The end of the line is when all the evidence is in and it is time to make a decision. At that point, the road ends. If we continue, we have a choice to go to the right or to the left. The left fork is satan's accusation, judgment and destruction. The right fork is Jesus' love, forgiveness, and pardon. The choice is ours and we either agree with satan or Jesus in what we are given to discern.

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PART TWO - HOW DO WE DISCERN?

The following section of How to Discern are excerpts from the book, 101+ Ways God Speaks (And How to Hear Him), by Sandy Warner. Update note from Sandy: It is interesting that I wrote section one (I.) below in 1984. So much of it is coming to pass right now, including the gold and the earth shaking.

I. ABOUT THE SUPERNATURAL

A. EXPOSED TO THE SUPERNATURAL

"But solid food is for full-grown men, for those whose senses and mental faculties are trained by practice to discriminate and distinguish between what is morally good and noble and what is evil and contrary either to divine or human law." (Hebrews 5:14 AMP)

All that glitters, is not gold and Christians are not immune to fool's gold. Satan counterfeits all the ways one hears the Lord. Sometimes one can swallow a fish hook or take a wooden nickel because of ignorance, not realizing that he is NOT naturally immune just because he is a Christian. We cannot go into the last days of His outpouring without accepting we have an enemy of our soul who does not want us to know God. We must resist and overcome this interference to know the Lord. The way has been provided, but it is not without obstacles.

We would like to bury our hearts in the Lord, and pretend the enemy lives on another planet. But it is interesting that the scriptures, *"Submit therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you..."* are placed back to back. *(James 4:7,8 NASB)* As He pours forth His Holy Spirit upon mankind in a more intimate way, the enemy will be working overtime as well.

In these last days, the world will be exposed to the supernatural in a greater measure; the supernatural of God, and the supernatural of satan. Bible-believing Christians will need to go into this time with their eyes open. *"Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves. Therefore be wise as serpents and harmless as doves." (Matthew 10:16 NKJV)*

God's supernatural outpouring:

"And it will come about after this that I will pour out My Spirit on all mankind; And your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions. And even on the male and female servants I will pour out My Spirit in those days." (Joel 2:28,29 NASB)

False supernatural outpouring:

"For false Christ's and false prophets will arise and will show great signs and wonders, so as to mislead, if possible, even the elect." (Matthew 24:24 NASB) "Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in your name perform many miracles? And then I will declare to them, I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness." (Matthew 7:22,23 NASB)

This is the ending of an era and the speed of God's time frame is greatly increasing. *"Behold, the days come, says the Lord, that the plowman shall overtake the reaper..." (Amos 9:13 KJ)* Vast numbers of souls will be planted in salvation as He rains His Presence upon mankind. Those who are newly born will grow rapidly. Established Christians will have an even closer relationship with Him.

Never on the face of this earth will humanity be exposed to so much, in so little time. This will happen for two reasons: the pouring forth of His Presence, and His shaking of the earth. (Hebrews 12:25-29) Because everything that can be shaken will be shaken, Christians need a solid foundation of how God speaks and how to discern the supernatural. In the process, God's already established ones, waiting and prepared, will be used as His vessels to touch a disturbed world. His newly planted seeds will change into His image at an accelerated pace. With great joy, the Lord will receive His harvest. (James 5:7)

B. PURSUING THE SUPERNATURAL

The supernatural will draw many, and they will run after it for the wrong reasons. "IT" is emphasized, because "it" is an experience. Experiencing or hearing about the supernatural, arouses curiosity and intrigue which has a strong drawing power of its own. Christians are not to be running after the "it" — the supernatural experience. Rather, the supernatural will follow what they have sought — the love for Jesus Christ as they boldly speak His Word: "And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; they shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover... and they went forth, and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following." (Mark 16:17-18,20 KJ)

In spite of the warning not to run after the supernatural for the fascinating, intriguing experience, we as Christians are told to earnestly desire spiritual gifts. "But covet earnestly the best gifts: (1 Corinthians 12:31 KJ) That word covet earnestly in the Greek is translated to be zealous and jealous over. It comes from words meaning to burn with zeal, to be heated or to boil. Coveting the gifts seems like a contradiction to the warning of not running after the supernatural. The difference is the purpose and motive.

A gift is meant to give away, to share unselfishly with someone else. The gifts are not meant to exalt man as the vessel to display power and super strength. Rather the Lord wants us to be gifted so that we may serve and be a gift to draw others into a deeper committed relationship with Himself. The supernatural is not just for show. It does display His awesome power, but He intends to go somewhere with it. And that intent is to show that He is a personal God and wants to be involved in our lives.

For those gifted ones, the supernatural will be a part of their lives simply because His Spirit is going to rain! They will be pursuing HIM, not the "sparkle" of the supernatural. The Lord's supernatural is like the glitter on the outside of His package: it shines! The outside package is only wrapping. We don't pursue the wrapping, we pursue what's inside. He is our gift. We want HIM.

C. MAKING DECISIONS ABOUT THE SUPERNATURAL

Part of the process of discernment is learning to make accurate decisions about what you are exposed to without being impulsive, rash, judgmental or critical: but with careful prayer, thought, consideration, and TIME. It is good to make a decision. The Lord is bringing the earth into a time when it's TIME TO MAKE A DECISION. (Joel 3:14) Much of the population today is choosing sides in response to moral and ethical issues. What we have already seen politically, spiritually, and physically is only one small drop of what is to come.

We are coming to the end of an age when both God and satan want a commitment one way or another. Some of God's people have been riding the yellow line for a long time, afraid to voice an opinion, or make a stand about what they believe. They have taken the middle of the road approach to avoid confrontations and ruffle as few feathers as possible to get through life in one piece! The yellow line hasn't been a problem because there hasn't been much traffic. However, the traffic in both

directions is now increasing and the guy in the middle is going to get crunched. The pace is accelerating. Because of the great shaking, the fence straddlers are going to be forced to make decisions about what they believe one way or another.

The Lord's supernatural outpouring is going to break and/or shake up man's religious boxes as to Who He is. There are many ways man boxes God. One way is by interpreting the Bible to say God intended the supernatural to die with the early Apostles. Man will be confronted with a choice of removing the box and allowing God to reveal Himself as He chooses. Or, he may not be included in the blessings of the pouring forth of the latter rain of God's Spirit.

Have you ever been in a belly-gusher rain? One time we had a deep, very loud, and overwhelming downpour. The gutters overran and our cat Cuddle's, kitty pillow and blanket were drenched. I think it scared Cuddles, as after I washed and dried her bed (without offending soap or softeners) she would not come back and rest. She was sleeping somewhere else in the neighborhood and coming back to eat. It really bothered me and I kept praying that she would return and find her place of comfort.

Finally I came up with an idea. Whenever my son got her towel out and placed it on his lap, she came running! So I told him to also get her clean blanket that was on top of her pillow, and sneak it in with the towel so she could get her smell on it. He did this and she loved her time with my son. Then he placed her on her pillow with her blanket. The next day she was contentedly sleeping there.

The point of the allegory is that sometimes the supernatural rain of the Lord upsets our security as we are frail human beings. We become unstable and need to return to our resting place. The Lord wants to build in you a secure foundation and He understands. He will do His best to bring you to that place of security, that safe place of faith in Him.

People can go through a sifting process when they are learning to discern the supernatural. They really desire God and earnestly want to make the correct choices. However the inability to make the decision causes the wavering to become intense. So many have already been sifted in their hearing and led astray because of lack of knowledge. To keep from being sifted, a firm foundation is needed in reading the Bible and understanding Who God is. The things that God speaks will always line up with Who He is, so if you earnestly desire God and come across something that shakes a box inside you, PRAY about it, and ask HIM. If you are insecure about what you've been exposed to, go to Him and He will establish you. He will help you find Him and make the decisions that are correct.

II. ABOUT DISCERNING PEOPLE

A. DISCERNING THE GIFTED VESSEL

In learning to discern a vessel we must be very careful not to esteem man, his natural gifts or his supernatural gifts out of proportion, and think of the person or experiences more highly than we ought. There is a common misconception that giftedness means God's approval of a vessel. The Word says, *"You have ascended on high, You have led captivity captive; You have received gifts among men, Even from the rebellious, That the LORD God might dwell there." (Psalms 68:18 NKJV) For the gifts and*

calling of God are without repentance. (Romans 11:29 KJV) "Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!' (Matthew 7:22 NKJV) The fact is, God honors His Word regardless of the vessel. Think of the many vessels that fell into sin in the Bible, yet God still performed His Word.

