

The Voice Of The Dry Bones



The Voice Of The Dry Bones

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PREFACE



The series of messages shared in these pages were spoken in the Summer Camp Meetings in New Delhi in 2014. The Lord truly moved in our midst and met with us as we gathered together to meet Him. We were apprehended of the Lord afresh through His prophetic word and it left a distinct spiritual mark upon most of us. The Lord impressed upon my heart to publish these messages in book form for the encouragement and edification of the remnant of God in these end times.

The Holy Spirit, who is the custodian of all that the Father has, helped me to see things a little more clearly than what I had seen in the past. During those days of my waiting and preparations, I was encouraged by men of God whose eyes had been opened to see many glorious things about

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His overcoming Church in these last days. I thank God for their input into my life.

The burden of the Holy Spirit in ministering these messages is that God's church may grow spiritually and progressively experience that "great salvation" that has been kept for her in the end-times. The church is to come into the inheritance that the Lord has preserved.

In the end-times many astounding and appalling things are likely to happen according the Scriptures. Jesus spoke specifically about the last days in Matthew 24 and parallel chapters in the book of Luke. He spoke about dreadful things that would take place in the end times. And there can be no doubt that these shall be fulfilled. We stand on the threshold of those ominous dark days. **While that is a reality, I would like to say very definitely; with every assurance from the Holy Spirit that God has a precise plan for His church.**

Beloved, God's plan for His church is very simple and uncomplicated, but man has somehow misunderstood it and complicated God's plan with his own interpretations. Nevertheless, God will preserve His church, His people, and His own, through the darkest and most perilous of times. As we read in Chapter 24, and verse 22 of Matthew, *"And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved; but for the elects sake those days shall be shortened."* **The Lord did not say that in order to save His elect He would give them wings to fly away! But the Lord said that for the sake of His elect, His bride, He will**

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shorten the days. They will have to pass through those evil times, but those days shall be shortened for the sake of His Elect! They are not going to be whisked away. God is going to surely preserve His Church. This is very certain in the light of His precious word.

God has a definite plan for His redeemed people and His overcoming church in the earth. **He will preserve His people through His pre-determined word.** God will preserve the church of Jesus Christ by His spoken word. **In the midst of the very darkest of situations, God will preserve His church by the word that has proceeded from His mouth.** In the face of calamities and in the midst of the darkness of tribulation, God will preserve His people by the word He has uttered. The word that God has spoken before the foundations of the world will come to our help. God has said that He will preserve His church. **He has a definite, certain and precise plan for His church.**

The Lord never panics. There is no emergency with God. Today, governments panic, leaders of nations panic and even the enemy freaks out, but God is unperturbed; He is calm. He is not trying to initiate a plan called 'Operation Protection' for His church. God doesn't have an emergency plan for His Church to somehow protect her from the hand of the enemy in the 21st century! No never!!

Jesus said to His disciples, *"Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away"* (Matt 24:35). Saints, God saw it all from the beginning. **Nothing can ever surprise Him. He has spoken a word of preservation.**

He has a word that is eternal, that is unshakable and steadfast just like His own character. God's character does not change with time. As the Hebrew writer says, "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever." (Heb 13:8)

God does not have to maintain the course of this universe which He spoke into existence. Do you think God is checking to see whether the earth is revolving around the sun as He had spoken? Does he need to monitor its function? He spoke a word once, and by that word that He had spoken this universe into existence, He is maintaining this universe. Praise God! **Beloved saints, from the beginning of the world and even before the creation of all things, God has spoken a word into existence about His glorious church and that word will sustain her until all that He has purposed for her is fulfilled. Hallelujah!**

The Lord led me to lay a very strong foundation before the main burden of the Holy Spirit was released in our meditation. A strong ground work of the word was necessary to remove all the rubble and wreckage and open the way for the word of God could enter into every hungry heart.

I wish to, therefore, highlight the main Scripture. *"By faith Joseph, when he died, made mention of the departing of the children of Israel; and gave commandment concerning his bones"*. (Heb11:22) *And Joseph said unto his brethren, I die; and God will surely visit you, and bring you out of this land unto the land which he sware to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob. And Joseph took an oath*

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of the children of Israel, saying God will surely visit you, and ye shall carry up my bones from thence” (Gen 50:24-25). This is a very interesting, but seldom scrutinized portion of the Scriptures. There were twelve men from each tribe of Israel who took their turns to carry a strange-looking Egyptian coffin on their shoulders through the wilderness journey. They carried this coffin containing the dead bones of their forefather Joseph from the very beginning of their departure from Egypt. It was a long journey to the Promised Land. On their way they came to the river Jordan where the waters were rolled back. The Scripture tells us that they continued to carry the coffin containing the bones of the 'man of God', for Joseph was no ordinary man. He had been a ruler over Egypt at one time. But more significantly, he was a prophet of God who had prophesied about Israel's deliverance and possession of the Promised Land. Joseph saw by the Spirit things far ahead of his days. He longed to be part of that which was yet to come; he hungered for it; and not only that, he went ahead and made provision to be found in it. And he was part of that great event about which he prophesied and prepared for. This is also very prophetic for the church of Jesus Christ as well in these last days. There is a glorious message here.

There is a distinct prophetic word for those who are growing up in God's sovereign grace and living in these end-times in the midst of many events. **Joseph saw far ahead of his days by the Spirit. He longed to be part of that which was yet to come, he hungered for it, and not only that he went ahead and made provision to be found in it. And he was part of that great event about**

which he prophesied and prepared for. If you and I catch the same vision for the end of the age as God has promised for His church, your heart will be thrilled with the glory of what God is about to-do!

The dry bones that the Israelites carried through the wilderness were like a prophetic voice that encouraged the new generation all the way until their possession. The bones testified that despite every hindrance and work of the enemy all through the journey they would possess their inheritance.

There is a new day that is dawning for the people of God! This new day that is coming upon His people is not of man, but it is of God. The promise of God for His people shall be fulfilled regardless of every murmur, unbelief and of every fear. Saints, this is not a fabricated, fictitious matter or something made-up by some people. This is no strange teaching, nor a new doctrine or a fresh revelation brought forth by someone. This is God's word. It has been revealed to the hungry through the centuries. Men of old have heard and seen it and walked this way. And I want to say that we are carrying the bones of these men, men who prophesied and lived in that faith in their time and looked forward to the blessed hope of the manifestation of the sons of God, the glorious Bride and the return of Christ in the fullness of time. **May I say with deep personal conviction that we are carrying their testimony on our shoulders and their testimony is ever speaking to our lives, "you will make it to the end and possess your inheritance in Christ!" Hallelujah!!**

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Man fell on this earth and lost God's purpose but man will be restored here on this earth and brought into God's full purpose! What many in Christendom are claiming as their "inheritance" falls far too short of the glorious promises of God for His Bride, His church! Surely the fullness of His glory shall be in the earthen vessels!

Finally, my brethren, I submit the prophetic expressions in these chapters to every hungry soul who shall read with an open heart so that their eyes may be enlightened to know the hope of their calling and their inheritance in Christ!

Joy Thomas
September 2016

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1

GOD'S PRE-DETERMINED WORD



THESE messages are being shared with a great burden so that God's remnant people may hear what the Lord is saying to His church. The burden of the Holy Spirit is seen repeatedly mentioned in the book of Revelation, "*He that hath an ear let him hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches.*" God is speaking these messages for no other reason than that His church may grow spiritually and experience progressively the salvation that has been kept for her in the end-times. We are to come into the inheritance that the Lord has preserved for us and is unfolding to us in these last days. Therefore, let each one of us be aware that we are living in important times according to the calendar and workings of God. What the Lord had spoken

when He was upon the earth must find its fulfillment in us in these days in which we are living. The Lord, our God, had spoken many things through His prophets in the past, but as we read in Chapter 1 and verses 1-3 of the book of Hebrews, He is speaking to us in the person of His Son in these last days!

“God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds; Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;”

Beloved, God has spoken. In the past He spoke through His prophets, **but in these last days He is speaking by the Prophet, His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ.** God is speaking by “The Prophet” today. Let this reality stir us so that it may be established in our hearts. In these last days, God is speaking to His church through only one Person.

“But those things, which God before had shewed by the mouth of all his prophets, that Christ should suffer, he hath so fulfilled.” (Acts 3:18)

“Whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.” (Acts 3:21)

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These Scripture portions make it very clear that all that is written in the Holy Scriptures concerning Christ, (that is His suffering, death, resurrection and ascension), has already been fulfilled as spoken by the prophets. In like manner also, the heavens will retain Christ till all things in the earth have been restored. Until the restoration of all that has been spoken of through all His holy prophets from the beginning of the world is complete, the heavens will not release Christ for the fulfillment of God's plan and purpose. Saints, let us be in agreement with this fact.

Everything, absolutely every single thing, that has been spoken by the prophets concerning the coming of Christ in the flesh, that is His suffering, His death and His resurrection has already been fulfilled. And the Apostle further says that UNTIL all that the prophets have spoken concerning the restoration of all things (which have been spoken by the mouth of all the holy prophets from the beginning of the world) is not fulfilled the heavens will retain Christ. Saints, UNTIL the restoration of all things are fulfilled, the heavens must hold back or retain Christ. Praise God for that!

God spoke in times past through the holy prophets, but He is now speaking in the person of His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. He is not only a prophet, but He is "The Prophet". **This makes it more than apparent that all that Jesus, the eternal and ultimate prophet, has spoken must be fulfilled.** If that which was spoken through the mouth of the holy prophets mentioned in the old Scriptures have been fulfilled, how much more will all that the Prophet, the Son

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of God, has spoken now not be fulfilled. Consider this and ponder upon it meditatively.

We, the church of Jesus Christ, the remnant of God, need to draw near to the Lord in this hour as never before. Our focus must wholly be upon the Lord. We need to draw near to the Lord, not to receive some blessing, not just to meet our needs, not merely to obtain deliverance from the things that bind us, but we are to draw near to Him for the purpose of hearing His voice. The reason we are to draw near to Him is only to hear what the Lord has to say to us in these times. That is the central purpose of drawing to His side. Though many saints are drawn to the Lord for personal self-centered reasons, we are to draw closer to Him for no other reason than to know what is upon His heart and what He would like to convey to His church. Our cry must be to hear what the longing of His heart and what He desires from His people. We need to know what is upon His heart so that we can obey Him and fulfill His heart's desire. May we be found in that occupation and may the direction of our cry be heavenward!

A PEOPLE KEPT BY HIS WORD

In the end-times many terrible things are likely to happen according to the Scriptures. Jesus spoke specifically about end times in Matthew 24 and parallel chapters in the book of Luke. He spoke about dreadful things that would take place in the end-times. And there can be no doubt that these shall be fulfilled. We stand on the threshold of those terribly dark times. While that is a reality, I would like to

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say very definitely, with every assurance from the Spirit, that God has a precise plan for His church. That is something that must apprehend our hearts. We see a Christianity today that is only concerned with the welfare of man, the needs of man and the things of man. But though the Lord has delivered and brought many out of the systems of man, they are still struggling to deal with this issue in their lives. It is imperative that they too come into a place of wholeheartedly focusing upon the Lord, Jesus Christ.

Beloved, God's plan for His church is very simple and uncomplicated, but man has somehow misunderstood it and complicated God's plan with his own interpretations. Nevertheless, God will preserve His church, His people, and His own, through the darkest and most perilous of times. As we read in Chapter 24, and verse 22 of Matthew, *"And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened."* **The Lord did not say that in order to save His elect He would give them wings to fly away!** But the Lord said that for the sake of His elect, His bride, He will shorten the days. **They have to pass through those evil times, but those days shall be shortened for the sake of His Elect! They are not going to be whisked away,** God is going to surely preserve His Church. This is very certain in the light of His precious word.

Saints, God has a definite plan for His redeemed people and for His overcoming church in the earth. **He will preserve His people through His pre-determined word.** God will preserve the church of Jesus Christ by His spoken word. **In**

the midst of the very darkest of situations, God will preserve His church by a word that has proceeded from His mouth. In the face of calamities and in the midst of the darkness of tribulation, God will preserve His people by the words He has uttered. Saints, we shall be kept by His word. It is by the spoken word that we shall be preserved. The word that He has spoken and determined before the foundations of the world will come to our help. Great statements have been made in His Word, but always remember that these have not been made by men. They are not the statements of men. These are the words of the Lord, spoken and determined before the world began! God has said that He will preserve His church. He has spoken. He has a definite, certain, precise plan for His church. **The Lord never panics. There is no emergency with God. Today, governments panic, leaders of nations panic and even the enemy freaks out, but God is unperturbed: He is calm. He is not trying to initiate a plan called Operation Protection for His church. God doesn't have an emergency plan for His Church that will somehow protect her from the hand of the enemy in the 21st century! No never!**

Let me sound a warning trumpet, dear brethren! There is every indication that in our country many things will not go in favor of us in the coming days. It is not a time to run to the Lord and cry out to Him to protect us because adverse things are going to happen, but let me tell you that what we need to do is to draw near to Him so that we may hear what He has to say. In these perilous times, we must know that God has already spoken; we must get to know the word

that He has uttered. That is what will protect His remnant for His purpose. **Let this word produce faith toward God in our heart; God has spoken a word; He has drawn a plan into existence.** Long before nations came into existence, much before armies were raised by kings and great nations, God brought forth a spoken word. Before wars had spilled out upon the earth, the Lord had spoken a word. So let us place all our trust in God in the coming days. What does this mean? Unless we draw near to God, the days are going to be very difficult. But despite all that would happen in the future, the Lord has got a way by which He shall preserve and keep His church. God spoke His Word and plan into existence LONG BEFORE nations came into being or wars were fought on the earth. Before the earth witnessed violence and before plagues appeared on the earth, God had uttered His Word. **God foresaw it all from the beginning. Nothing that happens on the earth ever surprises our God.**

Men like Daniel of old never got perplexed or confused by what was happening in their midst. This is because they realized that though there were many powerful kings that demonstrated their great power and might upon the earth, none could match the Lord of their lives. Some of the kings even boasted that they had total power over Daniel's life. They were fearsome, awful men who boasted they had power over lives of all others!

“In the same hour came forth fingers of a man's hand, and wrote over against the candlestick upon the plaister of the wall of the king's palace: and the king

saw the part of the hand that wrote. Then the king's countenance was changed, and his thoughts troubled him, so that the joints of his loins were loosed, and his knees smote one against another."