On the other hand, God's vessels need to be examples not only in what they say, but how they act when they are saying it. This is being accountable in word and deed. Consider the choices and communication skills of a wise parent:

1. A wise parent realizes if he yells at his children frequently, they begin to ignore and "tune him out" unless he is yelling. Soon they will become insensitive, deaf and hard of hearing even to the yelling.

2. A loving parent also realizes that controlling of pressure and coercion of his perspectives upon the child will only cause a wayward child to resist.

3. A sensible parent knows the best time to say a correcting word is in a teachable moment. When the child is striving, arguing, or defensive he is not teachable.

4. The astute parent resists an argument, for he knows only a downhill spiral will occur.

5. A loving parent will provide an atmosphere of believing and uplifting the child, rather than tearing the child down with criticism.

Should a preacher, a teacher, a servant, a friend, be any different in sharing God's message? *"God's people must not be quarrelsome; they must be gentle, patient teachers of those who are wrong. Be humble when you are trying to teach those who are mixed up concerning the truth. For if you talk meekly and courteously to them they are more likely, with God's help, to turn away from their wrong ideas and believe what is true." (2 Timothy 2:24,25 TLB)*

As a delegate, the Lord's messengers represent His heart and message. Purity of heart and motive are of extreme importance. I am reminded of the time when Moses was rebuked and not able to enter the promised land. (He struck the rock twice, and spoke a sentence of angry condemnation: *"Hear now, you rebels! Must we bring water for you out of this rock?" (Numbers 20:10 NKJV) "Then the Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron, Because you did not* ***believe*** *me to hallow Me in the eyes of the children of Israel, therefore you shall not bring this congregation into the land which I have given them." Numbers 20:12 NKJV)*

The above word believe (KJ) is an important concept describing the Father's character. It means: to build up or support, to foster as a parent or a nurse, render faithful, bring up, establish, be faithful of long continuance, nursing father, etc. Gesenius says believe is {to support with an arm, to carry a child, one who carries or cares for a child, who guards and brings up.} Hallow (sanctify KJ) means to pronounce clean.

Moses' action at the rock did not represent the Nursing Father, it represented Moses' exasperation and anger. It may appear as a small sin but because of his position, he

was highly accountable. He carried great weight and authority: *"...And from everyone who has been given much shall much be required; and to whom they entrusted much, of him they will ask all the more." (Luke 12:48 NASB)* Moses was chosen by God and led His people all the way to the door of their new beginning. But he was not allowed to enter. When representing the Lord today, it is important to remember Moses's example; how the message is delivered is just as important as the message.

God uses ANYTHING as a vessel for His message. (He even speaks through donkeys: Numbers 22:28) Unfortunately, vessels sometimes cause us to stumble in our ability to receive the message. We compare the vessel's personality with the Lord's, how the message is given, and then falter because of the weaknesses of the delivery of the message. God uses vessels to communicate even though marred by sin. It is good to discern the vessel because one needs to discriminate between the impurity of flesh and the quickening power of the Spirit, but it is not good to be critical of the vessel.

Divisions can occur among Christians when they are learning to discern. They happen when a threatened person says, "That person is hearing from satan, don't listen to him, he is from the devil." People are quick to categorize rashly and point the finger when they are insecure about what they do not understand. Because supernatural happenings come from the Lord as well as from the enemy, many actually do not know which side is which.

In learning the discernment process, we need to understand that DISCERNING IS A PROCESS. Not everyone is on the same level of perception. May we receive this needed understanding and have greater patience with ourselves and fellow Christians in their hearing. We need to treat others as God treats us: with understanding, forgiveness and love. Step by step He imprints His image upon our lives, and that takes time. Meanwhile, He still needs vessels to impart His living Word. In learning to discern the vessel, the most important thing is to discern with love. He wants us to be wise as serpents, and harmless as doves. (Matthew 10:16) When we are patient with man, love becomes the harmless part, taking the sting out of the discernment of evil and of flesh.

Therefore in our hearing and knowing the Lord through His people, we look to HIM Who is the Author, the Provider, the Creator, the SOURCE of perfect gifts, and let go of the part that does not represent Him. It is not that we let go of or turn our backs on humanity. Rather, we simply separate the good gifts from the clutter, and gladly receive the good portion. So in getting to know and hear the Lord through His people, we receive His good and perfect gifts.

B. SEPARATING THE GRAY OF THE VESSEL

"But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil." (Hebrews 5:14 AMP)

The process of discernment separates the words, receiving life from the good and dumping the waste. Identifying the source is the process of separation. The source has one of three choices: purity and white which is God, black and dark which is satan, or a mixture of both black and white, called gray. Distinguishing between the three begins by pondering the qualities of God. If the message reflects these qualities, then He is the source. If the message is opposing God's character, the

source is the enemy. Most of the time if it is the enemy, it is black and easy to throw out, unless the person is naive about God's character. The world is full of the mixture of white and black — GRAY, into which man has adapted. The gray area is where we stagger in discerning what we hear and that gray area is found in people.

The gray areas come through 1.) the flesh, or 2.) giants within the soul or personality. Giants are a term I use symbolically. It is derived from the giants in Joshua's promised land. The people were warned about allowing the foreigners and giants to stay in the land. When they entered into a forbidden marriage, they joined cultures, ideas, perspectives and beliefs. Union with them would cause mutations, polluted worship and practices, and the corruption of God's separated and chosen people. Thus the term giants is a symbol of a forbidden intermarriage with the mixture of our flesh and the impurity of sin.

When one intermarries with a giant, its fruit causes a mutated life pattern. These unions with sin, impure actions, thoughts, beliefs, motives or old wounds, are patterns or ruts of the personality that no matter how hard one tries, they just don't measure up to Jesus' image. They are continually repeated and acted out through the body, soul and spirit in spite of much effort to change. They are thorns and pricks left in the Christian's life and torment his freedom.

"And as for you, you shall make no covenant with the inhabitants of this land; you shall tear down their altars. But you have not obeyed Me; what is this you have done? Therefore I also said, 'I will not drive them out before you; but they shall become as thorns in your sides, and their gods shall be a snare to you.' And it came about when the angel of the LORD spoke these words to all the sons of Israel, that the people lifted up their voices and wept." (Judges 2:2-4 NASB) The Christian feels remorse about their existence yet has not been able to overcome.

Not everyone has the same giant patterns. Each person has their own unique personality and one person's hang-up may be another's strongest place of overcoming. Some of these giant "hang-ups" that do not glorify Jesus are listed below. As you read them, you may find weaknesses that fit yourself and others. If you have a weakness in one of these areas, it does not mean you have intermarried with a giant, but the weakness shows a vulnerability. When one actually intermarries with something on this list, he or she becomes snared by it, and it becomes a part of the person's makeup - namely personality, decision making process, actions, reactions and overall life pattern of how that person lives life. It is the pattern of repeating weaknesses that exposes an intermarriage with a giant.

This list not only contains giants but is also a list of the fruit of the flesh. The degree the flesh is nurtured in these areas determines whether one intermarries with such and thus causes a giant pattern and eventually a cankered wound. The choice of most words comes from King James. Scriptures are included as references to the general concept. Synonyms are listed to help identify the words.

C. GIANT AND FLESH LIST

Abuse Misuse, mistreat, maltreat. (2 Corinthians 11:25)

Accuse Charge, blame, incriminate. (Luke 23:10)

Adultery Infidelity, fornication. (Matt 15:19)

Ambition Overly enterprising, stepping on others, determined, goal oriented. (Acts 8:19)

Angry Violent passion, indignant, exasperated. (Colossians 3:8)

Anxious Exaggerated & distracted concern, apprehensive, uneasy, worried, dread and fear. (Philippians 4:6)

Apathetic Indifferent, dull of feeling, passive. (Revelations 3:16)

Argumentative Disputing, contending, hair splitting. (2 Timothy 2:24)

Betrayer Double cross, trick. (Matthew 26:25)

Bitter Resentful. (Acts 8:23)

Blasphemer Irreverent, reviling. (Matthew 15:19)

Boast Brag, proud, arrogant. (2 Timothy 3:2)

Co-dependent Leaning on someone other than God. (Deuteronomy 6:5)

Compete Ambitious, aggressive, contest, oppose. (Mark 10:37)

Complain Grumble. (Jude 16)

Compromise Bargain with evil. (Genesis 19:8)

Compulsive Obsessive, driving passion. (Matthew 12:45)

Condemnation False guilt. (Romans 8:1)

Control Dominate, push, restrain. (Acts 21:12)

Covet Desiring something that belongs to someone else, envy. (Exodus 20:17)

Coward Fearful, lacking courage. (Revelations 21:8)

Critical Disapprove, faultfinding. (Galatians 5:15)