"King Belshazzar was very frightened. His face turned white, his knees knocked together, and he could not stand up because his legs were too weak"(Dan 5:5-6 NCV)

The rulers of this world speak lofty, swelling words of power, arrogance and pride. They ride high while they are seated upon their thrones. We read about them in every newspaper today and see them strutting about like proud peacocks on the news channels. But they are fearful of many things. They know their end. Look at Belshazzar, his knees knocked together and he could not stand up because his legs were weak! The reason he was fearful was because he saw the writing on the wall. **Belshazzars are men who are essentially fearful and without courage. However, they are quick to rain fear upon others' lives!**

I am reminded of a Scripture in the book of Joshua. Joshua sent two men to Jericho to spy out the land. This is what Rahab said to the two spies, *"And she said to the men, I know that the Lord has given you the land and that your terror is fallen upon us and that all the inhabitants of the land faint because of you. For we have heard how the Lord dried up the water of the Red Sea for you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to the two kings of the Amorites who were on the [east] side of the Jordan, Sihon and Og, whom you utterly destroyed. When we heard it, our hearts melted, neither did spirit or courage remain any*

more in any man because of you, for the Lord your God, He is God in heaven above and on earth beneath.” (Amplified Bible)(Josh 2:9-11). The mighty king of Jericho with his men of war and many pursuers were living in fear! **Saints, such as they, are fearful of the overcoming church of Jesus Christ! May I tell you beloved saints, the enemy is afraid of you, the church of Jesus Christ! The strong men in authority have no strength in them. Their power and authority is only for a time! Why should we be fearful of them?** Even so was Daniel; he was not fearful of the king.

The king called for Daniel after all other wise men failed to read the writing on the wall and interpret it. The king offered Daniel great gifts including a place as a third ruler in the kingdom. What was Daniels reply? *“Then Daniel answered and said before the king, Let thy gifts be to thyself, and give thy rewards to another; yet I will read the writing unto the king, and make known to him the interpretation.”*(Dan 5:17). Daniel knew by the Spirit that this king and his kingdom would not last another night! God had brought his kingdom and might to an end. Why then should Daniel receive the gifts which came from a passing order, though it was a matter of great honor? The words of Daniel further make it very clear that his eyes were not on earthly blessings and riches. He was not looking for honor and promotion! His eyes were on better things, eternal things; things which are heavenly and not earthly that passes away! What an overcomer Daniel was! Here is a great lesson for God’s remnant church on the earth. We are not to be enticed by the world and the kings of this

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world by what they offer. Today the corporate world allure many young people by many offers. Many walk into them and get trapped in those snares because they fail to discern and see things from an eternal perspective. Earthly riches, honour, favours and benefits rob many believers their heavenly perception! Saints, you and I cannot be insensitive in our present day situations and challenges. Our eyes have to be on eternal things alone.

Though Daniel told the king that he would not take the king's gifts, yet he said that he would interpret the writings on the wall. He was a responsible man who could be counted upon by the king. He was in the world but certainly not of the world. He said *"yet I will read the writing unto the king, and make known to him the interpretation."* He had drawn his lines very clearly between the world and his commitments to the Lord. There was absolutely no confusion in his heart. He bore the testimony of the Lord in the midst of the kingdoms of men! He was not afraid of telling the truth as revealed to him by the Lord. Daniel read the writing on the wall knowing that none of the kings had power over his life. Daniel saw a king who ruled over the kingdoms of frail, fearful men. He saw the King of kings whose throne is enthroned on high! Oh may our eyes behold the King who reigns in the midst of the kingdoms of this world! Read what Daniel said to the king in

*O thou king, the most high God gave
Nebuchadnezzar thy father a kingdom, and majesty,
and glory, and honour:*

And for the majesty that he gave him, all people,

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nations, and languages, trembled and feared before him: whom he would he slew; and whom he would he kept alive; and whom he would he set up; and whom he would he put down.

But when his heart was lifted up, and his mind hardened in pride, he was deposed from his kingly throne, and they took his glory from him:

And he was driven from the sons of men; and his heart was made like the beasts, and his dwelling was with the wild asses: they fed him with grass like oxen, and his body was wet with the dew of heaven; till he knew that the most high God ruled in the kingdom of men, and that he appointeth over it whomsoever he will.

And thou his son, O Belshazzar, hast not humbled thine heart, though thou knewest all this;

But hast lifted up thyself against the Lord of heaven; and they have brought the vessels of his house before thee, and thou, and thy lords, thy wives, and thy concubines, have drunk wine in them; and thou hast praised the gods of silver, and gold, of brass, iron, wood, and stone, which see not, nor hear, nor know: and the God in whose hand thy breath is, and whose are all thy ways, hast thou not glorified:" (Dan 5:18-23)

Daniel clearly told the king, "but the God in Whose hand your breath is and Whose are all your ways you have not honored and glorified [but have dishonored and disgraced]." (Amplified Bible) (Dan 5:23). Oh, if only boastful men knew that their breath is in the hands of the Lord, the Living God! We are living in a time when men

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boast of many things and do not realize that their very breath is in the hands of the Lord. Intelligent men and men in power and authority don't accept this. Their pride doesn't allow them to accept the truth that their ways are really in the hands of the Lord. In our daily lives and in the midst of the challenges that we face from day to day, how needful it is for us to realize that our breath is in His hands. **Those who persecute us and trouble us do not have the final word over our lives.** Like Daniel, our eyes should see what lies beyond. The life of your hard-hearted boss, the days of that unreasonably difficult person who always brings you to misery, and the one who harasses and hounds you, is in the hands of the Lord. **Saints, we are not here to compromise God's principles and try to make our lives better and easier.** No never! We have to be uncompromising people, when it comes to Kingdom purposes and principles, wherever God has placed us. Let us learn from Daniel that we have a God who reigns over the whole world and whose words are unchangeable!

GOD'S WORD PRESERVES HIS PEOPLE

Jesus said to His disciples, *"Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away."* (Matt 24:35). Saints, God saw it all from the beginning. Nothing can ever surprise Him. He has a word of preservation. **He has a word that is eternal, that is as unshakeable and steadfast as His own character. God's character does not change with time.** And that is why the Hebrew writer says that He is the same yesterday, today and forever. He never changes. His

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words belong to His character which is unchangeable and unalterable. God has spoken a word into existence for His church. It is a word of preservation. It is an eternal word: it is unchangeable. This is what the apostle Paul says in Acts 17,

“And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation;”
(Act 17:26)

“And He made from one [common origin, one source, one blood] all nations of men to settle on the face of the earth, having definitely determined [their] allotted periods of time and the fixed boundaries of their habitation (their settlements, lands, and abodes),” (Act 17:26 AMP)

The apostle Paul gave these words at Mars Hill. God made all nations of men from one blood. God determined that all men would settle on the earth in predetermined areas and given boundaries and for allotted periods of time. Their habitations, settlements, lands and abodes were fixed beforehand. This is our great God! May God open our eyes to see this precious truth.

God has spoken a word into existence and He will preserve His church by his pre-determined word. The Son of the Living God, who is the creator of all things, who has determined the boundaries and allotted the periods of time, who has fixed every habitation, land and abode for man, knows the eternal, predetermined word. Men may say that they have determined their own ways and boundaries and

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habitations, but my God says that He is the one who has done it all. Saints, this great and mighty God is the God of our salvation. He has called us in His mercy and given us this great salvation which is ready to be revealed in these end times.

We are born again to a lively hope, an inheritance which is incorruptible and that fades not away. **Day after day, hour by hour, God is going to preserve His church; God is going to preserve His bride!** He will bring her into everything he has spoken of by His own mouth and by the mouth of His prophets. Saints, **God does not have a monitoring cell to report the progress of the church nor does He need one!** God has spoken His word and that word will preserve His Church, hour by hour, and day by day, and bring her into the fulfillment of everything. He has spoken things into existence. **Does God who spoke the universe into existence need to speak again and again to maintain its course? Is God checking out to see whether the earth is revolving around the sun as He had spoken? Does He need to monitor His creation? Remember that He has spoken a word. He spoke a word once and by that word that He had spoken this universe into existence, He is maintaining this universe.** Praise God! Let this register in our hearts. The entire universe exists because He had spoken a word and this complex universe continues to function because of that word. Although man is trying to interfere and interrupt the course of nature, it is still functioning as God had commanded by His word!

“Which commandeth the sun, and it riseth not; and sealeth up the stars.” (Job 9:7)

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*“Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.”
(Heb 11:3)*

“Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;” (Heb 1:3)

“For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.” (Col 1:16-17)

The sun, the moon, the earth and everything else that is visible and invisible is maintained by the predetermined word that God had spoken at the beginning. He does not have to speak the word, again and again. He has already spoken a predetermined word into existence. Listen to what the apostle Paul says, *“According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.”* (Eph 1:4-6).

From the beginning of the universe and even the beginning of creation God has spoken His word into

existence about His glorious church and that word will sustain the church until all things are fulfilled. *Hallelujah!*

Let us not be surprised that three Hebrew brothers Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego were able to tell the king, *“O Nebuchadnezzar, we are not careful to answer thee in this matter. If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king. But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.”* (Dan 3:16-18). Note carefully that the word Hebrew means overcomer. The three Hebrew overcomers said, *“O king, our God has spoken His word that He will preserve us.”* They didn’t seek the Lord for a personal word to them at that crucial time. They didn’t panic and make desperate appeals to God or men! They knew their God and the word He has spoken about His children who stand for His testimony. His word may not be a personal promise, but it certainly is for His overcomers. Therefore, saints, even if we are thrown into the fiercest fire we know for sure that God is able to save us. And even if our God does not save us, we know that in His wisdom our God is in control over our situations. We have to be steadfast and immovable in all circumstances! There is no place for us to compromise ; we are to bear His testimony. He will bear us by His Holy Name! Beloved, we are going to be preserved by our God.

God has spoken this word through the mouth of His prophets. He has spoken by the Prophet Jesus Christ, our Lord, in these last days. That which He has spoken will be

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fulfilled. The Lord will preserve His church; He will keep her and she will come into everything that He has spoken of through His prophet and through His Son in these last days. May we open our hearts to God's word!

"Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God". That is how faith is generated in us. God's word cannot be changed. God's people may break their covenant with God, but God will not break His own word. He cannot give up His word. His promise cannot be broken for His Word speaks of His character!

May God's word stir your hearts and minister faith!



2

THE WORD OF GOD
CANNOT BE BROKEN!



GOD spoke in times past through the holy prophets, but He is now speaking in the person of His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. Note carefully that Jesus is not only a prophet, but He is “The Prophet”. If that which was spoken through the mouth of the holy prophets of old mentioned in the Scriptures have been fulfilled, how much more will all that the Prophet, the Son of God, has spoken not be fulfilled. **This makes it more than apparent that all that Jesus, the eternal and ultimate prophet, has spoken must be fulfilled.**

Peter by the power of the Holy Spirit said that God has

given us exceeding great and precious promises.

“According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.” (2Pe 1:3,4)

“By means of these He has bestowed on us His precious and exceedingly great promises, so that through them you may escape [by flight] from the moral decay (rottenness and corruption) that is in the world because of covetousness (lust and greed), and become sharers (partakers) of the divine nature.” (2Pe 1:4 AMP)

God has given many precious promises through His prophets of old and also through His Son about the end times. We know that there are exceedingly great and tremendous promises spoken about the Messiah (Christ) in the Old Testament. As we read in the previous meditation at Acts 3:18-21, Scripture confirms that all those promises concerning the first coming of Christ in the flesh were fulfilled as the prophets had spoken. There are also many prophecies in the Old Testament about His second coming and the restoration of all that God has purposed in Christ which will be fulfilled in the same way. **I am sure that no true Christian would ever accept any suggestion or even a hint that Old Testament prophecies about Christ have not been fulfilled or that**

they need not to be fulfilled. Jesus Himself very categorically stated that everything spoken about Him had to be fulfilled.

GOD'S PROMISES MUST BE FULFILLED

“Then He said to them, This is what I told you while I was still with you: everything which is written concerning Me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.” (Luk 24:44)

Jesus said that all things written in the Law of Moses, and the Prophets, and the Psalms concerning Him had to be fulfilled. How directly the Lord spoke about this? He left no room for doubt. But if someone were to say that the Old Testament prophecies about Christ were not all fulfilled or that they did not have to be fulfilled in the life of Jesus Christ, they would be quite wrong. Wouldn't it not be so, saints? I am sure many would rise up against those who suggested this or came up with such a statement. No one will ever agree to such a thing. Jesus was sure that the promises about Him were given in the will of the Father. He knew that everything that was written about Him in the Law, in the Prophets and in the Psalms (that means in the whole Old Testament) about His suffering, death and resurrection had to be fulfilled in Him. **Now, if it was so essential that everything that had been spoken by the prophets of old about the Messiah were to be fulfilled in Jesus Christ at His first coming, then how about fulfillment of the things that were spoken about His second coming?** They too will be fulfilled. There are many

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things that have been spoken by the prophets about His second coming. Their prophesies will also surely be fulfilled. What about the prophetic words that Jesus spoke about Himself, His church and His coming back in glory? Would it not be right to say, with the some certainty and faith, that whatever God has spoken through His prophets in the Old Testament and every word that Jesus, the Prophet, had spoken will surely be fulfilled? Yes, Amen and Amen.

The Lord Jesus made sure that all the Scriptures about Him were fulfilled in every detail. He was extremely sensitive about all that had been spoken by the mouth of the holy prophets. **But todays Evangelical and Pentecostal Christians and even the Charismatics say that what was spoken of by the prophets of old in the Old Testament and those things spoken by the Lord and His Apostles in the New Testament concerning His church need not necessarily be fulfilled! They believe and teach that most of the promises will only be fulfilled after the church is taken away or after the rapture of the church!** How sad that in the prophetic realm they seem to have a mind of their own! They are not interested in believing what the prophets had spoken by the Holy Spirit or what the Son of God Himself spoke when He was here. They continue to live by their own understanding and religious agenda.

Let us be a people who have an open heart. Today there are so many believers all around us who, though being New Testament saints, are not keen to wholly believe what God has spoken in and through His Son. They do not care what God has specifically spoken in and through His Son. That is

the tragedy. They have come up with their own interpretation of the Scriptures! In the midst of such an attitude among believers, we have to be a people who believe every word of all that God says. We have to be those who wholeheartedly believe that God will fulfill everything that is spoken concerning Christ and His Church. Always remember that the Church of Jesus Christ must never be separated from the person of Christ.

Jesus answered them, Is it not written in your law, I said, Ye are gods? If he called them gods, unto whom the word of God came, and the scripture cannot be broken; (Joh 10:34,35)

Jesus answered, Is it not written in your Law, I said, You are gods? So men are called gods [by the Law], men to whom God's message came—and the Scripture cannot be set aside or cancelled or broken or annulled— (Joh 10:34,35 AMP)

The Lord says here very clearly that the SCRIPTURE CANNOT BE BROKEN; He said so Himself. The Amp Bible makes it especially clear; **Scripture cannot be set aside or cancelled or broken or annulled.** Let none depart or disagree from the word or deviate from the truth!

It is the person of the Lord Jesus Himself who declared that the Scripture cannot be broken. That which God has spoken cannot be broken or set aside or cancelled by any being. And let us not forget that Jesus quoted from the Psalms in the Old Testament and then said that whatever God had spoken could not be annulled or changed. *Hallelujah!*

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Saints, let me assure you that in the New Testament, which is a part of the inspired Word of God, Jesus declared emphatically that “the Scripture cannot be broken” and again He said in Mark 14:49, “the Scriptures must be fulfilled “. There are inconceivable and marvelous verses in the New Testament that tell us of the great promises we have in Christ. How can we consider them superfluous? God has called us to be overcomers and to be His Bride. He has called us the sons of God. What tremendous promises we have! We have a salvation that is ready to be revealed in the end times. The whole creation is groaning for the manifestation of the sons of God and for their deliverance from bondage. We have many promises, concerning the manifold, many-sided wisdom of God that will be made manifest to the powers and principalities in heavenly places through the church (Eph 3:10). Let us be absolutely positive, sure and confident that God’s word cannot be broken.

You may be living in an isolated place separated from the world or you may be part of an unknown religion and culture, or you may be living your life in any way you like but God’s program will unfold in the way that God has determined. God’s word, regardless of individual situations, cannot be broken. Ancient Israel did not believe in what God said. They did not believe that it was possible to possess the Promised Land. They said that giants inhabited the Promised Land, that the walls were far too high, and that they were as small as grasshoppers in comparison to them! They did not believe in God’s word to them and in the end they perished in the wilderness,

not believing the One who had promised to bring them in. Nevertheless, let us be those who believe that God's word cannot be broken.

THE BLESSED ASSURANCE

The church of Jesus Christ shall move into her inheritance as promised to us by the Lord. Hallelujah! Let us apply faith to the word we have in Christ. Every believer must have an inward assurance in this matter of our inheritance. It is a matter of believing what God has spoken. Let me be quite candid and say that in my spiritual life I have not heard servants of God and pastors preach a word of assurance regarding the entering of believers into their inheritance; nor have I met many believers who carry and convey this assurance of an inheritance! Listen to what the Lord says,

“Hear, you deaf! And look, you blind, that you may see! Who is blind but My servant [Israel]? Or deaf like My messenger whom I send? Who is blind like the one who is at peace with Me [who has been admitted to covenant relationship with Me]? Yes, who is blind like the Lord’s servant? You have seen many things, but you do not observe or apprehend their true meaning. His ears are open, but he hears not! It was the Lord’s pleasure for His righteousness’ sake [in accordance with a steadfast and consistent purpose] to magnify instruction and revelation and glorify them. But this is a people robbed and plundered; they are all of them snared in holes and hidden in houses of bondage. They have become a prey, with no one to deliver them, a

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*spoil, with no one to say, Restore them!”
(Isa 42:18-22 AMP)*

It is sad to see the enormousness of the deafness and blindness in the midst of God’s people. I say this with much humility and fear of the Lord. God’s people have settled for something far less than what God has called them and purposed for them. As the Lord says, “*Moab hath been at ease from his youth, and he hath settled on his lees, and hath not been emptied from vessel to vessel, neither hath he gone into captivity: therefore his taste remained in him, and his scent is not changed.* (Jer 48:11). The majority of God’s people are in a settled spiritual state and they don’t want God to unsettle them in any way. They run away from the searching, emptying work of God. They don’t want God’s workings to change them and as a result they remain spiritually unchanged. God’s desire is to change us into His likeness and image, and into His character so that we may be a Bride without blemish—for a Bridegroom without blemish. All His promises are given to us with this end in mind!

Many times I come across believers who feel quite happy to be a part of some ministry that teaches about the end time church and related truths. They believe and confess that God’s word concerning end time aspects must not be broken, but saints, confession is not enough. We have to come into an apprehension of this word by the Holy Spirit. We have to be believers who have a deep assurance that God will surely fulfill what He has spoken. God’s word cannot be moved around and applied to situations as one desires

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to do. Jesus said His word could not be broken. It cannot be set aside by man. The Scriptures, every one of them, must be fulfilled in order that we may come into our inheritance in Christ Jesus, our Forerunner.

And Jesus answered and said unto them, Are ye come out, as against a thief, with swords and with staves to take me? I was daily with you in the temple teaching, and ye took me not: but the scriptures must be fulfilled. (Mar 14:48,49)

The Prophet of God, the Son of the Living God said that the Scriptures cannot be broken, set aside or annulled. The Son again said the Scriptures must be fulfilled. **If this is true of the Old Testament, spoken by the mouth of God's holy prophets, how much more it has to be true of the New Testaments where Christ Himself has said so personally as well as through His apostles.**

THE COMING GLORY IN THE CHURCH

For if the ministration of condemnation be glory, much more doth the ministration of righteousness exceed in glory. For even that which was made glorious had no glory in this respect, by reason of the glory that excelleth. For if that which is done away was glorious, much more that which remaineth is glorious. (2Co 3:9-11)

For if the service that condemns [the ministration of doom] had glory, how infinitely more abounding in splendor and glory must be the service that makes righteous [the ministry that produces and fosters

*righteous living and right standing with God]!
Indeed, in view of this fact, what once had splendor
[the glory of the Law in the face of Moses] has come to
have no splendor at all, because of the overwhelming
glory that exceeds and excels it [the glory of the Gospel
in the face of Jesus Christ]. For if that which was but
passing and fading away came with splendor, how
much more must that which remains and is permanent
abide in glory and splendor! (2Co 3:9-11 AMP)*

The apostle Paul said that if that which was done away was glorious, then that which remains will be much more glorious. What would this mean to us? The glory of the Old Testament was a passing one and not a permanent one. **Yet, in that realm of the temporal, it was necessary that everything should be fulfilled.** Even in that temporal realm nothing was taken for granted. **Though it was a passing phase; the principle of God which is permanent and eternal had to apply.** Hence nothing can be said to be elective or optional. **If that were the case with a passing order or phase, how much more would the Word spoken in the New Testament, which is of a permanent and eternal order, be fulfilled necessarily? How much more what God has spoken through the Son, the Lord Jesus Christ and the Apostles, must of necessity be fulfilled today in His church!**

The Scriptures say that there was a glory that had to pass away because there is a more magnificent glory that is to come. If that glory of the old had to pass away because it was only a fading glory, how much more the abiding glory, which is permanent and ever remains, will never fade away! And if the

glory that once was so splendid, how much more splendid will be that glory which is permanent. In the light of what we see in the Old Testament, the glory was just a shadow and type of the glory to come. The ancient glory passed away, but God is much more concerned that the glory we have in Christ Jesus, which is permanent and perpetual, should be exceedingly more glorious and excellent. **This glory of Christ in the New Testament or New Covenant is to ever remain with us!** May God enlighten our spiritual eyes!

Beloved in the Lord, our inheritance and our salvation is nearer today than it was in the past. **In other words, the salvation we have today is far more glorious because we move on from glory to glory.** It is much more excellent. Let us not forget that God's word cannot be broken. God's word will find its fulfillment. **In these end times, the church of God needs to be as sensitive to the Word as the Son Himself was to the Scriptures.** When we know deep within that God's word and His promises cannot be annulled, it gives us strength to face trials, to face situations, and to really overcome them. Jesus Christ was never discouraged by the situations He faced. Even when His enemies came with spears and sword to accost Him, he was not discouraged, His demeanor did not change. **He gave no place for discouragement to weaken Him. He did not run to the Father and question Him. He did not compare Himself to others or seek the disciples' pity. Jesus' only desire was that the Scripture might be fulfilled in His life.** When we know the word that God has spoken, and the calling of His people and the purpose of our lives, then we will know how to face trials and situations as Jesus faced

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His trials and battles. Then we will know that we have a God who reigns in the midst of men!

The Beloved Son of God faithfully stood the ground in fulfilling every word spoken in the Old Testament by the prophets. He stood as a testimony for the Father. **He did his ministry faithfully before unfaithful men, before a scoffing and ridiculing religious system, and before great powers and authorities. He was not mindful of their acrimony and hostility. He quietly suffered the anguish of Gethsemane.** He went through it all because He knew what the Father had spoken. This was the secret of His overcoming life. He would not run to the Father for safety, but chose to stand before a corrupt and hostile system and thus set an example to us so that the church may stand in these end times by looking to Him who is the Author and Finisher of our faith.

Saints, He was crucified on a cruel Roman cross and rose again from the dead so that every word that was spoken by the mouth of the prophets in the Old Testament would be fulfilled. He went through it all not turning His face away, but accepting the will of the Father. He did not go through some kind of dramatic performance that was unreal, but He went through the agony and humiliation of One who was determined to do the will of the Father and live in His bright presence whatever be the circumstances.

The Hebrew writer says *“In the days of His flesh [Jesus] offered up definite, special petitions [for that which He not*

only wanted but needed] and supplications with strong crying and tears to Him Who was [always] able to save Him [out] from death, and He was heard because of His reverence toward God [His godly fear, His piety, in that He shrank from the horrors of separation from the bright presence of the Father]. Although He was a Son, He learned [active, special] obedience through what He suffered” (Amplified Bible) (Heb 5:7-8).

So He learned obedience through the things He suffered in His life. **Jesus learnt obedience here on the earth through the things He suffered in the Fathers will! Saints, there is always a suffering in obeying the Lord and in subjecting ourselves to one another in the body of Christ.** The Hebrew writer further *says about Christ, “who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God”* (Heb 9:14) that He was perfected and offered Himself a pure sacrifice by the Spirit. It was not a drama! The underlying principle in all He did and suffered was for the fulfillment of the Scriptures in the Old Testament that had to be fulfilled at any cost.

Beloved, in fulfilling the Old Testament (Old Covenant) prophesies spoken by the Father through the prophets, the Son, our Lord Jesus Christ ushered in or brought in the New Testament (New Covenant) in and through His own blood which is far more glorious and that fadeth not away! This New Covenant is signed in His own blood! If the Son, our Savior had to go through it all then how essential it is for the Body of Christ, the church of Jesus Christ, to also live by this principle. If it

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was essential for the saints in the Old Covenant to be subjected to the Scriptures spoken by the mouth of the Prophets, then how imperative it is for us in the New Covenant to be subject to that which was spoken of by the Lord in the New Covenant! Is it not proper for the church which Christ has raised by His own blood to also go through every trial and testing that she faces? **Yes beloved saints, it is positively essential that the Body of Christ, the Church of Jesus Christ, rise from the dust and desolation of her captivity and become identified with the death of Christ, the Head of the Church and rise again with Him to manifest His glory and power in order to fulfill the New Covenant which He has established in His own blood.** Oh! May God grip us with His word in this hour! *Hallelujah!*

THE CHURCH FULFILLING GOD'S PROMISES

Saints, the church of Jesus Christ is many things to many people, but Jesus is building and rising up His true church in this hour! He is bringing her out of her captivity to experience and taste His death and resurrection so that she may partake of His glory by the power of His resurrection. The New Covenant must be fulfilled. **Just as Christ was ridiculed and scoffed at by the powers of this world, even so it shall be with the Bride of Christ in these end times.** People will argue, they will debate, and they will resist, but the church of Jesus Christ will be brought out of her desolation and captivity into a place of really partaking His death and resurrection. Thus it will be that

she will partake of His glory and manifest the wisdom of God, in order that the promise of the New Covenant might be fulfilled.

Saints, some believers incredulously ask, “What about the tribulation, the falling away and the apostasy? Are these things not going to happen in the end times?” All things that Jesus had spoken by His own mouth will happen. The love of many shall wax cold; iniquity shall abound; many will hate one another; and many will be deceived. All the apostasy that the Lord had spoken of and that the apostles had also written about in the New Testament shall take place. These things are being fulfilled right now and they will certainly come to pass in greater measures in the years ahead. **While on one side, these negative things will happen as spoken by the Lord and the Apostles, on the other side, the true church, the Bride of Jesus Christ, the overcomers, the sons of God, will surely experience the fulfillment of all that He has spoken.** God’s divine intentions will be fulfilled in and through a company of people.

“To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God, According to the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord:” (Eph 3:10,11)

We have to strongly believe that the word of God cannot be broken. This Scripture in Eph 3 cannot be broken by apostasy, by the love of many waxing cold, or by many going into deception. Many things will happen in the days

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to come, but the Scripture cannot be broken. This word cannot be set aside. Surely, there will be a falling away in the end times; the spirit of apostasy and deceit will grip the people; many would possess a form of godliness and deny the power thereof; people will be captivated by pride and soaring ambitions, desiring better knowledge and valued jobs; and they will drown themselves in materialism and commercialism saying these are the blessings of God in their lives. The days of deception are already here. But in the midst of all that spiritual corruption there is going to be a church, a glorious church, a remnant people who will set their hearts upon fulfilling the desire of the Lord. Amen!

Jesus said that the end times shall be as in the days of Noah. People will be eating and drinking and marrying and giving in marriage. Think about this! Did Noah not eat and drink for all those long years he lived? Did not all his three sons marry? Yes, but bear in mind that the eating, drinking, and marrying of Noah was not like the eating, drinking and marrying of the people of the world. Saints, there is a difference! May God open our eyes! We, as His remnant church, will eat and drink and will marry. But it shall not be as we see in the world! We live as separated people for His purpose. We are to be a testimony unto Him on the earth in these last days. We are to demonstrate the wisdom of God in this world. The Scripture says, "By his faith, Noah showed that the world was wrong, ..." (New Century Version) (Heb 11:7). **The Lord will surely have His church who by their obedience to His great promises, show the world that it is wrong!**

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God has spoken a word into existence. He has spoken it. He does not have to speak the same word again and again. He has already spoken. That word is able to sustain you, maintain you and preserve you. This does not mean that you are not to pray, meditate, and seek the Lord. Daniel, under the king's threat of being fed to the lions, kept the window open towards Jerusalem! He opened window and prayed, not for his own need, but for the purpose of God to be fulfilled. You may wonder how one could be so sure that he did not pray for himself. We have a clue in the word, *"Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house; and his windows being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem, he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime."* (Dan 6:10). Note that the Word says, "as he did aforetime". The New Century Version says, "just as he always had done". **Daniel did not panic and run to God with a special prayer request to save his life. He opened the window and saw the ruins of Jerusalem and God's people; and in the midst of that the saw the promise of God to restore Jerusalem. He saw himself as one who was related to God's restorative work in his generation! What a sense of destiny and purpose Daniel had in his life!**

Beloved saints, like Daniel of old, we are to pray that the Lord may raise up the Church of Jesus Christ from the dust and from every desolation, every captivity and every discouragement that she finds herself in today. We are to pray that the Lord will manifest His glory and His power in order that the church may fulfill His word in the New Covenant!