Curse To curse, doom, condemn evil upon. (Matthew 26:74)

Cursing Swearing, profanity, filthy communication. (Colossians 3:18)

Deceive Defraud, delude, dupe, mislead. (Mark 7:22)

Defensive Justifying, guarding, shielding. (Isaiah 45:9)

Depressed Despondent, downhearted, downcast, desolate. (Proverbs 15:13)

Desiring praise Desiring esteem, admiration. (John 12:43)

Despise Little regard for others, low opinion of, arrogant. (2 Timothy 3:3)

Discontent Disgruntled, unsatisfied. (Philippians 4:11)

Disobedient No submission or conformity. (2 Timothy 3:2)

Divination Witchcraft. (Leviticus 20:27)

Double-minded Vacillate between two opinions. (James 1:8)

Double-tongued Two stories. Saying a thing with the intent to deceive. (1 Timothy 3:8)

Doubter Skeptic, unbeliever, mistrust, suspicion. (Hebrews 11:6)

Downcast Low in spirit, depressed, joy withered away. (Joel 1:12)

Drunkard Intoxication, insobriety. (Luke 21:34)

Emulation Envious and contentious rivalry, competition, challenge. Galatians 5:20)

Envy Jealousy, rivalry, competition. (Galatians 5:21)

Extortion Acquire deceitfully, defraud, blackmail. (Leviticus 19:13)

Evil thoughts Unkind, tear down the person. (2 Corinthians 10:5)

False witness False, deceitful testimony. (Matthew 15:19)

Fearful Timid, scared, lose courage. (Revelations 21:8)

Fierce Brutal, rough, savage, violent, wild. (2 Timothy 3:3)

Filthy speech Foul speaking, low and obscene speech, vulgar language. (Colossians 3:8)

Filthy Defiling, dishonorable, dirty, wicked, vile, pornography, smut. (James 1:21)

Foolish Senseless, folly, reckless. (Mark 7:22)

Fornication Sexual immorality. (Colossians 3:5)

Gossip Spreading rumor, scuttlebutt, hearsay. (1 Timothy 5:13)

Greed Covet, hoard, grasp, possessive. (Acts 5:2)

Grievous Weighty, load, burdensome. (1 John 5:3)

Guilt Blame, fault, error, shame. (1 John 2:1)

Hatred Strife, detest, abhor, loathe. (Proverbs 10:12)

Heresy Disunion, dissension. (Galatians 5:20)

High-minded Conceited, inflated. (2 Timothy 3:4)

Hopeless Despair, past hope. (John 11:32)

Homosexuality Vile affections against nature. (Romans 1:26)

Hypocrite Masquerades, faker. (Matthew 23:15)

Idolatry Infatuation, inordinately fond of. (1 Corinthians 10:14)

Impatient Restless, intolerant, resistant towards long suffering. (Numbers 20:10 - 11)

Impulsiveness No self control, unpremeditated, rash, impetuous, spontaneous. (Proverbs 29:20)

Inconsistent Erratic, discrepancy. (James 1:6)

Indifferent Unresponsive, detached, apathy, unconcern. (Revelation 3:16)

Jest Banter, wit, joke. (Ephesians 5:4)

Jealous Possessive, monopolize, envious. (Proverbs 6:34)

Judgmental Censure, giving sentence, convict. (Matthew 7:1)

Lazy Idle, slothful, indolent. (Matthew 25:24-27)

Liar Telling falsehoods, untruth. (Revelation 21:8)

Lewd Unbridled lust, shameless, indecent, sensual. (Galatians 5:19)

Lovers of pleasure Preferring pleasure to the things of God. (2 Timothy 3:4)

Lust Craving, an absorbing longing for, hunger, desire. (1 John 2:16)

Lust for knowledge Passion for knowledge for wrong motive. (2 Timothy 4:3)

Malice Desire to injure, animosity, spite. (Colossians 3:8)

Mock Scoff, ridicule, deride. (Jude 18)

Murder Kill with ones words as well as literally kill. (Matthew 15:19)

Murmuring One who discontentedly complains against God, grumble, mutter. (Jude 16)

Perverse Without natural affection. (Romans 1:24)

Phobias Irrational fear, avoidance, aversion. (2 Timothy 1:7)

Poverty Unproductive, insufficiency, shortage. (Proverbs 15:19) (Romans 12:11)

Possessive Controlling, grasping, selfish, cling. (2 Samuel Chapter 11)

Proud Arrogant, vain, self love. (Proverbs 16:18)

Procrastinate Delay needlessly, put off. (Proverbs 6:9-11)

Presumptuous Boldly arrogant, offensive, foolhardy. (Psalms 19:13)

Quarrelsome Contentious, ignites strife. (Galatians 5:20)

Regret Looking to past life or sins, not accepting the Lord's plan and His forgiveness. (Luke 9:62)

Reckless Heady, heedless, careless, rash. (2 Timothy 3:4)

Rejection Feeling discarded. (Genesis 29:30-32)

Resentment Offense, umbrage, embittered, hostile. (Genesis 4:4-8)

Reveling Drunken carousing, rioting. (Galatians 5:21)

Revenge Taking things into ones' own hands instead of waiting for God, retaliate. (Romans 12:19)

Revile Slander, rail. (1 Corinthians 5:11)

Sanctimonious Hypocritically devout. (Matthew 23:14)

Seduce Entice, decoy, lure. (1 Timothy 4:1)

Sedition Dissension, divisions, sects. (Galatians 5:20)

Self willed Arrogant, stubborn. (2 Peter 2:10)

Sensuality Sensory pleasures. (Jude 18)

Self pity Self sympathy. (Jonah 4:8)

Skeptic Doubter, unbeliever, cynic. (John 20:25)

Slander Defame, dishonor. (Proverbs 10:18)

Sodomy Sexual perversion. (Genesis 19:4-5)

Strife Bitter conflict, selfish or self promoting which causes quarrels, division and dissension. (Galatians 5:20)

Striving Disputing, contending, arguing. (Romans 9:20)

Talebearer Telling secrets, spreading gossip or rumor. (Proverbs 11:13)

Theft Steal, rob. (Matthew 15:19)

Traitor A betrayer, treacherous. (2 Timothy 3:4)

Truce breaker Irreconcilable, impossible to appease. (2 Timothy 3:3)

Unbelief No faith. (Matthew 17:17)

Uncleanliness Impurity of thought, motive or deed. (Colossians 3:5)

Unforgiveness Refusing to pardon. (Matthew 6:14)

Unholy Sacrilegious, blasphemous, irreverent, ungodly, profane. (Leviticus 10:10)

Unjust Wrongful, dishonest, unfair. (Proverbs 22:16)

Unmerciful Without leniency, unsparing. (Matthew 18:33)

Unstable Unbalanced, uncertain, fluctuating, fickle, changeable. (Ephesians 4:14)

Unthankful Without gratefulness. (2 Timothy 3:2)

Violent Cruel, fierce, vehement. (Psalms 7:16)

Wavering Vacillating, doubting, hesitating, fluctuating, instability. (James 1:6)

Wickedness Depravity, malice, iniquity. (Mark 7:22)

Witchcraft The use of drugs - see Strong's #5331, medications, magic, sorcery, witchcraft. (Galatians 5:20)

Wantonness Self indulgence, self gratification. (James 5:5)

Wrath Fury. (Colossians 3:8)

Giants influence how we hear the Lord. Their influence is like a wound in a tree. The rings of the tree become warped and twisted as it wraps around the wounded area. In time, the circled areas may eventually even out, but when in close proximity to that wound, the rings are twisted, warped, perverted and bent out of shape. This analogy is the same with people who have giant wounds. When God's Word comes close to their wound, there is a crooked emotional reaction that is blown out of proportion. What is heard is twisted, misunderstood, taken out of context, or interpreted completely backwards.

Learning to identify giants is helpful in the discernment process. Sometimes one will struggle with a rhema "Word or message" and be unable to discern whether it is from the Lord, because of his own giants. What may be happening is the message is from Him, but the receiver's inner self wrestles because he is intermarried with a giant pattern and is not free of its warped perspective. For instance if one is suffering under a giant of condemnation, it is very difficult to receive God's praise for a job well done. If the giant is rejection the person finds it very difficult to receive God's love. If one was wounded by abuse in the past he may perceive the Lord as an angry God.