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Let us pray and seek His face that He would return to His house, that He would find us to be a part of His glorious house and that He would fill His House with His Glory. May we ever realize that we are linked with the purpose of God and the fulfillment of His promises in this generation!

Let our prayer not be limited to our personal battles and situations, but let us be eternally linked to His purpose and promises for His church in these days. That is where we shall find our victory! Beloved, that is where I want to be. That is the yearning within my heart. To be a part of that remnant church, that company is what the Spirit is witnessing within my spirit. I have been born for this; I am bound to this vision. I have been saved unto this. That is our calling. May God help us!

Saints, be strengthened in the faith and be stirred in your hearts!



3

“EXCEEDING GREAT AND
PRECIOUS PROMISES”



WE are thankful to the Lord for all that He has given us through His word. It is not enough that we have been able to hear His word; it is more important and essential for us to be grounded and rooted in His present word. This was the burden of the apostle Peter. He emphasized the need to be established in God’s word.

Wherefore I will not be negligent to put you always in remembrance of these things, though ye know them, and be established in the present truth. (2Pe 1:12)

So I intend always to remind you about these things, although indeed you know them and are firm in the truth that [you] now [hold]. (2Pe 1:12 AMP)

“Exceeding Great And Precious Promises”

There is no doubt that God has given us exceedingly great promises in His word. One translation says, “We were also given absolutely ‘terrific’ promises to pass on to you.” (2 Pet 1:4) The most important principle to keep in mind is that God’s word cannot be broken. Just as all that God has spoken by the prophets in the Old Covenant has been fulfilled concerning Christ, so also all that God has spoken through His Son in the New Covenant concerning God’s purpose in the earth will also be fulfilled by God in His time. We had meditated upon this in the previous issue of this magazine in adequate detail.

The primary thing is to be established in the truth that we have received from the Lord. What God has intended for His church to accomplish in these days needs to be recognized and we have to submit to that will of God. **There are promises of God for His church that have to be attained before further promises can be fulfilled.** The fulfilment of God’s intended plans and desires for His people necessitates deep workings of the Spirit before they can be accomplished in us. God’s ultimate desire is to have a people according to the image and likeness His own Son and to achieve this in our lives will take a great amount of openness and response to the working of the Holy Spirit. And it is unto this end that we have been saved by His grace and not for any other purpose. We are born-again unto a lively hope and unto an inheritance which is incorruptible and fadeth not away.

UNTO HIM BE GLORY IN THE CHURCH

In the Book of Ephesians there is a valuable Scripture that shows us the place that God's church must come to spiritually. The apostle Paul wrote this by the Holy Spirit.

To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God, (Eph 3:10)

God desires His church to show forth the many-sided complicated wisdom of God to the powers and principalities in heavenly places. This is a task that God has kept for His chosen people. The passage here refers in particular to demonic powers, but the point is that God will use His church for this purpose. And the church must come to a place of fulfilling this Scripture; this Scripture must be fulfilled in His church. It is not a matter of the church going away to some place because she cannot face the enemy! We need to be concerned about the manner by which the church will fulfill the desires of the Lord. There are many precious promises that the Lord has given or laid down for His church in the New Covenant. These need to be fulfilled by the Church in every detail. The Scriptures cannot be set aside or broken. We are not here to amass a fortune or count our blessings Saints, we are here to fulfill God's plan for His church. This is the purpose we have been brought together as a body. It is unto this that we have been saved.

*Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.
(Eph 3:21)*

“Exceeding Great And Precious Promises”

The literal translation of this is, “To Him be glory in the Church of Christ Jesus unto all generations of the age and of the ages, Amen.” This Scripture must be fulfilled by the church of God in every generation. It is necessary for the holy Scriptures to be fulfilled unto the glory of His wonderful presence. Every sacrifice that the Lord has made in and through His suffering, death and resurrection must be fulfilled so that He might be glorified. The promises that God has made in and through His Son must be accomplished.

LIVING EPISTLES OF CHRIST

The New Covenant talks of many such precious promises such as:

Forasmuch as ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart. (2Co 3:3)

The New Covenant which is signed in His own blood is destined to make God’s people into “the epistle of Christ...written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the Living God”. The Church of Jesus Christ is called to be the epistle of Christ, an epistle not written in ink, but with the Spirit of the Living God. We are also called, as individuals, to be living epistles of Christ! This is true, but have God’s people manifested all that Christ has intended? The Church is yet to reveal Christ and men are yet to behold this great truth! We are potential promise-keepers of God and it is God’s intention that with His unction every promise will be fulfilled.

THE UNFADING GLORY

Let us meditate upon a few more Scripture portions that must find their fulfillment in the end times in God's church by and through His people.

But if the ministration of death, written and engraven in stones, was glorious, so that the children of Israel could not steadfastly behold the face of Moses for the glory of his countenance; which glory was to be done away:

How shall not the ministration of the spirit be rather glorious? (2Co 3:7,8)

We know that the Old Covenant or the Law of Moses was a matter of the ministration of death primarily because the Israelites could not fully follow it. They could not steadfastly behold the face of Moses because it was a passing glory that slowly disappeared.

Do you think this Scripture portion about beholding the face of Moses has been fulfilled in the church or not? The New Covenant contains an inherant promise to fulfil it. It is yet to find its fulfillment.

The New Covenant has promised us a glory that abides and grows into fullness or perfection. There is an abiding glory that moves on to the ultimate glory. The glory of the Old Covenant was to pass away, but we have the glory of the New Covenant which moves from glory to glory. It is not something that fades away but it is something that

“Exceeding Great And Precious Promises”

becomes more glorious. Has this Scripture been fulfilled? The church is yet to come into the glory which increases and moves on to the very final Glory. But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord. (2Co 3:18)

When we look into the history of the Church we see how that divine glory somehow faded away everytime God brought forth a new movement. God’s people witnessed a wonderful glory of His presence but after some time that glory of God faded away. In these end times God will find a generation and a company of overcomers who will move from glory to glory. It will not be as in the past. God is moving onwards. God is taking this generation on to their promised land. We see many who are setting aside this glorious call and are perishing, but there are those who are moving on from glory to glory towards their inheritance. God’s true remnant, the Church of Jesus Christ, is moving on from glory to glory. The people are being changed into His image and into His likeness. We do not know how it will take place, but we know this one thing that when we shall see Him we shall be like Him. When He shall appear we shall be like Him. There are many details we do not yet know, but there is a transformation and a moving on from glory to glory, until this Scripture is fulfilled. God’s promise in this Scripture has yet to be fulfilled in the midst of God’s people. There are many such scriptures. This promise in the Book of Corinthians is something that has yet to be fulfilled in the church. There are many more promises in the Bible that have yet come to pass in a real way.

PUT ON THE WHOLE ARMOUR OF GOD

Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. (Eph 6:11-13)

Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: (Eph 6:14-17)

The Scripture clearly speaks about the church, a church which has to put on the whole armor of God so that it can stand on that evil day, which is yet to come. Why does the church have to put on the whole armour of God? It is because she has to stand on that evil day before powers and principalities and all the demonic powers of Satan. The church will come against all the wicked forces and every stronghold of the enemy, wherever they may be at this time, so that they have no place in the things of God – that they may be found no more, as we read in the book of Rev 12:8 (*And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven*). These Scriptures must be fulfilled.

“Exceeding Great And Precious Promises”

We need to be educated and come into an enlightenment of the call of God concerning these promises. There are awesome promises for the church and God’s people must come into their fulfillment.

God’s word came to Israel to say that the Lord had already given the Promised Land to them, but they would have to drive out their enemies from the land. How many Israelites believed this promise? **Only two persons believed the promise of God. How many will believe it today?** Even in these times, there will only be a minority who will truly believe what God has promised! When God spoke to the Israelites by His word to drive out the enemies, the Israelites could not believe it because they lived according to their own understanding, intellect and reason: they were foolish enough to try to understand spiritual things by the natural mind.

In our lives there are two gates – **the ear gate and the eye gate. These gates indicate the way through which are minds are attacked by the enemy.** The Israelites saw the giants and the walls and they also saw themselves, **but they could not see their God and His promise.** They could not lay hold of what God had spoken to them. The same thing is happening today. People say that the manifold wisdom of God which is to be made known by the church to the powers and principalities is something too high for them to grasp. They remonstrate that they cannot even overcome the small problems of life. How can they comprehend the deeper things, they ask? Well then, how could Joshua and Caleb overcome? They overcame because they always

believed what God had said to them. It is not that Joshua and Caleb suddenly understood what God wanted them to do. They believed that whatever God spoke to them would be fulfilled, even from the beginning. **They always believed God's word and hence even when God spoke this specific word to them, they had no difficulty in believing Him.**

Let your spirit grasp this: they always believed what God said. We have to realize that our God is able to perform all that He has spoken. Believe! This is where Joshua and Caleb were different from the remaining Israelites. Let us be encouraged by what God is speaking to us. He has gathered us for a purpose. It is to establish us in His word. Why do we say that what He has spoken to us through His word cannot be broken? It is because these Scriptures are yet to be fulfilled. Do you believe this? They will be fulfilled. The unbelief of the majority will not change that which God has spoken.

The church must put on her armour and arise so that she can defeat the power and the strongholds of Satan. We see that happening in Rev 12. The strongholds of the enemy were destroyed and their power was no more found in the heavenlies.

And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night.

And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb,

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and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death. (Rev 12:10-11)

This is the calling of the church on that day. The church shall overcome the accuser of the brethren, which is Satan, “neither was their place found any more in heaven”. It will take a believing church that has put on the whole armour of God to move in the direction of God’s full purpose. The pronoun ‘they’ here refers to the believers in the end time church, the remnant people. They shall overcome Satan and his demonic forces. They shall fulfill the mind and purpose that God has spoken of and as such they will find completeness in their lives. The Scripture of Rev 12 has yet to be fulfilled by the church, but we can see the potential and the expectation of God. Beloved saints, many similar Scripture portions remain to be fulfilled by a church that has taken their calling seriously. We don’t know when all the Scriptures will be fulfilled, but let us believe that there will be a people who will come into the reality of the Scriptures that we have heard. Finally we shall see a church, triumphant and glorious, despite everything contrary that comes against it. The church will be triumphant in the end with God on her side. This is what Paul saw by the Holy Spirit.

THE UNITY OF THE FAITH

The New Covenant has commanded all saints to come to a place of accord and oneness of mind. See these expressions of the apostle Paul in his letters.

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Who shall also confirm you unto the end, that ye may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment. (1Co 1:8,9,10)

God is faithful to make us blameless. This is the word that the Lord spoke to the people in Corinth through the Apostle. They were to be of one mind, and of one and the same judgment, with no trace of division or disunion. If they had the same mind and same judgment then they would have spoken the same thing. Has the church come to that place, today? Are we having the same mind, the same judgment? No we have not come to that maturity yet. But shall we not be among those who say, "We shall surely come to that stage or place"? That is why God is working in us. God is bringing about changes in our lives to fulfill His word in His church. God is going to do it. And the apostle Paul says, "Look Corinthians, God is faithful in your midst. He will present you blameless in the day of the Lord." The Lord is at work, dear brothers and sisters. His church is being cleansed by His word. Yet there is much to be done. But God will not shirk from it, nor will He put an end to it. Let us firmly believe that He will fulfill every such promise in God's word to the church.

“Exceeding Great And Precious Promises”

Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. (Php 2:2)

And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: (Eph 4:11-13)

We see very clearly that we are to come to the unity of faith required of us as a church. The church is yet to come to this place! The precise words of the Scripture are, *“Till we all come in the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ:”*

Has this Scripture been fulfilled? No, it has not been fulfilled so far. The church has yet to come to that realm and place. Beloved, the New Covenant has decreed many such promises in the word. Every one of those precious promises will be fulfilled in His church, in you and in me, in these end times. O the mercies of God to bring us to such a place in His time!

TO DESTROY THE WORKS OF THE DEVIL

Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous.

He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil

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sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God. (1Jn 3:7-9)

Now we know that God in His mercy has begun His work in us. But we are yet to come into the full measure of this word. Verse 8 says that the Divine purpose is that God might destroy the works of the devil. **The New Covenant has ordained a place for us in Christ where the works of the enemy will be destroyed and we will experience a victory which knows no defeat.** We are yet to come into that place. We thank God that the work of the Holy Spirit began in us when we were born-again. There are many Biblical passages that tell us that we are called to fulfill His purpose in and through these promises.

THE STATURE OF THE FULNESS OF CHRIST

Let us see the Scripture in Romans 8.

For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God.

For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope, Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.

“Exceeding Great And Precious Promises”

For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now.

And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body. (Rom 8:19-23)

The New Covenant has declared that the earnest expectation of the creation groans and travails in a world that is under the curse of sin and death and shall find a glorious release and liberty in the manifestation of the sons of God. We know that this Scripture is yet to find fulfillment in God’s people. Nevertheless, we are living in a time when God’s word must find fulfillment. It should be fulfilled. We see God’s concern over that. We see God’s will in this regard. He has pre-destined His word; He shall speak it into existence. It cannot be broken by anyone. God will move and perform that in His church. And as we have seen from Eph 4, God has given ministries till we all come into the maturity and stature of Christ. Who can stop God from doing this work in His church?

Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: (Eph 4:13)

Note carefully here that there is a strong use of the word UNTIL. The Scripture reads “Till we all come in”. We are all to come into that which God has purposed to be fulfilled; UNTIL the church comes into that category; UNTIL

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that which God wants to be fulfilled is realized; UNTIL then she will be here on the earth. The church of Jesus Christ is not going to go anywhere UNTIL there is a fulfillment of God's purpose! She is not going anywhere geographically. God is not going to take her away to some other place. God will keep her upon the earth UNTIL we all come to that place in Christ.

Let us be open to learn of the Lord. Let His word cleanse and deliver His people of all the false things which bound them all these years. The traditional teaching of the traditional church that the church will be raptured away any moment has so tied the hands of the church and of God that there can be no further onward movement in God's plan. As Israel of old limited the Holy One of Israel, so also the church today is limiting God. **Why should the Lord want His church to mature if she is going to fly away any minute?** Beloved, let's not limit the Lord having received such exceeding great promises. God has a remnant that believes the Lord's promises. They are giving themselves to His workings in this hour. May God help you and me to be part of that remnant church in these last days!



THE APPEARING OF CHRIST



SAINTS, as we considered in our previous meditation, we are living in a time when God's purpose should be fulfilled. We see God's will concerning our times in His word. He has given us a predestined word, a word that He has spoken into existence! It cannot fail and indeed, it cannot be changed. The Scripture concerning God's promises for His church must find its fulfilment before the coming of Christ. It is my prayer that the Lord would open your eyes to understand this as we continue in our meditation.