It is also possible to hear a message given through another who has a giant of decay and thus you will doubt and stagger over what is shared. If you become aware of the potential for giants and understand them, you will quickly be able to recognize the impurity of messages and motives spoken through another. I heard a preacher who was a dynamic speaker. He exalted Jesus Christ with the Holy Spirit evident in his meeting. Yet he had a mutated giant of control from a wound in his past, and the Holy Spirit within me became deeply grieved at something he said, as well as the attitude behind it. I struggled with it and took it to the Lord. Without my asking, three people came to me, mentioning how this man "ran" his church. It became very obvious he was bound by the giant of control and this did not glorify Jesus' image. I was then

able to separate God's pure message from the controlling statement. As a result, the man's ministry, his giftedness and his impurities no longer were a stumbling block to me. I was able to hear the Lord through him in spite of his wounded flesh.

Giants and their wounds disfigure the purity of God and canker perspectives. They will always distort the character of God. Giants affect our thought life, our understanding of God's message, and our ability to receive His Words in that area. Examples of how they influence us are coming up in following sections.

D. GIANTS, THOUGHTS AND THE ENEMY

Scientists tell us we need to think about something a number of times, before it becomes "grooved" in our brains via the axons, dendrites and synaptic junctions, thus forming new brain patterns. The process of thinking about something repeatedly, plants seeds and nurtures them to grow in our "heart." This process happens good unto good, and evil unto evil.

Christian warfare begins in the thought life. Jesus said, " But I say to you, that everyone who looks on a woman to lust for her has committed adultery with her already in his heart." (Matthew 5:28 NASB) The lust in the heart begins as a thought and is nurtured instead of resisted. Through a process of nurturing thoughts, the seed of lust is allowed to grow until it becomes a weed. Thus a mere sight or thought triggers the weed response.

People who are vulnerable to the giants of self pity, resentment, anger, lust, unforgiveness, etc., are easy prey to suggestive thoughts the enemy puts in their mind. Just the mere suggestion of a random thought causes a giant pattern to be stroked. Then old patterns pursue the direction of the wandering mind. The enemy quickly binds the thoughts and emotions, and the person becomes a victim captivated within that particular thought and its emotion, resulting in unrest.

Take for example someone who has intermarried with unforgiveness. The union took place because somewhere in the past this person was offended many times. In the process, the person never forgave the offenders. Throughout the years, issues built up that would not have been so difficult to deal with in the normal set of events. But because of this unforgiving pattern, a giant of unforgiveness was finally set in place in the heart. So now the enemy comes along and "inspires" a random thought about a person. Immediately the mind wrestles with all kinds of issues, perhaps critical feelings or feelings of disapproval of what the person is doing, or any other number of feelings. These issues may not be emotional issues in themselves, but because of the giant of unforgiveness, now they become blown out of proportion. Thus the enemy has succeeded in bringing the person's thoughts into captivity and there is a loss of peace.

Thoughts are also susceptible to wounds that crave to be healed. When wounded, one is inclined to grasp at things to survive. And receiving thoughts that stroke one's pain is an instinctive part of that survival of flesh. In the example of unforgiveness, nursing old grudges or offenses are a perverted way of self comfort.

There are two ways man is vulnerable to enemy thoughts: through our thoughts and to our thoughts. Through our thoughts happens subjectively with the involvement of the personality and giants. The way the enemy battles us through our thoughts is to

"inspire" them. Thoughts that stroke giant patterns have "drawing" power and inspire the thought life to center around issues that exalt the giant to be number one in perspective. We are a part of the involvement by "nurturing" these thoughts. We hold onto them for false comfort. But in reality, giant thoughts will always find a way to distort the purity and character of God, feeding unrest and anxiety.

Giant patterns also make us vulnerable in hearing the enemy. We can become entrapped into hearing the wrong source when we do not recognize our own giants. We need to know our weaknesses — the enemy does, and he is adept at using them against us. Examples would be hearing something that sounds Biblically correct by way of principles etc., and yet it feeds pride, or lust, or ambition, or greed or desiring man's approval, or self pity, or fear, etc. Since he cannot create a good and perfect gift, he will try to make one as close as possible. One way of doing that is to stroke the giants in our personalities, causing the wounds in our life to "feel" good or identify with what we heard. It's the idea of misery loving comfort.

III. ABOUT DISCERNING EVIL SPIRITS

A. REBUKING ENEMY THOUGHTS

"For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses. We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ." (2 Corinthians 10:4,5 NASB)

For many years I swallowed the lie that the enemy could not hear my thoughts. Because of this, I prayed silently. It was only after the Lord started teaching me about spiritual warfare and using His authority against obstacles, that I realized most of the warfare is seeded in our thoughts. I discovered this when I would take a quiet time to pray and listen to the Lord, then suddenly I would get an interruption by hearing a spirit speak. Sometimes it would be in response to what I was thinking. Then when I would rebuke it in Jesus' Name, (still within my thoughts) it would give a rebellious reply as it was leaving. Boy was I surprised. Actually I was shocked at first, but then it gave me more strength to fight the battle, because I KNEW I was making a difference. The bottom line to this example is that the realm of God is spirit, and so is satan's. They don't need our open mouths to hear us.

When the enemy speaks directly to your thoughts, you are hearing a thought that does not originate from yourself as mentioned above, and is the counterfeit of the Lord's voice. The problem is that because it is a thought, it has no voice inflection and "sounds" the same as the Lord's voice. If you have some doubts that what you are hearing may not be the Lord, be alert to Him bringing warnings to you. He may use another Christian. You may be directly admonished, or perhaps the person's body language will hint what was said or done was offensive. In a group situation, the leader might ignore your input as if you hadn't said it. Test yourself. Is what I'm hearing out of joint with the body of Christ? Does it bring strife? Does it point the finger, bringing guilt and condemnation, or does it build up and edify?

If you hear the enemy occasionally, do not be anxious, or feel guilty. It wasn't your idea to hear him or listen to what he said. Your place is simply to recognize him and resist his attempt to snare. He must flee in Jesus Name. (James 4:7) There are two reasons the enemy is allowed to touch us: intentional sin and the Lord's purpose. In these last days the Lord has even more of a purpose for us to overcome the enemy. We will be called to recognize the darkness and leave it behind. There will come a day when darkness will be under our feet and we will rule and reign with Him. (Romans 16:20; Revelation 2:26,27; 3:21; Hebrews 2:7,8; 2 Corinthians 10:6)

If you recognize the enemy either through or to your thoughts as a pattern, start resisting in Jesus' Name over and over again. Do not be concerned that you will grieve the Holy Spirit of God by mistaking Him for the enemy. Obviously, the Lord knows and understands your plight, especially in learning to discern. He wants you stable and established in hearing HIM. God will work with you to get His will accomplished in hearing Him.

Every time you come up against the foreign thought, rebuke it in Jesus' Name. If you belong to Jesus, you WILL OVERCOME. No weapon formed against you shall prosper. (Isaiah 54:17) Do not fret or fear this, simply take an active part in renouncing the thought in Jesus' Name. Set your face like flint and rebuke as often as you need to until you are no longer harassed. You have the authority of Jesus' Name, and the devil hates and fears His Name. You can stand in the Lord and resist all that would come against you.

B. DISCERNING COUNTERFEIT SPIRITS

Counterfeit spirits have the power to counterfeit any manner of hearing the Lord. They can speak to and through one's thoughts. They can answer fleeces, give visions and pictures, etc.

The following is a list of the works of occult spirits that open the door to counterfeit spirits. This list is compiled from many full time deliverance ministries who have cast out thousands of demons resulting from the use or practice of the below. People who have toyed with anything regarding occult activity do not realize it is not a game. The forces behind those seemingly harmless pursuits are deadly. If children or adults could see the real issues behind the scenes they would never choose that road for a simple amusing diversion. That road leads to death and hell. (Incidentally, the word channeling in the new age movement, is a camouflaged way of describing the function of mediums, and that is a wide open field for familiar spirits. This has entered the school systems.)

Renounce Occult and/or Idolatry

Amulets, Astral projection, Astrology, Automatic handwriting, Aura Reading, Fantasy Books, Card Reading, Channeling, Charms (good luck pieces), Clairvoyance, Conjuring, Consulter of the dead, Crystal ball, Deliverances (non-scriptural), Dispatching demons, Divination, Diviner, Dreamer, Charms, Clairvoyance, Communication with the dead (necromancy), Conjuration, Crystals, Dream catcher, Drugs, Dungeons & Dragons, Eight ball, Enchanter, ESP, Fetishes (good luck pieces), Fortune Telling, Gypsy, Hallucinations, Handwriting analysis, Horoscopes, Horror movies, Hypnosis, I Ching,

Incantation, Indian burial ground, Indian Jewelry, Indian artifacts, KKK, Magic, - Black, White, Yellow, Gray, Good luck charms, (St Christophers, rabbit's foot, clovers, crickets), Healing through psychic healer, Higher levels of martial arts, Household gods and idols from other countries (including Buddha and Japanese Bogota, shrines), Pictures and statues of Jesus, Pictures and statues of angels, Pictures and statues of cupids, Pictures and statues of Mary and saints, Witchcraft paraphernalia, Mediums, Blood covenantors, Horror & occult (movies TV, books, computer games, toys), Psychic hot line, Incantations, Incense, Life or reincarnation reading, Magic games, Medium, Mental telepathy, Mind control, Mind reader, Misc Music (heavy metal), Misc Role playing games (like Dungeons/ Dragons & Kabala), Necromancy (talking with the dead), New Age, Non-Christian exorcism, Occult, Ouija board, Pagan objects (Buddha, Tiki), Pagan temples, Palm reading, Palmistry, Past life readings, Pendulum divination, Pokemon, Potions, Psychic healing, Psychic predicating, Pyramids, Ritualism, Rock music (secular or Christian), Satanism, Science fantasy (movies, books, games, etc) Séances, Soothsayer, Sorcery, Sorcery games, Spell or hex, casting, Spirit guide(s), Spiritism, Spiritist, Table lifting, Tarot cards, Tea leaves, Toys of magic including E.T., Transcendental Meditation, Voodoo, Warlock, Water witching, White magic, Witchcraft, Yoga.

Anyone can be badgered by the counterfeit if the Lord lifts the hedge. That is why Christians must be trained to use great discernment. Doors open to these spirits in several ways:

1. They have access to badger people who have toyed with occult activity in relationship to mediums, horoscopes, Ouija boards, palm reading, 8-balls, channeling, new age etc.

2. A bad weed in one's heart of lusting for supernatural knowledge leaves one vulnerable. Lust for knowledge in a Christian most often is found in one who finds ways to demand answers from God.

3. The lust of itching ears with an absorbing desire for supernatural experiences also will open the door.

4. People who look for signs are vulnerable. They are ones who lay fleeces before the Lord on a continuing basis. Fleeces, if used at all, should be used with extreme caution as unto the fear and respect for the Lord.

Because even in a purified vessel one can hear the enemy, this is a very important warning: If you have ever been involved in ANY FORM OF THE OCCULT, RENOUNCE IT. If in your past you played with Ouija boards, 8-balls, read horoscopes, had cards or palms read, attended seances, been involved in the new age movement or any such thing; you have become a candidate for a familiar spirit's yoke. (Isaiah 8:19, 29:4) This will make your hearing impure, warped, twisted, and polluted. Verbally renounce these past associations in Jesus Name, and turn your back on them and rebuke. ("I bind satan and renounce all association with _____in the Name of Jesus, I resist them and break any spiritual yokes of enslavement assigned against my spiritual hearing, in Jesus Name.")

If you have had association with witches or anything stronger you need to seek

deliverance through an appointed gift via the 5-fold ministry. This is a strong warning. If you do not renounce these things, you will find yourself yoked into hearing a familiar spirit and following its road. You will lose your hedge and be severely cut back so as not to lose your soul. (Isaiah 5:4,5)

The best safeguard to keep from receiving a supernatural experience from evil forces is to seek Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ is our door. *(John 10:1, Revelation 3:20) We do not want to stumble in desiring the EXPERIENCE of the supernatural, we want to desire HIM. "But let him who glories glory in this, That he understands and knows Me, That I am the LORD, exercising lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness in the earth. For in these I delight," says the LORD." (Jeremiah 9:24 NKJV)*

C. DISCERNING ENEMY DREAMS AND VISIONS

The characteristics of dreams from the enemy are usually full of twisted accusations and darts that wound. Sometimes a dream will have knives, darts, sharp cutting instruments that inflict and cause pain. The purpose is to dump fear, remorse, guilt, torment, and barriers to one's relationship with the Lord. The dream can be resisted and stopped by thinking "In Jesus' Name" during the dream.

Also many times enemy visions and dreams will have a numbing, immobilizing or even paralyzing influence over man's will. This can happen with an inability to speak or move the body, or lack of freedom in exercising the will. Another characteristic of an enemy dream is the inability to wake up, as the sleep is so deep, that when the person does wake up in the middle of it, it is such a lethargic state that it is very difficult to stay awake. Frequently there is the tendency to fall right back to sleep into the same enemy onslaught. I have learned to truly fight myself awake and then stay awake to do adequate warfare and gain the peace of the Lord before I go back to sleep. If you suffer this, always remember that thinking or speaking the Name of Jesus will break the enemy restraint. His Name is a very powerful weapon.

The Lord continually mentions in the Bible, we shall find Him when we search for Him with all our heart. He is to be our first love. He is a rewarder of those that diligently seek Him. Seeking Him is not a mellow, "What will be, will be," attitude. It is a pursuit, and it goes upstream against the current. Christians are not immune to enemy experiences.

Enemy conflict is a current sent against us for two reasons. Both are because THE LORD ALLOWS IT. First, intentional sin lifts the hedge. The Word says, "herein do I exercise myself, to have always a conscience void of offense toward God, and toward man...give none occasion to the adversary to speak reproachfully....Whatsoever is not of faith, is sin." (Acts 24:16 KJ, I Tim. 5:14B KJ, Ro 14:23B KJ) When I disobey the training of my conscience I give cause for the enemy to speak reproach, the hedge is lifted and I get "dumped on." Most often when I get dumped on by a nightmare or bad dream He reminds me of those three verses. [The more mature we become in the Lord, the more sensitive our conscience becomes to very slight details in a day. An example would be attitudes that grieve the Holy Spirit like being critical of others in our thoughts.] I can always tell an enemy dream because it is almost always a personal accusation to that particular day. The problem with enemy dreams is there is always a measure of truth in them. So after I take heed to of the partial truth, I must then overcome guilt and condemnation and

remember that I am covered by the blood of Jesus. I must also remember it is His righteousness that keeps me, not my own. The Lord does not want us buried in guilt that puts another layer between ourselves and His love.

The second reason the Lord allows enemy conflict is that the Lord wants us to become an overcomer. Satan puts many things in our path to try to get us off course, discouraged and tired, waylaid and delayed, all the while hoping we will give up. The Lord allows this to help us to grow, overcome darkness, and find HIM. We cannot find Him without resistance. The two go hand in hand.

IV. ABOUT DISCERNING A MESSAGE

A. DISCERNING MISUNDERSTANDINGS

Years ago, my son drew an elephant in a bathing suit, and gave it to me. In my female mindset, I interpreted it to be me... bulging. Later I tuned into a car radio sermon and heard: "If you see an elephant, don't interpret it to be a snake!" The preacher said, "In other words, if it makes normal sense, then it's good sense, so don't make NONSENSE." Giggling, I listened to the sermon which was about not twisting God's Word (a good gift) into something weird.

When we begin to realize we are hearing from the Lord, understanding is so important. There are three main causes of misunderstanding. The first is the enemy. The second are giants in a personality. And last, it could be the Lord's purpose for us having a temporary misunderstanding.

The enemy causes havoc in influencing our interpretation of the Lord's Word. Paul said, *"O full of all deceit and all fraud, you son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, will you not cease perverting the straight ways of the Lord? (Acts 13:10 KJ)* The truth is turned around so that truth is twisted to say the opposite. An example might be one who receives a picture from the Lord of a bulb in the ground. He perceives he is the bulb which is what the Lord intended, but the enemy twists the truth around so the person thinks the Lord is not pleased with him because he is in the dark not knowing what is going on and not being fruitful in that state.

The most frequent cause of misunderstanding in a Christian's life are the giants within the personality causing warped and twisted understandings. As mentioned before, giants create silent decay, generating wounds and vulnerabilities that stimulate one to hear through those wounds. This is why discernment of giants in what we are hearing is so important. Remember, giants are crooked patterns within personalities that do not reflect Jesus' image.

They ruin interpretations of His message causing misunderstandings. An example of how the wound of a giant can influence God's message: perhaps one receives a Word of encouragement. For many years he succumbed to patterns of self pity because of difficult circumstances and did not experience any outside comfort or relief. The unhealed giant wounds of self pity from the past are momentarily touched through the word of encouragement. Now the old pattern of attempting to comfort himself through self pity is triggered. Rather than receiving encouragement and being lifted up, the person uncovers an unhealed wound, beginning cycles of self pity. The exhortation is twisted, becoming a reason to become self-centered instead of God-

centered. The person feels worse than he did before.

Or perhaps one has been bound by the giant of ambition, another may have a giant of desiring man's approval. Both are stroked by comments from man, and they might think the Lord is giving His approval to be involved in certain programs, which in truth God does not sanction.