There is no other teaching in the church that has so tied the hands of the Lord than the imminent or 'any moment' coming of the Lord. The teaching that Christ

will come 'any moment' has rocked the church into a deep slumber.

It will surprise some of us to know that the word "rapture" is not found in the Scriptures. But there is an expression of saints being "caught up together" that we read of in the book of Thessalonians.

For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

*Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.
(1Thes 4:16-17)*

Denominational Christianity has used the word "rapture" to describe the disappearance of the church from the earth. The use of the word rapture (the any moment taking away of the church) has given an impression to people that the church will soon leave the earth and move into the heavens! **This concept has really destroyed the hope that God has given to His church of coming into the riches in Christ.** Sometimes, people accuse us of not believing in the rapture of the church. The word rapture is invariably used by the traditional christianity in connection with the doctrine of the 'any moment rapture of the saints' that describes the pre-tribulation rapture of the church. **Saints, do not misunderstand me. I am not doing away with rapture. What I want to clearly present to my brethren is that there is no mention of a 'pre-tribulation-**

any-moment-rapture' in the Bible. The Scriptures do away with it. However, the saints who *“are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air and so shall we ever be with the Lord”*. This any-moment-rapture teaching has removed the focus that the church is required to have upon the Lord Jesus Christ.

Beloved, surely there is a translation. I am trying to put it in the right perspective. There is not an iota of doubt that the Lord will descend with a shout at the last trumpet sound of God and then the Lord shall come down with the saints who have died with Christ. They are the first ones and the church that is upon the earth at that time shall also be caught up to meet the Lord. They shall also usher in His Kingdom upon the earth and they *“shall ever be with the Lord”*. Brethren, He is coming for a glorious bride – a church that is prepared and ready to meet Him.

Saints of God, we speak and declare very strongly of the coming of the Lord and not of the departure of the saints. Let us be established in this truth. We have to understand the Scriptures in the right light. So we do not declare and speak about the departure of the saints, but we speak about the coming of the Lord in all His glory to establish His kingdom on this earth. We talk about His coming for a glorious bride. Let us not be double-minded about this truth. Let us not think that this is too complicated; it is essentially very simple. God has a plan for His church which is very straight forward, but men have complicated that, even as they have complicated salvation. They have twisted the truth. Though we do not know all the details of

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the end times, we do know that there will be a meeting with the Lord, a moving on to establish His Kingdom on the earth. We emphasize the coming of the Lord and not the departure of the church because there are yet many things to be fulfilled in His church according to His word. **We do not teach and preach about the disappearing of the saints, but we declare the appearing of Christ. God's people are required to be caught up with the appearing of the Lord and be fully prepared for that great event rather than with the disappearing of the church! Amen!**

The Scripture is very clear about the coming of the Lord in glory, but unfortunately the natural mind always misinterprets it and renders it differently, contrary to the Holy Spirit's version of the truth. The traditions of man have stepped in to reduce the church to a place of literal hopelessness. The only hope that the church has according to 'their' tradition is for the church to be raptured away. **The church today is spiritually so shattered, fragmented and devastated that her only answer seems to lie in escaping all the difficulties upon the earth by rapture.** We need to get rid of this frame of mind. It is not a matter of the church coming into an "any-moment-rapture", but it is rather about the church not coming into something "until" she is prepared; the catch word is 'until'; it is 'until'. **You will be here until that happens and not have to leave any moment !** Let us pray that the Holy Spirit will deposit the truth about the coming of Christ, strongly upon our hearts.

THE SCRIPTURAL AFFIRMATION

Psalm 110, a Psalm of David, holds an excellent example of the use of the word UNTIL.

“The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool”.

The word says that our enemies will be made the church’s footstool. This will happen not according to the whims and fancies of man, but it will occur when the church comes into the fulfillment of His Word. Until that happens, until the church comes into that place spiritually, the matter of the enemy being made our footstool will not arise and the enemy will remain where he is now! It is not that God is unable to do all that He has spoken of, but the Lord will remain seated, waiting *until* that happens.

In this important verse, two lords are mentioned. The LORD is the Father. The second Lord here (‘He said unto my Lord’) talks of Jesus Christ. The Lord said unto my Lord, “Sit thou at my right hand until I make thine enemies thy footstool.” In other words the Father said unto the Son, “Sit Thou at My (the Father’s) right hand, until I make all Thy (Jesus’) enemies Thy (Jesus’) footstool.” What a tremendous revelation David had in his day! He saw by the Spirit that a Messiah would come. It is interesting to see that this Scripture is mentioned repeatedly in the New Testament. What was spoken prophetically by David in the Book of Psalms is included in seven other places in the New Testament. This means that this Scripture occurs eight times

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in the Bible! Eight is a number that speaks of a new day, or even of a new beginning.

Firstly Matt 22:42-46

*Saying, What think ye of Christ? whose son is he?
They say unto him, The Son of David.*

*He saith unto them, How then doth David in spirit
call him Lord, saying,*

*The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right
hand, till I make thine enemies thy footstool?*

If David then call him Lord, how is he his son?

*And no man was able to answer him a word, neither
durst any man from that day forth ask him any more
questions.*

Secondly Mar 12:35-37

*And Jesus answered and said, while he taught in the
temple, How say the scribes that Christ is the Son of
David?*

*For David himself said by the Holy Ghost, The
LORD said to my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand,
till I make thine enemies thy footstool.*

*David therefore himself calleth him Lord; and
whence is he then his son? And the common people
heard him gladly.*

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Thirdly Luk 20:41-44

And he said unto them, How say they that Christ is David's son?

And David himself saith in the book of Psalms, The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand,

Till I make thine enemies thy footstool.

David therefore calleth him Lord, how is he then his son?

Let us also turn to Acts 2:34 – 36

For David is not ascended into the heavens: but he saith himself, The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand,

Until I make thy foes thy footstool.

Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ.

Peter in his first message makes a mention of the word UNTIL in a very significant way. There are other interpretations of this key Scripture portion that I am not getting into, but I am bringing about and touching upon a specific truth through the Scriptures.

For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet.

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The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death.

For he hath put all things under his feet. But when he saith all things are put under him, it is manifest that he is excepted, which did put all things under him.

And when all things shall be subdued unto him, then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him that put all things under him, that God may be all in all. (1Co 15:25-28)

He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet. This is what Paul says. Saints, it is not a matter of “any moment” but it is about an UNTIL.

But to which of the angels said he at any time, Sit on my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool?

Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation? (Heb 1:13,14)

The writer of Hebrews brings this expression to light which just shows the great insight that David had about the Church and the reign of God.

But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God;

From henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool. (Heb 10:12-13)

Dear saints, is that good enough? As the word here

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says, the Lord is waiting till (or until) His enemies are made His footstool. We have an eight fold witness of the Holy Spirit. Further, my own spirit bears witness with these eight Scripture portions. Therefore, with a great conviction, I want to tell you that Jesus is seated UNTIL. It is not “any moment” but it is UNTIL all that God has purposed is fulfilled. Until all His enemies are put under His feet. The any-moment-rapture concept has placed the church in a place where there is no hope for her upon this earth. The saints have no courage to stand and face situations. Beloved, it is UNTIL not any-moment that is important. Let us listen to what God wants to tell us. His word cannot be broken. It will be fulfilled.

One other Scripture in the book of Ephesians is as a cherry on the proverbial cake!

Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places,

Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come:

And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church,

Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all. (Eph 1:20-23)

Which He exerted in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His [own] right

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hand in the heavenly [places],

Far above all rule and authority and power and dominion and every name that is named [above every title that can be conferred], not only in this age and in this world, but also in the age and the world which are to come.

And He has put all things under His feet and has appointed Him the universal and supreme Head of the church [a headship exercised throughout the church],

Which is His body, the fullness of Him Who fills all in all [for in that body lives the full measure of Him Who makes everything complete, and Who fills everything everywhere with Himself]. (Eph 1:20-23 AMP)

Everything will be placed under His feet; He will be Head over all things. Here is the mystery. All things will be put under His feet which talks of the body of Christ, the church. Saints there are many precious things here. It is all a matter of UNTIL ..until ...until and until and not any moment. Hallelujah!

UNTIL THE PERFECT DAY

Remember, we are not to put on a veil as we read in 2 Corinthians chapter 3 and verses 10 to 18. The veil only represents the things that are fading. There is a glory that is passing away, but we are to behold with an open face the glory of the Son. When we do so we are changed into

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the same image from glory to glory even as by the Spirit of the Lord. Moses had a glory that could not be looked at, but there is a glory of the only begotten Son that we can look at. What a glorious thing this is! What a tremendous thing this is! The glory in the face of Jesus Christ! We can see Him with an open face. This mercy of God has been conferred upon you and me so that we shall be changed from glory to glory by His Spirit.

We are moving towards that perfect day. Let us therefore continue to be open to God's word, which is life and spirit to us, knowing that God who has spoken this word shall also fulfill it. His word cannot be broken. **It is not a promise to rapture the church any moment, but it is God's promise to fulfill all things which have been spoken by all the prophets** – *“And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: Whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.”* (Acts 3:20-21).

There are many who find it difficult to accept this word. There are many believers who are born-again, baptized in water and even baptized in the Holy Spirit, having the gifts of the Spirit, but they refuse to accept God's word concerning the end times and the coming of the Lord. If you and I accept it then it is not because we are better people, but it is because of His great mercy upon our lives. When I see people struggling with this word, all that rises up within me is a great gratitude for the Lord's sovereign mercy. Even today believers argue and turn their faces away from the

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light of His word. All we can say is that it is the mercy of God that He has opened our eyes to behold the truth. It is His mercy that we believed, it opened our hearts to His word, and it causes us to turn to Him to open our eyes yet more.

Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea;

And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea;

And did all eat the same spiritual meat;

And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ.

But with many of them God was not well pleased: for they were overthrown in the wilderness.

Now these things were our examples, to the intent we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted.

Neither be ye idolaters, as were some of them; as it is written, The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play.

Neither let us commit fornication, as some of them committed, and fell in one day three and twenty thousand.

Neither let us tempt Christ, as some of them also

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tempted, and were destroyed of serpents.

*Neither murmur ye, as some of them also murmured,
and were destroyed of the destroyer.*

*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.
(1Cor 10:1-11)*

Dearly beloved, in these verses, the apostle Paul relates the church in the wilderness to the New Testament church at Corinth. He says that just like the Old Testament saints missed the promise of God to possess the Promised Land, so also we could miss what God had for us. Apostle Paul tells the New Testament saints that just like the Israelites were baptized in the Red Sea and in the clouds after they were delivered from Egypt, we are also baptized into Christ in the water and in the Holy Spirit. They had partaken of the spiritual meat and drunk from the same rock, which is Christ; they had received strength and healing and power for the journey to the land of promise; and so is the case with us. The sad part of the story is that all the Israelites perished in the wilderness. **Saints, the water and the manna that God provided them was not for their survival, but for energy to believe God, to obey Him and to move on to the land of their inheritance.** But they died in the wilderness. Paul, burdened by the Holy Spirit, says that these things have been written for our admonition, that we may not tempt the Lord like they did by their unbelief, and thus perish in the wilderness without obtaining all that God has for us.

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The church of God is in a wilderness today. The tragedy is that the majority of God's people today are unwilling to accept the precious promises that God has given them. They are filled with unbelief. Thus it seems that history is going to repeat itself in these last days, for in no way will the unbelieving enter into their inheritance. Beloved brethren, let us believe God and confess that He who has called us is faithful to also fulfill it in our lives. Joshua and Caleb believed God whenever He spoke to them right from the start. They believed and trusted in the voice of the Lord. Let us eat of the meat and drink of the Rock and be strengthened in our inner man to move on and inherit our possessions. While many are perishing in the wilderness despite the manna and water from the Rock, there will be some who will cross the river Jordan and possess their possessions. We are called to be a part of that company in these end times! Surely, God's remnant will not be bent upon escaping from the earth any more, but rather keep their eyes focused upon their inheritance and the fullness of their salvation. With their eyes upon the 'Ark of the Covenant,' the Lord Jesus, who is going before them, they shall surely fulfill the promise and purpose of the Lord. He has led them through the Red Sea; and He shall also lead them through the river Jordan that they may enter into their inheritance.

Amen and Amen.



5

THE FAITH



THE Lord has laid a strong foundation of His word in these meditations. Let us, therefore, not take His counsels lightly. How true it is that many of God’s children are not serious when it comes to receiving God’s word into their lives and therefore, the work of God that should have taken place in them remains half-done and incomplete. The purpose for which we have been saved is not established fully in some lives and therefore, God has gathered us as His remnant to address us and help us to move on progressively in His plan of full salvation. While many believers are spiritually stagnant, God is reminding us again and again, not to settle down into something which is not His best for we are destined to an “inheritance that is

incorruptible and that fadeth not away”.

In the previous chapters, we have seen that God is determined to fulfill a purpose which He has devised in His heart from the very beginning; He has promised it; and He will also fulfill it. His word cannot be broken. Every single word that was spoken by His prophets in the past was fulfilled. Furthermore, the Lord has also spoken in the last days in the person of His Son, the prophet Jesus Christ Himself who has said that the Scriptures must be fulfilled. He said specifically that the Scriptures cannot be broken and will stand forever. How sad that God’s people, though they are baptized and Spirit filled, do not believe that His word must be fulfilled in the generation in which we live. They are in a hurry to get away from such compulsions. They are looking for an escape route to leave the prophetic utterances of God behind. However, the Lord's promises shall be fulfilled in a remnant which is His overcoming church.

How many times we see the apostle Paul taking the example of the Israelites to remind, warn and encourage New Testament believers to believe the word that they heard? Having brought the Israelites out of Egypt with the wonderful prospect and destiny of entering the Promised land, God brought into play the great promises He had given to their fathers. Though the majority were overthrown in the wilderness, God’s word was not broken. Men broke their covenant with God though they told the Lord, “We will obey the voice of the Lord” (Exodus 19), but the same people disobeyed God; they murmured and complained against the

Lord; and finally they were overthrown in the wilderness. The Apostle takes this example to strengthen, to establish, to encourage and also to warn God's New Covenant people are not to be like them. And as we know, they all ate the same manna, they all drank the same water, they all received the healing and the strength and the sustenance, but all of them perished in the wilderness. Despite this, a remnant people, typified in Joshua and Caleb, entered into the Promised Land with a new generation. So we see that God will never set aside His promises. We see very pointedly in the Book of Exodus through to the Book of Deuteronomy, that God prepared a new generation of Israelites so that they could lay claim to their inheritance. Beloved, we have been called, we have been saved and we have been born again, not to become stagnant, but to move on in our destiny in Christ.