The third reason for misunderstanding is it may be the Lord's purpose! Eli misunderstood Hannah praying in the temple. He thought she was drunken, and because he misunderstood, he came over to rebuke her. She said it was not so and explained her plight. The truth was manifested to him and his heart was moved to give forth a prophesy and blessing. God also allowed a misunderstanding about Jesus dying and rising again. *"But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory: which none of the princes of this world knew: for HAD THEY KNOWN IT, THEY WOULD NOT HAVE CRUCIFIED THE LORD of glory." (1 Corinthians 2:7,8 KJ)*

I went through a time when I wavered back and forth between truth and misunderstanding. The Lord desired this, for I had a lesson to learn and needed a proper foundation in my communication with Him.

As a review of the concept I have shared throughout the book (101+ Ways God Speaks and How to Hear Him), when the Lord began to speak to me by way of dreams, visions and pictures at night, He began to teach me a new language. It was built one night at a time, word upon word, until an extensive vocabulary was constructed. *"I will bless the Lord Who has given me counsel; yes, my heart instructs me in the night seasons." (Psalms 16:7 AMP, 17:3)* Each night I heard from Him, all the while growing in vocabulary. Then the milk changed into chewable food. It was food that wasn't just swallowed and assimilated. It had to be chewed and pondered during the day.

Sometimes it would take several days, even weeks for me to chew and swallow. And sometimes, I didn't like it and spit it out! One time, for several weeks, the Lord kept reiterating one subject. I would stumble upon the exact interpretation, and immediately spit it out, saying, "No way! It can't be!" He fed it to me over and over again. Each time I approached that door of understanding my flesh would recoil and I would retreat.

During this time I was having a very difficult time feeding my three year old his meat. I had cooked a soft and tender roast, and throughout the daily leftovers the "appearance" of that pot roast would change! He'd spit it out every time. Finally, the last day of the roast I ground it up, pulverized it in the blender and mixed it with miracle whip as a sandwich spread. This was a day of victory. He ate it!

That very day a friend phoned and asked me if I had considered "such n' such?" You guessed it, the subject was the "meat" He had served me over and over. Maybe I wasn't so far off after all... Just maybe, just perhaps it could be so. Before I went to sleep I said, "Is it really so Lord?" That night He gave me a picture of that roast on my son's plate and said, "I changed the form so you would swallow it!"

Coming to the chewable stage of His manna I had yet to learn this important lesson. I went through a whole season, hearing very clearly, knowing He was speaking; but

everything I heard could be interpreted two ways in drastic contrast. I had no way of knowing which of the two He was speaking. They were always in opposition. I was on a spiritual swing-set, going back and forth, wavering, and vacillating between two opinions. What an exhausting season! I ended upside down like a turtle with my feet anywhere but on solid ground. I had no stability, no hope of ever understanding God, no confidence; I was a zero.

I needed that season of weakness to know my limitations and my need for His help in understanding Him. He had so carefully built our language and vocabulary. He would speak, and I could hear. But interpretation is just like revelation — it can not happen without HIM. I learned that particular season how important Holy Spirit is in understanding what the Lord speaks.

B. DISCERNING THE MESSAGE

Much of discernment is a matter of logical deduction but not without Biblical knowledge and the Holy Spirit's help. The enemy has a subtle strategy of adding his lies to something that is recognized as truth. He knows we are too smart to listen to something that is drastically opposed to our understanding of the Lord. Because of that, we need to be equipped with a good foundation of the entire Bible, both the Old and the New Testament. We need to know it in context as well as understanding the types, shadows and symbolism. *"Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come." (1 Corinthians 10:11 KJ) "For had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me: for he wrote of me." (John 5:46 KJ) "For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope." (Romans 15:4 KJ)* Obviously we can not know all this at once, it is a lifetime pursuit, but as our Biblical knowledge grows, so will our discernment. We need to rely on the Holy Spirit to give us discernment in everything that comes our way. In every instance, do not rely on your own power, just pray and ask the Lord for help! He understands your plight and your concerns.

To begin the discerning process, there are times when the message seems true to our understanding of the Lord, yet our spirit will be repulsed. That is a wonderful help when it happens, but even that needs discernment to separate our flesh from our spirit. Our flesh can be threatened by hearing the Lord confront with truth. Sometimes we will hear something subtly correct and have no feeling in our spirit at all. That is when the discernment of a message and understanding our own giants is so important. If it is the Lord and we remain repulsed, He will continue to bring the same message to us in other ways until we receive it!

He loves us very much and understands our struggles. The Lord brings us through the journey of discernment, and understands our struggles to separate and receive only Him. He knows our heart in wanting to fight the battle of overcoming darkness.

Here are some basic things to remember when practicing the discernment of a message:

1. Quickening

"It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life." (John 6:63 KJ)

All the Lord's Words, no matter what form we hear them, must be quickened by His Holy Spirit. The Bible says, only what is quickened by His Spirit will give life. Quickened is an obscure Biblical word, but without its power, our relationship with Him is limited to a dead language. The literal Greek meaning of the word quicken is to "make alive, or give vitality." It's like the cartoon of the man ignoring the slow down sign. All words are just words until they are quickened and we finally realize they apply to us.

I remember hearing a story about a woman who brought her shy, unbelieving husband to church. He quietly listened to the entire sermon. Many things he heard related to his personal life (were quickened). Later, when confronting his wife, he said how embarrassed he was that she had told the pastor all about his personal problems. She was astonished because she hadn't said anything.

Quickening happens when you hear a story, etc. and all of a sudden it connects with your personal life. His quickening power says, "Listen to this, I'm talking to you!"

His quickened Words are like a puzzle piece that perfectly fits the shape of your life — You could have a need, or be in a set of circumstances, or whatever, and when the Lord quickens something it becomes applicable, it has a niche — a place to fit. Quickened Words from the Lord are always relevant.

Sometimes a puzzle piece will appear to have the right shape and size but when you apply it, it is not a perfect fit. Quickening is not what appears to fit. Quickening is a realization that it does fit. When it fits, your heart knows it.

God sends His puzzle pieces to us a piece at a time, and they find a place that fits perfectly with all the other Words He has been sharing. It takes time to work a puzzle, some pieces come to us upside down and backwards. Yet if it is HIS message, it will prosper no matter what the enemy or a giant has tried to do with it. His Word will turn and find the place that fits in perfect connection with other quickened Words that have found their niche (been confirmed and made secure). This takes time. His desire is for us to be planted in a sure place. *"And I will fasten him as a nail in a sure place; and he shall be for a glorious throne to his father's house." (Isaiah 22:23 KJ)*

When one is searching, the enemy may bring puzzle pieces that appear to be the right color, shape, or size. But only God's piece will fit perfectly. The enemy's attempt to snare will cause a distortion of the picture. We are not immune to taking something the enemy has planted and trying to make it fit.

It is just like forcing a puzzle piece that has been cut the same shape but not quite the same size. When placing the two together, there will either be a gap between the pieces, or the fit will be such a squeeze a "bump" will occur. This may delay the puzzle and disrupt its unity, but the more pieces of God's Word that come together, the more the enemy's puzzle piece will look alien. This takes time.

There are other times when God's Words can be like a dormant seed. What He has said may remain buried, hidden in the ground, for many years. When the time is right, He takes that Word and quickens it with life. Many years ago the Lord told me about a man who lived south of me but the Lord never shared his name. For a long time, I wondered who it was, then finally I just forgot about it. It wasn't until long after I'd met

this person, that I remembered what the Lord had told me, and sure enough, that person fulfilled exactly what the Lord had said. The knowledge was dormant and for all purposes dead, until the Holy Spirit brought it to memory and quickened it with life.

Identifying His quickening power is a vital concept in hearing Him speak. This is especially true when we wonder if what we heard is the Lord. Do you wonder if God is trying to say something to you? Check His quickening power. The words make an empty thud without it.

2. Revelation

The two disciples were walking on the road to Emmaus, thoroughly preoccupied with recent events. They did not recognize Him when He walked with them and discussed the scriptures. Moved and touched (quickened) by what He said, they asked Him to stay with them.

"[Stay] with us, for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent." And He went in to stay with them. Now it came to pass, as He sat at the table with them, that He took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they knew Him [revelation]; and He vanished from their sight. (Luke 24:29-31 NKJV)

As the Lord speaks, He suddenly "reveals" that He is the One speaking.

Revelation is the sudden awareness of the Lord's Presence or Word. It is the realization, "OH! That was God speaking to me!" The Lord sometimes hides the fact He is saying something to you, then suddenly it "dawns" on you, it is HIM. Revelation in the Greek Strong's Exhaustive Concordance Dictionary means to disclose, reveal, make manifest, appear, to lighten [as in illumination or to bring to light].

"OH it's Him!" cannot happen with logical facts. His Words become obvious only by His Presence. We cannot teach His Presence, but we can identify it. Learning to recognize His Presence through revelation is important in building a common language with Him.

Quickening and revelation are foundations within a new Christian's relationship with the Lord, but though these concepts are primary, they also continue throughout our entire Christian experience. They are vital to our relationship with Him, because His Word will ALWAYS be quickened to us, and He will not stop revealing Himself until we know Him as He is, face to face.

Remember to always apply the quickening test to anything heard. His Words to us will be a quickened message to our hearts, and they will always bring us life. (John 6:63) If it isn't quickened then let it go. Life is too short to waste ourselves on words that speak nothing and go nowhere. The concept of quickening is the most basic test of all that is heard, and it is also the simplest. It is easy to forget this while trying to wade knee-deep through the discernment process.

3. The good and perfect gift

Only God gives good and perfect gifts, which are a reflection of Himself. "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning." (James 1:17 NKJV) The enemy cannot give a good and perfect gift. But he tries to disguise his so called gift to

look like one. Ask yourself some questions about what you've heard; how did it make you feel? Did you receive peace, joy, or comfort? Or did it create a division in your relationship with the Lord, for instance feelings of guilt, confusion, fear, remorse, anxiousness, etc.?

A good verse to test what is heard is: "Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy — meditate on these things." (Philippians 4:8 NKJV) Ask yourself, if the thought you heard lined up with the qualities of that verse.

4. In Jesus' Likeness

It is the Lord's desire to bring us into Jesus' full image and stature of maturity. *"Unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ." (Ephesians 4:13 KJ)* What He speaks will build us towards that direction. Did what you hear build you up into Jesus' image - did it sound like something Jesus Christ would have said? Satan cannot exalt Jesus as Lord and Savior. The enemy's purpose will be to display power and control, especially glorifying man and self-image, which is the exact opposite of exalting Jesus Christ.

5. The nature of His Words

A message from the Lord will always reflect His character. The upcoming list About Knowing God gives Biblical foundations as to Who God is and defines His attributes. Its summary is applied here as a checklist:

• Does the thought reflect the qualities of love?

• Check for a mixed message; note its purity, and life giving qualities.

• Make sure it doesn't condemn, does glorify Jesus, has the motive for building wholeness, provides peace and refuge.

• Watch that it reflects His Fatherhood, disciplines in love, guides into His truth, feeds and sustains, provides, covers and protects.

• Check that it strengthens, nurtures, is righteous and just, reflects that He is all powerful, all present, and all knowing.

In summary, His Words to us always speak, *"And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." (John 8:32 NKJV)* And for the most part, understanding discernment is that simple. The thought can be easily discerned simply by lining it up with the qualities of God and the Bible. It can be a process of choice through logical checks and balances of His character, balanced with His quickening power. If the message lines up with Jesus Christ and His Word, is quickened by His Spirit to give life, then the message can be swallowed.

No matter what, use discernment in what you see, hear and understand, concerning any message, not only yours, but from others as well. If you have heard a message and it does not reflect the goodness of God, then the message is impure. If you hear a word through an appointed gift of God, and it does not reflect His qualities, the message is impure. Do not esteem the reputation of man and ministry over the

discernment of the message. If you hear anything from various ways, even if they are true, but do not reflect Him and His character, then discern the message and the source.

V. ABOUT KNOWING GOD

A. THE LIST OF THE CHARACTER AND NATURE OF GOD

Words that come from the Lord, no matter in what fashion, will always line up with Who He is. It is especially helpful to be grounded in the characteristics of God in order to know whether it is Him speaking to us.

The following is a list of the qualities and attributes of God and how they relate to the nature of His Words:

1. God is Love. God's Word to us is founded upon the characteristics of love.

"Love endures long and is patient and kind; love never is envious nor boils over with jealousy; is not boastful or vainglorious, does not display itself haughtily. It is not conceited - arrogant and inflated with pride; it is not rude (unmannerly), and does not act unbecomingly. Love {God's love in us} does not insist on its own rights or its own way, for it is not self-seeking; it is not touchy or fretful or resentful; it takes no account of the evil done to it - pays no attention to a suffered wrong. It does not rejoice at injustice and unrighteousness, but rejoices when right and truth prevail. Love bears up under anything and everything that comes, is ever ready to believe the best of every person, its hopes are fadeless under all circumstances and it endures everything {without weakening}. Love never fails - never fades out or becomes obsolete or comes to an end..." (I Corinthians 13:4-8 AMP)

2. God is Life. When God speaks, it gives us strength, nourishment and fruitfulness; it gives us life.

"...I have come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." (John 10:10 KJ) "...The Words that I speak to you, are spirit, and they are life." (John 6:63 NKJV)

3. God is our Refuge. He is our hiding place, shielding us from the fiery darts. Words from Him will carefully protect when uncovering a thorn.

"He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in Him will I trust." (Psalm 91:1,2 NKJV)

4. God is Peace. There is no pushiness or driving anxiety in peace. Peace stills the storm. His Word to us will quiet our hearts when all is raging around us.

"..they cry unto the Lord in their trouble, and he bringeth them out of their distresses. He maketh the storm a calm, so the waves thereof are still. Then are they glad because they be quiet; so he bringeth them into their desired haven." (Psalm 107:28-30 KJ)

5. God is Whole. "I AM that I AM" is complete. When He speaks wholeness into

our lives, we become well, whole, supplied and complete in Him.

"I AM that I AM" (Exodus 3:14 KJ) "That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." (2 Timothy 3:17 KJ) [Perfect = complete 739 Strong's]

6. God is Discipline. He disciplines us because He loves us and wants us to be partakers of His Holiness.

"For the Lord corrects and disciplines every one whom He loves, and He punishes, even scourges, every son whom He accepts and welcomes to His heart and cherishes...Moreover, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us and we yielded {to them} and respected {them for training us}. Shall we not much more cheerfully submit to the Father of spirits, and so {truly} live? For {our earthly fathers} disciplined us for only a short period of time and chastised us as seemed proper and good to them, but He disciplines us for our certain good, that we may become sharers in His own holiness." (Hebrews 12:6-10 AMP)

7. God is our Provider. What He speaks into our lives, will provide everything we need.

"And Abraham said, My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering..." (Genesis 22:8 KJ)

8. God is the Bread of Life. His Words will nourish us throughout our journey. They will strengthen, sustain and satisfy us.

"I am that bread of life. Your fathers did eat manna in the wilderness... I am the living bread which came down from heaven..." (John 6:48 KJ)

9. God is our Strength. His Words give strength to stand and strength to rest.

"The Lord is my strength and song..." (Exodus 15:2A KJ)

10. God is our Banner. Words from Him are a sign that points the way to truth.

"You have given a banner to those that fear You, that it may be displayed because of the truth." (Psalm 60:4 NKJV)

11. God is our Counselor. Words from the Holy Spirit will advise and guide us on the Lord's pathway. [(Isaiah 9:6) Counselor; to advise, deliberate, resolve, consult, determine, guide. 3289 Hebrew Strong's]

"...when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth..." (John 16:13 KJ)

12. God is Just. His Words execute justice to the wicked and freedom to the wronged.

"...for all his ways are judgment: for a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is He." (Deuteronomy 32:4B,C KJ)

13. God is Truth. When He speaks, He does not lay heavy burdens upon our shoulders, rather He sets us free with truth.

"...the Spirit of truth, which proceeds from the Father..." (John 15:26 KJ) "And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed." (John 8:32,36 KJ)

14. God is a Deliverer. When He speaks Words into our lives, they deliver us from the death of the evil one and sin. He speaks without condemnation.

"For God did not send His son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through Him might be saved. He who believes in Him is not condemned..." (John 3:17,18 NKJV)

15. God is our Shepherd. The Lord's Words will be in one accord with a shepherd's care for his sheep.

"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep." (John 10:11 NKJV)

16. God is our Everlasting Father. He gives good gifts to His children. His Words will be good gifts reflecting His Fatherhood. (Isaiah 9:6 KJ)

"If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven, give good things to them that ask him?" (Matthew 7:11 KJ)

17. God glorifies Jesus. The Father glorifies His Name through glorifying His Son, Jesus. When He speaks Words into our lives, they point the way to and through Jesus, His Son.

"The Spirit of truth...He shall glorify me..." (John 16:13,14 KJ) "Father glorify thy name. Then came there a voice from heaven, saying, I have both glorified it, and will glorify it again. (John 12:28 KJ) I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." (John 14:6 KJ)

18. God is our Righteousness. The Lord speaks His righteousness to cover our sins for we have no righteousness of our own.