What we need to assimilate in our depths is that God's promises cannot be broken. There were people in the Old Covenant as well as in the New Covenant who laid hold of the word of God without bias and prejudice and lived by it. Praise the Lord! Now let me share something that the Lord has ministered to my inner man. And my prayer is that the Lord may open our spiritual eyes as we meditate upon this word which is very prophetic for our times!

By faith Joseph, when he died, made mention of the departing of the children of Israel; and gave commandment concerning his bones. (Heb 11:22)

This is a very interesting but seldom scrutinized portion

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of the Scriptures. My prayer is that we may receive an understanding from God's word by the Holy Spirit.

Just picture in your mind the way by which God moved Joseph's bones out of Egypt. There were twelve men from each tribe who took their turns to carry a strange-looking Egyptian coffin on their shoulders. They carried this coffin with the dead bones of their forefather Joseph from the very beginning of their departure from Egypt. It was a long journey that took them all the way through the wilderness to the Promised Land. We see that in their journey to the promised land they finally came to the waters of the River Jordan. The Bible tells us how wonderfully the waters of River Jordan rolled back. And the dead bones of Joseph were carried across the Jordan and through to the land beyond. As they stepped out of Jordan, the wonderful story in the Scripture tells us that they continued to carry the coffin containing the bones of the 'man of God' for Joseph was no ordinary man. He had been a ruler over Egypt at one time. But more than that, he was a prophet of God who had prophesied about this journey.

The Scriptures show us that Israel had crossed the Red Sea forty years before they had crossed the River Jordan. Israel had passed through the Red Sea under the leadership of Moses after God had delivered them from the tyranny and bondage of Pharaoh. But as they came to the River Jordan, it was Joshua who led them as the leader of the young generation of Israelites. They entered the Promised Land after anticipating it for many years! Though they would have to face many conflicts in the Promised Land, yet there

was a great jubilation in the heart of this young generation. The long journey from Egypt to the land of promise lay behind them but there were yet battles to be fought in the Promised Land. There was a shout of victory in their hearts. There was real joy within them as they arrived at their destination. Their feet were going to touch the very land which God had shown them before they had left Egypt. What a tremendous joy that must have been! It was not that all their battles had come to an end or were over. There were many battles yet to be fought, but there was a joy and a note of victory that said, "Finally, we are here by the grace of God. The long wilderness march was terrible; the journey was very exacting, but finally we are here." If we were able to look into the hearts of Joshua and Caleb we would be able to say that their hearts had been joyous all through the long journey. The younger ones of course would have heard stories of the Promised Land from the older ones, but they were all ecstatic with an overriding joy because they were finally and actually coming into the complete fulfillment of the words of the prophets. There were many battles to be fought yet, many cities to be taken yet, many enemies to be put under their feet yet, but there was a tremendous joy of victory in their hearts. They had a feeling of coming "home". Joy abounded in them as they felt that at last they had finally arrived there!

The forty long years of wilderness wanderings is not an account of easy travel or memorable journeys. They had experienced many hardships, not only the hardships due to the travel, but also of bearing a coffin all the way. They had to carry many things through the deserts such as their tents,

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their kitchen items etc, but in addition, in the midst of everything else, they had also to carry a coffin with the dead, dry bones of a prophet and prince called Joseph. In the wilderness all they did was to carry that coffin of dead bones from one place to another, always moving on, moving forward, and moving yet farther! It was an arduous journey made more difficult by the senselessness of the hard work involved in carrying a coffin with dry bones.

Many of them wondered why they had to carry the dry bones with them! Why did they not leave the bones of Joseph back in Egypt? Why could they not have left the coffin and the bones in a royal tomb in Egypt? Why did they have to vow to carry his bones for hundreds of miles? Yes, they had done that, but who knew that it was going to be a long and arduous journey that would stretch over a period of forty long years? Who could have thought that the journey would be that long? They had never expected that! As far as they knew, the journey was only a travel of eleven days up to Kadesh Burnea! And when that travel got going, many eventualities arose and many would have said, "Let us finally bury these bones in the wilderness and be done with them". Many easy options arose before them, but they did not do any of them. The fact is that despite all the difficulties they could not take up any other options. Beloved that is something very precious. This is a tremendous mystery even for God's people to understand today!

Beloved, there is a glorious message here. There is a distinct message, a glorious message, for those who are growing up in God's sovereign grace and living in these

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end times in the midst of many events. Saints, here lies a mystery that has a glorious message of sonship and end time events. And when you and I catch the same vision for the end times that Joseph had for his day as a prophet of God, our lives will be different. When our spiritual eyes are enlightened by the Holy Spirit, as it happened with Joseph, we will not be the same. If you and I catch the same vision for this time at the end of the age, I want to tell you saints of God that, your heart will be thrilled with the glory of what God is about to do! You will rise up with gratitude and thanksgiving unto our God for revealing this glorious truth. Joseph was a prophet and he saw what was to come. He saw the fulfillment of the glorious promise to Abraham! He saw the covenanted word to Abraham would be fulfilled in its time. This is very precious. May we also see God's covenant for His church in these end times. As Abraham's sons in the end of the age, may our days, our lives live in that hope.

THE UNIQUENESS OF JOSEPH'S FAITH

[Actuated] by faith Joseph, when nearing the end of his life, referred to [the promise of God for] the departure of the Israelites out of Egypt and gave instructions concerning the burial of his own bones. (Heb 11:22)

“By faith Joseph”! God always reveals His secrets unto His servants. As we read in Amos “Surely the Lord God will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets.” (Amos 3:7). God reveals His secrets to His

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prophets. And Joseph was a prophet. He was a seer, one who could look into the future by the power of the Holy Spirit. Joseph was a seer and a prophet though we have often heard that he was a but a dreamer. Beloved, Joseph was beyond being a dreamer; he was a prophet of God; he was a seer; he had eyes to see what the Holy Spirit revealed concerning God's people. He saw that which was yet to come, an event that which overshadowed the glory of God. He was able to see spiritually something that was of the eternal workings of God. He saw an event coming that overshadowed all the glory of his rich and fruitful life of testings. He saw in the light of this vision how he ought to remain faithful to God and experience victories over every adverse circumstance.

Not only that Joseph saw something for his generation, he longed to be a part of that which was yet to come. He longed to be a part of something far apart and because he saw it coming he hungered for it, and not only that, he went ahead and made provision for himself to be in it. Not only did he see it from a far but his life was lived in the light of that and because he saw it he hungered for it. It did not end with that but finally he made provision for it that when it happened he would be in it. Hallelujah!

Dearly beloved, it is not just a matter of a longing or just seeing, but of making provision so that when that happens or is fulfilled, we may be found in it. It is my prayer that God may open some eyes as they read these pages!

Chapter 11 of Hebrews is commonly known as the hall

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of faith or the faith chapter. It contains accounts of well-known heroes of faith. When we read about them, we read the outstanding things about these men of God did. We read

By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh.

By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God.

By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith. (Heb 11:4,5,7)

These are tremendous accounts of the work of their faith, but in verse 22, when we read about Joseph, we do not see any great work like that of Enoch or Noah, or any other men of God. Enoch was translated by faith, and Noah built an ark by faith and saved his own family and brought judgment upon the then world. However, when it comes to Joseph the Scripture does not tell us about other aspects of his faith life, like the coat of many colors that he received from his father. It does not say that by faith Joseph lived a pure life unto God. It does not say that by faith Joseph was victorious in the house of Potiphar. Nor is it written that by faith Joseph was in prison for the Lord. It does not say that

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by faith Joseph, all the way in a strange land, became a ruler in Egypt. It also does not say that by faith Joseph became a saviour for the people of Israel in the times of drought and hunger and that he saved the nation from starvation. But something so different is written about the faith of Joseph. The Holy Spirit records very deliberately and expressly something so different about Joseph. That is something very precious.

By faith when Joseph died he made mention of the departing of the children of Israel and gave commandment concerning his bones. And what a strange thing to be recorded in the 'heroes of faith'! Saints, what is there that is so great concerning the faith in Joseph that spoke of the destination of his bones? He told the people where his bones should be taken, but what is the faith here? According to man's mind and understanding, what is recorded in Hebrews may seem very strange. Yet, Joseph's name is included in this chapter of Hebrews that goes on to say that by faith when Joseph died he made mention of the departing of the children of Israel and gave commandment concerning his bones.

And if the Holy Spirit is pleased to make a categorical mention of this in the Chapter of Hebrews, there must be an incredible and stupendous truth and faith in these words! This is what we have never really seen before! Why did Joseph ever say this? He saw that God is a covenant keeping God. He knew all that God had covenanted with Abraham and believed it would surely come to pass. He desired to be a part of that when that covenant would be fulfilled. He

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not only heard it, believed it but also prepared for that glorious day.

May God open our eyes to see this! So by faith Joseph dealt with something far more glorious and precious! Joseph was a man of vision of God's purpose. Remnant of God, my prayer is that the Holy Spirit will enlighten us as we progress in our meditation. God's people should arise in faith and prepare for that which is lying ahead of them! Surely, there is much that lies ahead. May our hearts be open for all that God has for His remnant church in the end of the age!



7

THE PRICE



WE have seen in our previous meditation that Joseph was a prophet. He was a seer, one who could see into future events by the power of the Holy Spirit. Though we have often thought of Joseph as a day-dreamer, he was actually a seer and a prophet. Joseph was more than just a day-dreamer. As a prophet of God and a seer of the future, he had spiritual sight to see what the Holy Spirit wanted to reveal concerning God's people. He was able to see something spiritual in the realm of the eternal workings of God. He foresaw a coming event that overshadows the glory of God in his time. Not only did he see it from afar, but he lived his life in the light of that vision. And because he saw

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something of God, he hungered for it. There is something prophetic here for the remnant church in these end times. May the Holy Spirit open our eyes to behold that spiritual nugget as we continue our meditation!

When we turn to Genesis 23, we see that the whole chapter speaks about one important subject that concerns a transaction that Abraham made to buy some land from the children of Heth to bury Sarah, his wife.

And Sarah was an hundred and seven and twenty years old: these were the years of the life of Sarah.

And Sarah died in Kirjatharba; the same is Hebron in the land of Canaan: and Abraham came to mourn for Sarah, and to weep for her.

And Abraham stood up from before his dead, and spake unto the sons of Heth, saying,

I am a stranger and a sojourner with you: give me a possession of a buryingplace with you, that I may bury my dead out of my sight.

And further we read how the people of Ephron responded to Abraham's humble request for a place to bury Sarah. (Gen 23:1-4)

Nay, my lord, hear me: the field give I thee, and the cave that is therein, I give it thee; in the presence of the sons of my people give I it thee: bury thy dead.

And Abraham bowed down himself before the people of the land.

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And he spake unto Ephron in the audience of the people of the land, saying, But if thou wilt give it, I pray thee, hear me: I will give thee money for the field; take it of me, and I will bury my dead there.

And Ephron answered Abraham, saying unto him,

My lord, hearken unto me: the land is worth four hundred shekels of silver; what is that betwixt me and thee? bury therefore thy dead.

And Abraham hearkened unto Ephron; and Abraham weighed to Ephron the silver, which he had named in the audience of the sons of Heth, four hundred shekels of silver, current money with the merchant. (Gen 23:11-16)

We see something quite strange here! A piece of land was given to Abraham for free to bury his wife Sarah, but he said he would not take it for free but that he would pay a price for it. This was very important and sacred for Abraham. **Saints, remember this chapter was placed in the Bible, not to fill some space, or to give some work for the printers, or for people to read some more history. I believe and am convinced that every word of God is pure and everything given in the Bible is important.**

This passage in the Scriptures was very significant to Abraham because God had led him to take this step. Today, this may not carry much meaning for some. Nevertheless, this act or response of Abraham conveys something important to God's people. Beloved, God wants to convey what He has upon His heart through this passage even

today. For several Bible students and Christians this chapter may not have much meaning, but for those who are living by His word, it is light unto them and it is bread unto their lives. Brethren, let us be open to the Holy Spirit and read carefully.

THE CERTAINTY OF THE FULFILLMENT OF GOD'S WORD

In the book of Genesis Chapter 15, we read of the manner in which God spoke to Abraham :

And he said unto Abram, Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them four hundred years;

And also that nation, whom they shall serve, will I judge: and afterward shall they come out with great substance.

And thou shalt go to thy fathers in peace; thou shalt be buried in a good old age.

But in the fourth generation they shall come hither again: for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet full.

And it came to pass, that, when the sun went down, and it was dark, behold a smoking furnace, and a burning lamp that passed between those pieces.

In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river,

the river Euphrates (Gen 15:13-18)

Here we see that Abraham received a prophetic word from the Lord. **The Lord showed him what was going to happen in the land in the future.** The Lord very specifically said, “thy seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them four hundred years;..... But in the fourth generation they shall come hither again: for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet full..... **In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates:”**

Abraham being a seer knew what God wanted him to do and what was yet to come by the fulfillment of God’s word. He realized that there would come a time when his descendants would no longer be in that land but would serve another nation (Egyptians) for hundreds of years. However, God promised Abraham that He would bring them back again to the land of promise (Canaan) and possess it. God also made a covenant with Abraham and Abraham well knew that God’s covenant would not and could not be broken under any circumstances. It would come to pass whatever should happen. And, it was in the light of the fulfillment of God’s great covenant with him that Abraham decided to buy a piece of land to bury his wife, Sarah and also others. This would ensure that in the future, even after hundreds of years, nobody would be able to deny that stretch of land to Abraham's heirs because it belonged to them and was a part of their inheritance.

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Abraham refused to take the piece of land free offered by the children of Heth as a burying place for his wife. The question we need to ask ourselves is what prompted Abraham to pay a price for the land when it was given freely to him?

Abraham wanted the deal to be signed and sealed so that in future no generation or people would be able to deny that this place belonged to Abraham and his heirs. No one would be able to say at any time that this land did not belong to the family of Abraham for the Lord had brought him from the land of the Ur of the Chaldees into this land.

Abraham prophetically saw that the land that he bought was not just a place to bury his wife, but was also a possession for his heirs in every future generation. That plot of land or place would belong to all the generations that would follow after Abraham. It was promised to them by God. That is what made that plot of land so sacred to Abraham. And Abraham, who was a prophet of God, was able to see the precious promises of God that were yet to come through this work.

He saw a glorious event and he wanted to be prepared for it. He was willing to pay the price for it. What a tremendous thing that was, brethren! Others couldn't see why Abraham was so willing to pay such a heavy price!

Saints, this ought to be the heart virtue of every overcomer in these end times as well.

LET US PAY THE COST

Today we find Christian believers looking out for things they can get for free. They don't want to pay any price for their spiritual acquisitions. **They feel that everything of God should be available for free.** They hesitate to even pay for their own bibles! They would rather not pay the cost of any of their spiritual gifts. That is not a good principle to live by, saints.

Though salvation is free, a very great price has been paid for it by the Lord Jesus Christ. However, if we are to grow on to His fullness, we also must be ready to pay a price. The Scripture says, "whosoever believes shall not perish but have everlasting life." The Scripture also says, "To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne. (Rev 3:21)

Saints, to be an overcomer one has to pay a huge price! While writing to the Corinthian church the apostle Paul says, "so run, that ye may obtain". Salvation is a free gift of God, but full salvation or maturity is to be obtained for a full price. The Apostle Paul again writes to the Thessalonians, "Whereunto he called you by our gospel, to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ." (2 Thess 2:14). His Glory unto which we are called by salvation is something to be obtained! We have heard, time and again, that the fullness in Christ or growing into maturity comes with a price! That is what the apostle Paul says in all his letters to

the churches. In other words, this life in Christ comes with a price tag.

Abraham was willing to pay a price and the deed was signed for something that was valuable spiritually. He counted himself to be a stranger and a sojourner who possessed nothing. He was not ashamed to own this up publicly. He was not at home in this world but was willing to humble himself and deal with the children of Heth, who owned the land, though they never knew what Abraham had heard from God.

Here we see Abraham to be a man who was ahead of his time. He was willing to pay the price in his time for what was to come much later, hallelujah! What a great faith that is. He was willing to pay a price, not for what he was to receive in his time, but for what was to follow by faith, and for what was to take place in a future generation. What a tremendous thing! He was challenged by what he saw. And he wanted to prepare for that and he was willing to pay a price for that.

Those who are hearing God in this hour are surely experiencing something precious from God in their lives. Those who are really hearing God in this hour, be they an insignificant minority, or be they young or old, are experiencing a change in their lives. Let me say with all the emphasis at my disposal that something is happening and is going to happen in greater measures in their lives. When our spiritual eyes are open to whatever is yet to happen according to the Word, we cannot be like others. We know

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that whatever God has promised, cannot be broken. It will happen. Abraham knew that the word could not be broken because it was a covenant that God had made with him and to his seed. The Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, "Unto thy seed have I given this land" and it would happen. When the children of Israel would come back to the land after many years they will see where their forefathers have been laid to rest in faith.

In like manner, there is an excitement in such lives that live by their faith in these last days. They are able to see the glorious calling of the church. They are able to see her coming into the glory of the Lord and eventually possessing their inheritance in Christ. They are seeing the glory, the sonship, the maturity, and the restoration of all things by the Holy Spirit. They are preparing for that great end-time work of God, when there will be a restoration of all things spoken by the prophets. They are preparing for it and paying a great price in this hour in their day today lives.

Beloved, there is something significantly spiritual happening in our midst, but the children of Heth have no idea about it. They have not heard God. They have no vision of this truth, but Abraham had heard from God. He bought a piece of land that one day would be possessed by the tribe of Judah, a land that would be so close to the holy city of Jerusalem!

Joseph, who was also a seer, realized that there was something in that land, which the Lord has promised to Abraham and his seed. Where was that land? His prophetic

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perception was accurate. He saw that the land of promise would not be in Egypt, but it would be where his father Abraham walked, where his father Isaac lived, where his father Jacob had lived at one time! And Joseph said to himself, "That is the place where I also must be buried. I belong to that place and to that promise of God!" Amen!

Brethren, may God open our eyes and give us deep convictions regarding this, that we may know where we belong! You may have a throne and position in Egypt but that place is not your home. You do not belong there! Let the Josephs of today know this and live in the hope of what is to come and prepare for it! The throne, the position, the riches and everything that Egypt offers are nothing compared to the glory that is to come according to the promise of the Father!

Brethren, beloved of the Lord, it is time to be willing to pay the price, to prepare and to live in the light of that glorious hope in Christ in these end times.

JOSEPH'S CHARGE TO HIS PEOPLE

And he charged them, and said unto them, I am to be gathered unto my people: bury me with my fathers in the cave that is in the field of Ephron the Hittite,

In the cave that is in the field of Machpelah, which is before Mamre, in the land of Canaan, which Abraham bought with the field of Ephron the Hittite for a possession of a buryingplace.

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There they buried Abraham and Sarah his wife; there they buried Isaac and Rebekah his wife; and there I buried Leah. (Gen 49:29-31)

Joseph knew it all by the Holy Spirit and therefore, by faith he told his people prophetically to take his bones to that place in the land of promise. He wanted to be buried where, not only Abraham and Sarah were laid to rest but also where Isaac and Jacob, Rebecca and Leah were buried. These are very important things, saints.

Now many years later in the land of Egypt we find Joseph giving instructions to the children of Israel.

And Joseph said unto his brethren, I die: and God will surely visit you, and bring you out of this land unto the land which he sware to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

And Joseph took an oath of the children of Israel, saying, God will surely visit you, and ye shall carry up my bones from hence.

So Joseph died, being an hundred and ten years old: and they embalmed him, and he was put in a coffin in Egypt.

Joseph said to the Israelites, "I have heard the Lord very clearly. I die, but God will surely visit you and bring you out of this land." He said, I have seen what is upon the heart of God. My life from my young days to this day has been lived in the light of this word and though I go to be with my fathers, God's word will not be broken. Amen!"

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Beloved, God's word cannot be broken. God will surely keep His word and bring all His people out of this land and take them unto the land which He swore unto Abraham and Isaac and Jacob. It will happen because His word shall never be broken.

Joseph, the seer said to the people, **“God shall surely visit you but I don't want to be separated from you when that word is fulfilled. I want to be part of it. I always have lived in the light of that word that I have received. My destiny is different.”**

Joseph added, “When you go from Egypt carry my bones with you. Don’t leave my remains here (in Egypt). I have lived a life beyond the grave. I have lived a life in the great hope of the future. I have lived with a resurrection hope in my life. I have lived my life with an overcoming glory all these years of my life. God will visit you and so when you leave this place take my bones with you. Remember and make a vow to me that you will do it.” Hallelujah! Amen.

Joseph said these words because he wanted them to know that they were not to settle down in Egypt. He told them that he was promoted to be a ruler in Egypt, but he knew that he did not belong to this place.

Brethren, so it is with us. God has placed us in different places, He has sustained us but we are not to settle here for we have a different land that has been promised to us.

WE MUST BE DIFFERENT

When Joseph spoke these words to the Israelites, Egypt was a rich land; it was a land of plenty. The prophet Joseph warned them not to be lost in the plenty that they saw there. He said that this land of Egypt was nothing compared to the land that God wanted them to have. In the plan of God there was a land of plenty, that flowed with milk and honey. That is the land God had promised to his fathers. He told them that he had heard it from the Lord and had seen it with his spiritual eyes. He had heard from his forefathers that the land belonged to him and to the future generations. In other words Joseph told them that they were not to settle in Egypt in spite of all the blessings they had there.

Joseph said, “You do not belong to this place. God will visit you. Don’t worry. A time will come when I will no longer be a great man in Egypt, but God will not fail to keep His word.” The fulfillment of God’s promise does not depend upon any man. God will do it.

Joseph said, “My time has come to leave, but God will visit you at the appointed time. God will be right on time to keep His word to me. He has spoken to my father and my great grandfather. God will bring you out with a great substance. So remember, you must not settle down here on any account.”

Another reason why Joseph said these encouraging things to the people was because he saw that they would

have a difficult time in the days ahead. Afterwards when Joseph would no longer be on the throne of Egypt, the people would run into hard times that would be much more difficult. Therefore Joseph said to his brethren and the children of Israel, "My dear brethren in Christ, do not bend under pressure, do not be carried away by the difficulties and calamities. There will be many difficulties which shall come upon you, but remember that God will keep His word. His word cannot be broken."

Joseph who had a tender heart also comforted them by telling them that they were a people who were fully governed by the promise and covenant of God. He encouraged them to look forward to coming into all that God had promised. The fulfillment of God's word to them would certainly happen. God's word cannot be broken. He said they were a people who have been given a promise.

Though Joseph lived in Egypt and died in Egypt he made it very clear that they did not belong to Egypt. He said "Though I may be seated on a throne here in Egypt, I am not an Egyptian, but a Hebrew."

Beloved brethren, take this as a living example to follow even now. You may be a CEO or you may be a Secretary to the Government of India, but you are a 'Hebrew.' The word Hebrew means "AN OVERCOMER". You do not belong to this place. You are here in His will. You do not conform to the pattern of things here on this earth.

Joseph was a man of power and a ruler in Egypt and

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yet he knew where he belonged. What a tremendous thing it is to have this understanding, dear brethren.

When Joseph died, he was 110 years old. He was put in a coffin in Egypt. How wonderful it is to know that he told the Israelites not to worry but to preserve his mortal remains. How many years? Many many years. But he also told them "When you leave this place don't forget me. I belong to that place where you are called. I have lived all my life with that anticipation. When you possess the land I want to be a part of that." Hallelujah! Does that mean anything to you and me?

By faith Joseph when he was about to die told his brethren to take his bones with them when they left Egypt. But let me tell you saints, there is a mystery there. All the way they carried a mystery in the bones! God is going to reveal that mystery to us in these gatherings. Joseph died in wonderful faith and he believed that God would fulfill things in a tremendous way. Joseph encouraged and strengthened the future generations. Let us be open to the mystery in these Scriptures.

Are you open to God? God wants to change your attitudes. Once your eyes are opened you will never be the same. That is what happened with Abraham and even with Joseph. If our eyes catch the vision of what God has promised us, our lives will be different. Do you believe this?

The prayer upon my heart is, "Lord, help me to believe and prepare myself to be a part of what is yet to happen. O

The Price Of Spiritual Growth

Lord, You have great and precious promises for Your church in these end times. I want to be part of those things when they are fulfilled Lord.”

Our calling is to prepare for that which is yet to happen according to God's will for us as overcomers. We are not to live careless or carefree lives, but we are to live with that anticipation upon our heart, that Joseph had in his days. Beloved saints, prepare for that which is yet to be fulfilled in His purpose!



THE VISION



GOD has been faithful to His people despite their human limitations, shortcomings, and situations. I see His faithfulness, His willingness, and His love for His people to take us on in His great purpose. I am sure that the coming days will prove that we have been in His presence, and will be manifested in our very life. This touch of God - a fresh initiative of God in our lives.

We have very specifically seen in the previous chapters that God's word cannot be broken. And saints, it is necessary that we are strongly rooted in the precious counsel that God has given us. **It is not a matter of some emotions but it is primarily a matter of His word finding its way into our lives.** It is a matter of the Lord helping us to apprehend what is upon His heart. May the Lord help us to

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know what is upon His heart; and may we be open and available to what the Lord has for us. In God's great mercy the Lord has opened our hearts to realise that God's word cannot be broken. Despite every work of the enemy to destroy God's work and this ministry, the Lord has mercifully sustained us in the past. However, the enemy has done all that he could do in many measures until now. In God's mercies what He has done from the beginning has survived. There has been a realisation that what the Lord has done all these years in the wilderness of our lives in terms of providing spiritual water and food has brought about an increase of Christ and His purpose. God's purpose in giving us such riches is that we may move forward to spiritually attain what lies ahead.

“By faith Joseph, when he died, made mention of the departing of the children of Israel; and gave commandment concerning his bones.” (Heb 11:22)

Praise God that 'by faith Joseph' took this important step in his life. It was Joseph's pure faith that gave him confidence to give counsel to the people of Israel.

“And Joseph said unto his brethren, I die: and God will surely visit you, and bring you out of this land unto the land which he sware to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob. (Gen 50:24).

“And Joseph took an oath of the children of Israel, saying, God will surely visit you, and ye shall carry up my bones from hence” (Gen 50:25).

The Voice of The Dry Bones

Here was a man named Joseph who had seen a measure of spiritual things that lay much beyond his days for he prophesied and spoke prophetically. Let us learn that men who have seen cannot but speak those things they have seen by the Holy Spirit. This is the splendour that lies in seeing things which are upon the heart of God. My concern and prayer is that all of us would begin to see the burden upon the heart of God. Joseph and many other saints of old had seen something of the heart of God.

I would not like to reiterate the thoughts that I have shared previously wherein we saw the people of Israel faithfully carrying the bones of Joseph all through their long wilderness journey, as they had been told to do so. We know that according to the Scriptures, Pharaoh was bent upon destroying God's people before they left Egypt. His intention was to pursue the Israelites, who were once his slaves, to destroy them totally.

Though the children of Israel left Egypt in a hurry they did not forget to carry the bones of Joseph with them. They left Egypt with Joseph's bones secure in a coffin. And even as **Pharaoh was determined to destroy these helpless, hapless people, there was a coffin of bones in their midst that began to testify, "Pharaoh, you will fail in all your efforts. Pharaoh you will not succeed. This is the move of God and not of man. This is not of Moses and of Aaron, but it is something of the hand of God. It is a covenant that God Himself had spoken and made with Abraham."** Saints, this was a covenant that the Lord God had made many years earlier! Hallelujah, Glory to God!

“Hey Pharaoh, you are a mighty man, you have strong armies with you, you have chariots that run so fast, but all your efforts will fail.”

While the Israelites lived in Egypt for over four hundred long years they remained slaves; they wept in their tribulations and suffering and cried out to God, but all that while they remained in bondage in Egypt the prophet's bones that were patiently waiting began to speak to them saying, “God will visit you my brethren. Your tribulations are with you for now, but you will be set free.” The bones of a prophet were patiently waiting for a day when the people would see the dawning of a new day when, freed from bondage, the people would be ready to leave Egypt for the Promised Land.

O what a tremendous utterance! It stirs and strengthens the inner being! These bones were with them as a testimony that declared what God had purposed. The bones spoke, “Pharaoh, you will fail in all your schemes and tactics”.

The truth is that Pharaoh failed not once, but time and time again, but finally God decided to touch Pharaoh in a personal way. The Lord eventually decreed that every first-born would be slain. Pharaoh in desperation told Moses, “I will let you go but I will also make sure that you don't go too far”.

“Pharaoh, your cunning tactics will come to an end. Your schemes and your ways will fail. There is a new day that is dawning for the people of God! This new day that

The Voice of The Dry Bones

is coming upon His people is not of man but it is of God." The Prophet's bones began to witness and testify that that day is not far off. The deliverance of God's people is at hand. The bones of Joseph saw that his brethren would leave the land of Egypt for good as had been promised to them.

Scripture shows us that Pharaoh hardened his heart and would not give up the chase.

And it was told the king of Egypt that the people fled: and the heart of Pharaoh and of his servants was turned against the people, and they said, Why have we done this, that we have let Israel go from serving us?

And he made ready his chariot, and took his people with him:

And he took six hundred chosen chariots, and all the chariots of Egypt, and captains over every one of them.

And the LORD hardened the heart of Pharaoh king of Egypt, and he pursued after the children of Israel: and the children of Israel went out with an high hand.