"...and this is his name whereby he shall be called, The Lord Our Righteousness." (Jeremiah 23:6B KJ)

19. God is Holy. When He speaks, His Words are pure, clear, without spot and blemish. There is no mixture in His Words.

"...Every word of God is pure." (Proverbs 30:5 KJ) {Pure in the Hebrew means refined. 6884 Strong's}

20. God is Merciful. The Lord's Words are compassionate.

"And the Lord passed before him there, and proclaimed, "The Lord, the Lord God,

merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth.." (Exodus 34:6 NKJV)

21. God is Forgiving. He speaks forgiveness for our sins.

"Keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin..." (Exodus 34:7 NKJV)

22. God is Comforting. He speaks ease and consolation to our pain.

"As whom his mother comforts, so I will comfort you." (Isaiah 66:13 NKJV)

23. God is Gracious. The Lord shows us favor and pity.

"I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious..." (Exodus 33:19 NKJV)

24. God is Wonderful. His Words to us are extraordinary, filled with wonder and marvel.

"And His name shall be called Wonderful..." (Isaiah 9:6 NKJV)

25. God is Omniscient. God's Words reveal His secrets, for He knows all things.

"Great is our Lord, and of great power: his understanding is infinite." (Psalm 147:5 KJ)

26. God is Omnipresent. His Words are present everywhere in life.

"Where can I go from Your Spirit? or where can I flee from Your presence? If I ascend into heaven, You art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold You are there." (Psalm 139:7,8 NKJV)

27. God is Omnipotent. God's Words are all powerful.

"There is none more powerful than He.....and thou reignest over all; and thine hand is power and might..." (1 Chronicles 29:12A,B)

B. LIST OF DISCERNMENT QUESTIONS

When you hear something, no matter what form it is in, test it. Here some questions to ask yourself. More understanding on these is available in the book, "101+ Ways God Speaks (And How to Hear Him)"

KNOW THE BIBLE

DOES IT AGREE WITH THE BIBLE?

DOES IT:

1 Validate Jesus Christ is King of kings and Lord of lords?

2 Recognize Jesus Christ is the door?

3 Recognize Biblical sin?

4 Certify the attributes of God?

5 Synchronize with the Biblical message?

6 Build Jesus' image?

KNOW THE HOLY SPIRIT

DOES IT VERIFY HIS PURPOSE?

DOES IT:

7 Quicken with relevance?

8 Fit the puzzle together?

9 Identify the Holy Spirit is grieved?

10 Reveal a misunderstanding of God's purpose?

11 Manifest His Presence?

12 Refresh your soul, body and spirit?

13 Bring you closer to Him?

14 Identify the Gifts of the Holy Spirit?

15 Make darkness manifest?

16 Give a good and perfect gift?

17 Nurture purity?

18 Encourage walking in holiness?

IDENTIFY THE FLESH

ARE YOU SEPARATING THE DIFFERENCE?

DO YOU:

19 Know God's Word is more faithful than the vessel?

20 Distinguish the personality of the vessel?

21 Make decisions with love and patience about the vessel?

22 Take your own thoughts captive?

23 Understand nurturing thoughts?

24 Feel wary of fleeces?

25 Recognize when your flesh is repulsed?

IDENTIFY GIANTS

DO YOU RECOGNIZE GIANTS?

DO YOU:

26 Identify your own giants?

27 Understand your own weakness towards opening the door to giants?

28 Recognize giant decay in yourself and others?

29 Recognize giant patterns in others?

30 Understand giants pervert truth?

31 Distinguish what strokes a giant wound?

32 Separate strong meat spoken from a giant's influence?

SEPARATE THE ENEMY

DO YOU RECOGNIZE ENEMY TACTICS?

DOES IT:

33 Hate Jesus Christ?

34 Hate light?

35 Identify occult practices?

36 Bind, hinder, numb and chain the ability and personal will?

37 Lie and deceive?

38 Cover over truth

39 Hide from exposure?

40 Portray a grievous message or heavy feeling?

41 Divide people?

42 Scatter people from God's source?

43 Oppose God's character?

44 Display power with control, manipulation, pushiness, force over your personal will, coercion?

45 Warp and pervert the message?

46 Accuse and condemn?

47 Distort the attributes of God?

KNOW THE TIMES

DOES IT FIT WITH THE TIMES?

DO YOU:

48 Define it as the outpouring of the supernatural?

49 Recognize the counter culture, counterfeit and activities of the occult?

50 Perceive the lust for supernatural knowledge & itching ears?

51 Understand the process of overcoming in this time in history?

UNDERSTAND GOD'S CYCLES

DO YOU ALLOW TIME?

DO YOU:

52 Accept discernment is a process, not necessarily an experience?

53 Understand wavering faith?

54 Recognize sifted faith?

55 Pray through sifting?

56 Acknowledge God speaks in circles?

57 Recognize the application of His Word is larger tomorrow than it is today?

58 Wait for 2 or 3 witnesses for confirmation?

59 Wait for understanding?

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PART THREE

I. SUMMARY

What has been taught by this study:

- Discernment in the Old Testament and the New Testament is the process of separating into 2 piles.
- We are to discern spiritual food, prophesy, spirits (man, God, angels, demons) and man's fruits.
- As a result of what we discern, there are 2 kinds of throne room ministry. The choice is ours. We either agree with satan or Jesus.
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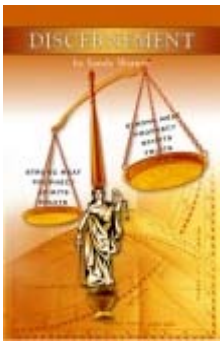
- The tendency in discerning is to judge or criticize. Since we are commanded not to judge, we overcome this by being like Jesus Who was a Priest and King. He stood in the gap and He pardoned.
- In these last days, we will be forced to make decisions about the supernatural.
- In discerning people we will learn the difference between their gifts, their flesh and their demonic influence. We will learn to separate the clutter from the good gifts God has placed within each person.
- In discerning spirits, we will learn how to discern enemy thoughts, counterfeit spirits, occult doors and enemy dreams and visions. We learn to rebuke and renounce to close demonic doors.
- In discerning the message, we will understand the importance of knowing the power of quickening, revelation, the good and perfect gift, Jesus' likeness, and the nature of His Words.
- In everything that we discern, we will look for the characteristics and nature of God.



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Words from the The Quickened Word are excerpts from the journals of Sandy Warner. To better understand how God speaks, read Sandy's book, "101+ Ways God Speaks, And How to Hear Him." Website: www.thequickenedword.com Email: swauthor@usa.net

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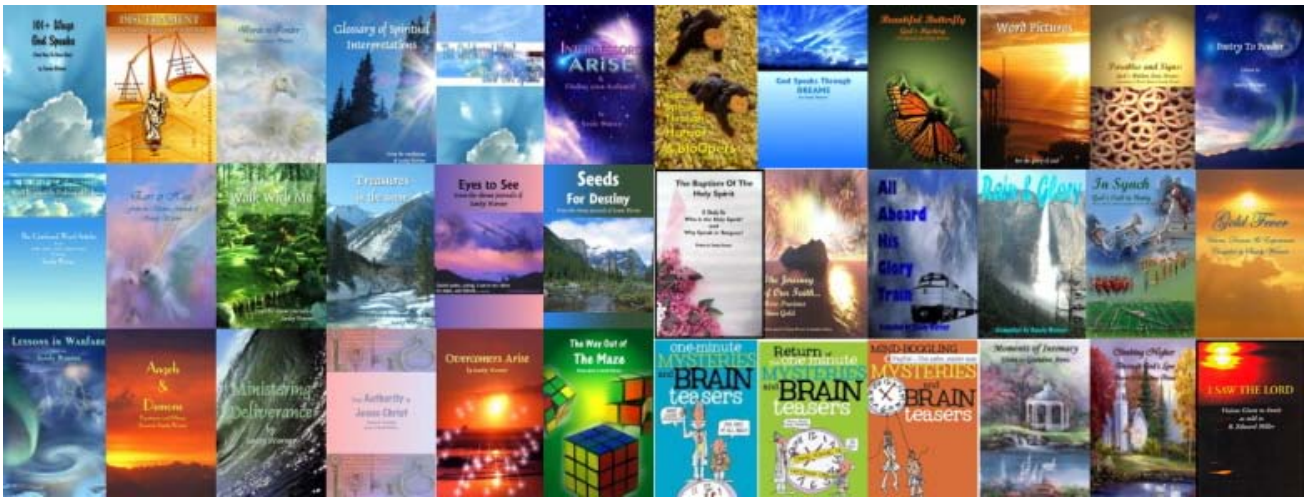

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