But the Egyptians pursued after them, all the horses and chariots of Pharaoh, and his horsemen, and his army, and overtook them encamping by the sea, beside Pihahiroth, before Baalzephon. (Exo 14:5-9)

The Vision

After the children of Israel left their dwellings in Egypt Pharaoh pursued them relentlessly. Pharaoh hardened himself and began to pursue them with his armies. He was a powerful king who had many chariots and armed men. And they moved more swiftly than the poor Israelite masses. So it was not long before the entire army of Pharaoh overtook Israel. They circled around the Israelite camps and waited by the sea to cut off their retreat.

Saints, pay close attention to the strategy of the enemy. Pharaoh's army was waiting at the water edge for the Israelites to approach them so that they could massacre them before they touched the sea shore. It was a trap from which there was no way of escape. The hapless Israelites were trapped between the sea on one side and the army of Pharaoh on the other side. There was no avenue of escape. The way was barricaded by the sea on the one side and by the ferocious chariots and soldiers of Pharaoh on the other side.

The Israelites were caught in a pincer move of the Egyptian army. It was a difficult situation indeed. But the bones of the prophet that the Israelites carried with them began to witness and declare that Pharaoh would fail and that his defeat would be terrible. Pharaoh and his generals thought that their wise move would bring about a great slaughter of the Israelite slaves. They thought that they would finally bring to an end the Hebrew people. The dry bones that they had been carrying began to witness to them not to believe what Pharaoh said as he was a liar. The bones declared, **“Don't believe what Pharaoh says. It is nothing**

but a lie. The arrogance of Pharaoh will lead the Egyptians to their doom!”

Dearly beloved saints of God, let this be an example to us. Let us not believe the lies and schemes of the enemy who always thinks he is very crafty and wise. The enemy plans to trap God’s people by taking fast and swift action. He waits to spring a trap by deceiving God’s people so that he can destroy them.

The prophet of old had declared boldly, “The word of the Lord has gone forth and that word cannot be broken. My bones will reach their final resting place and that is why I told you to carry my bones.”

THIS IS NOT OF MAN BUT OF GOD!

Oh, see the wonderful way by which God intervened in the situation that the Israelites found themselves in. And see what the Lord did! It is marvellous, saints. It is awesome! May your eyes be opened to behold the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob!

“And the angel of God, which went before the camp of Israel, removed and went behind them; and the pillar of the cloud went from before their face, and stood behind them:” (Exo 14:19)

This Scripture shows that the bones of Joseph had not made a wrong declaration. **“Enemy, you may have your strategy but you are going to be taken by surprise by my God. Your strategy will completely fail!”**

The Vision

The Israelites were hemmed in by the Red Sea at one end and the enemy at the other end. The Sea was before them and they did not know what to do. It was night time. The people cried out to Moses fearing they would either perish in the Red Sea or at the hand of Pharaoh's army. There was an air of dread and fear all around. **But the bones they carried declared they were fearful unbelievers. The waters will have to part and a way will have to be made for the word of the Lord has gone forth through the mouth of His prophet and these bones will have to reach the final resting place.**

The children of Israel began to cry out unto the Lord and unto Moses more loudly. The Lord said to Moses, "Why are the people crying out to me? Stretch forth your staff over the sea. I will be there to meet with them. I will go before them as I have promised."

In a swift move, the angel of the Lord came from the front of the camp and moved to the rear, behind the people of Israel. This was God's great wisdom and strategy, but Israel couldn't understand the ways of God. The apostle Paul says so emphatically that our God does all things according to His wisdom (Ephesians 1:11 says, ...God worketh all things after the counsel of His own will.). The Egyptian army camp was behind the Israelite camp waiting to slaughter the Israelites. So the 'pillar of cloud' went between the camp of the Egyptians and the camp of the Israelites. This is made amply clear in these Scripture portions:

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And it came between the camp of the Egyptians and the camp of Israel; and it was a cloud and darkness to them, but it gave light by night to these: so that the one came not near the other all the night... (Exo 14:20)

(The pillar of cloud came) between the host of Egypt and the host of Israel. It was a cloud of darkness to the Egyptians, but it gave light by night to the Israelites; and the one host did not come near the other all night. (Exo 14:20 Amp)

... but it gave light by night to these: so that the one came not near the other all the night.

In other words, none could come near the Israelites because God intervened. Saints, God intervened! God made the very change that was necessary.

And it came to pass, that in the morning watch the Lord looked unto the host of the Egyptians through the pillar of fire and of the cloud, and troubled the host of the Egyptians. (Exo 14:24)

What a mighty God we have, dear saints! He is the mighty God of Jacob! The Lord looked upon the Egyptian army and they were troubled. He troubled the host of the Egyptians! Is anything too hard for the Lord? No, nothing, nothing and absolutely nothing, nothing is too hard for the Lord our God!

And took off their chariot wheels, that they drave them heavily: so that the Egyptians said, Let us flee

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*from the face of Israel; for the Lord fighteth for them
against the Egyptians. (Exo 14:25)*

Brethren, is there anything that our God cannot do or will not do when His promised time comes to deliver His people and bring them into their possessions in Christ? He will do all things for His own. Hallelujah beloved, the Lord Thy God fighteth for His own!

The time is coming when the schemes of the enemy shall fail, Hallelujah! The bones declared this in the midst of God's people. God intervened and once again Pharaoh's intentions and lies did not succeed.

The Israelites crossed the Red Sea and carried those dry bones in an Egyptian coffin all through the wilderness. For forty long years the mixed multitude that had left Egypt in the middle of the night even after seeing the great miracle of God were bitter against God. They complained and murmured against God and they said they would never reach the Promised Land. And this became so true. In their unbelief they said they would not reach the Promised Land and it is a fact that they did not. So they were right concerning themselves. It was their own choice and decision. **They said that they would not reach their destination and the Lord let them have their way!**

MAKE YOUR CHOICES CAREFULLY

There are many in present Christianity who say that they cannot go beyond salvation, water baptism and the

baptism of the Holy Spirit. They contend that it is difficult, nay impossible, to live the life of Christ and come into maturity. They say that it is not possible to be an overcomer and come into the fullness in Christ. Beloved, those who confess and live in unbelief will surely miss their destiny! Those who possess such a negative confession of unbelief shall be governed by their confession. **Saints of God, what you confess is what you will do. What you choose is what you become. It cannot be otherwise.**

Contrary to those who nurture a hopeless attitude, there are a people who in the midst of their suffering, tribulation, bondage and unceasing atrocity of the enemy say, "Lord, You have spoken and You will bring us to our inheritance, our maturity in Christ, and our full salvation." They hold on to a positive confession of their faith in the word of God. They have made their choice and they will surely experience their chosen path.

In this hour, I would like to plead with God's children to make this a matter of their prayer. Let us be determined to hold to this counsel. **"Don't live in the camp of the complainers, the compromisers, the ones who murmur, and the people who do not believe that God can do what is impossible."** Let us not be found in the tents of people who say they 'will not be able to move on'. They maintain an attitude of unbelief against the truth of the Word. They shall surely get what they confess. You will get what you confess. You will end up with what you choose. But these bones in their midst began to witness, "God will bring me to that place where I am supposed to be."

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God's word is true. God's word cannot be broken. People can complain and murmur in unbelief. They can raise their finger against God. They can raise their voices against the ministry of Moses but none of these things will hinder what God has purposed. My dear brethren in Christ Jesus, God's word cannot be broken and everyone said Hallelujah!

So let us not be found in the camp of complainers, compromisers, bickerers, fumblers and mutterers. May God give you the grace to be in the company of those who believe in the promises of God. What fellowship do we, who believe in God's promises, have with those who say, "God cannot do what He has promised"? How can we walk with them?

*"Can two walk together, except they be agreed?"
(Amos 3:3)*

'The Message' translation of the Bible says, "**Do two people walk hand in hand if they aren't going to the same place?**". I like this translation which makes the thought very clear for us. Saints, your destiny in Christ is the fullness in Christ, the full salvation. You cannot walk with those who do not believe that God has called them to this destiny and to our full inheritance in Christ. How can you walk with those whose destiny is not the same as yours?

Dearly beloved, let me plead with each one of you to be careful where you are found in your daily walk. In the wilderness walk, those who complained and questioned God finally perished. While their bones bleached in the

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desert, the dry bones which they carried continued to declare, "There is a Land of Promise where I will rest".

Saints, the Scriptures declare that "some must enter there in". That is what the Hebrew writer says. I want to reinforce this by saying that some of us will enter in. The word of the Lord has gone forth. This is not the idea of men. This is the covenant of the living God. This is something God has purposed before the creation of this very world.

This coffin that was full of bones was carried by the Israelites throughout their wilderness journey. In the midst of all the murmuring the bones continued to testify that the people were not right with God. At every step of their journey the bones prophesied of promises to be kept. But the people continued to confess their unbelief. Saints, let us be among those who believe that God will do what He has promised. Therefore, let us move on with them. **The bones testified that they will make their way to the place where they were destined to go. It shall be done! Amen.**

So it shall be in these days. The promise of God for His people shall be fulfilled regardless of every murmur, regardless of every unbelief, and regardless of every fear, His word shall be fulfilled. May God give us that faith today! God's word cannot be broken. Men of God have walked this way before. They have handled this truth; they have also handed over this precious truth to succeeding generations. God will fulfil all that He has ordained. **Saints, this is not a fabricated, fictitious matter or something made-up by**

some people. This is no strange teaching, nor a new doctrine or a fresh revelation brought forth by someone or some fellowship. This is something that God has spoken. It has been revealed to the hungry through the centuries. Men have heard and seen it and walked this way. And I want to say that we are carrying the bones of those men, men who prophesied and lived in that faith and looked forward to the blessed hope of the manifestation of the sons of God, the glorious Bride and the return of Christ in the fullness of time. My beloved brethren, may I say with deep personal conviction that we are carrying their testimony on our shoulders and their testimony is ever speaking to our lives, “You will make it to the end.” Amen.

Hear ye the saints of God! Let the enemy say anything. Let those who murmur say what they want to. Let the complainers, the compromisers and the men of unbelief say anything, but remember that the Scriptures say that some must move on. Some must find their way into the land of promise. This is God's word. This is not man's promise. And may God help us to be a part of that company that will move on and find their way into the land of our inheritance in Christ and also possess it. *Hallelujah!*



9

THE CARRIERS



IN the book of Exodus we read that Moses took the bones of Joseph as a responsible man, as one appointed of the Lord, for this great work of delivering the children of Israel from Egypt and also leading God's people all the way to the land of Canaan.

And Moses took the bones of Joseph with him: for he had straitly sworn the children of Israel, saying, God will surely visit you; and ye shall carry up my bones away hence with you. (Exo 13:19)

We do not know how the thought of transporting the bones of Joseph was conveyed to Moses, for there is nothing in the Scriptures that would suggest that Moses ever met the prophet Joseph in person. Nor is it within the realms of

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reason to assume that Joseph had kept a sealed envelope to be handed over to Moses with directions concerning the conveyance of his bones! However, it is very clear that Joseph's desire to move his bones to the Promised Land was conveyed to Moses, God's chosen vessel. It was also made known to Moses that the brethren of Joseph had vowed to fulfil his desire when they left Egypt. It is as if the bones of Joseph yelled out and said, "Don't forget me; I am a part of that program of God. In the joy of leaving the land of bondage do not forget me! I am a part of all that you are going to experience. I have lived all these years in that desire and in anticipating the prospect of their fulfilment I have prepared my life for it."

Moses, on his part, was not willing to risk disobeying the Lord in this matter. The word of the Lord had been spoken by the mouth of the prophet Joseph and a solemn oath had been made by his brethren. Moses believed that the word of Joseph must come to pass; God's people would have to keep the oath they had made in Joseph's time. Moses knew that the task that had been given to him and to the brethren was not an easy one to fulfil.

Moses realized that generations had come and gone from the days of Joseph. Would the present generation of his brethren keep the oath their ancestors had made? They now had different aspirations and new ideas. Would they question the wisdom of the ancients and say, "**Why should we carry these bones of Joseph? He is already dead. So many years have passed since he died. Will anyone ask us anything if we do not carry the bones of the prophet**

after the lapse of so many years? Surely, those who took the oath to carry the bones were long since dead and gone! Why have they left us this legacy and burden? **Why should we carry this dead weight on our heads and shoulders?"** **Some of the intellectually inclined could well have remarked that this was nothing but the pipe dream of a dying prophet! Where was the need for them to suffer for the dreams of a dead man?** In other words, the contention of some Israelites in Egypt was that no purpose would be served in carrying the prophet's bones because the man who had wanted this and the people who had made the promise had long since expired!

ASK FOR THE OLD PATHS

Saints, we may have wonderful enterprising ideas and innovative proposals, but we need to set such thoughts apart when it comes to the things of God. Instead, we need to get into the old paths where the promises and covenants had been made, where people had sworn that they would ever walk in the ways of God. Jeremiah prophesied in his times, "Thus saith the Lord, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls." (Jer 6:16). There is always a tendency in the flesh or in the natural man to replace and substitute the old paths. "Ask for the old paths". These are the path prescribed by the Word of God, the written Word, the true Word of olden days. Ask for the paths that the patriarchs, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob travelled; and, as we hope to inherit the promises God made

to them, we shall tread in their steps. "Ask for the old paths; that is where the good way is."

We are living in a time where there are many young leaders all over the country and all over the world who have strong innovative ideas. But most of them tend to move far away from the original, primal and initial purpose of God. **They easily set aside God's original purpose. They get overtaken by many substitutes and imitations.** But when we ask for the old paths, it is only in order to find out the good way, the highway of the upright and the righteous. Saints, the way men of old walked with the vision of God's eternal purpose, is the good old way, the way that all the saints in all ages should walk. The Lord today would have us make a solemn resolve to act according to the result of these enquiries: "When you have found out which is the good way, walk therein, practise accordingly, keep closely to that way, proceed, and persevere in it. And the result of that walk is rest to your souls". *Hallelujah!*

Let us consider Moses here! He knew that he had to keep that prophetic word. He knew that it was none other than God's prophetic word. He knew that the task was a very difficult one. It was altogether an impossible task. It could only be done by the Word of God! It could only be done through the strength of the Lord. It could only be done through His abilities. He knew that. But he also knew the kind of people his brethren were. He had seen every side of Israel. In the early years of his life Moses had run away from his own people. But God in His sovereignty had chosen Moses to be the deliverer of Israel. God made His mind

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and plan clear to Moses when He met him at the Burning Bush. Yet Moses had attempted to avoid the responsibility that God had given him for His people. He expressed his inabilities and limitations to the Lord and said, "Lord I cannot speak a straight sentence. I am a man of impediments." But the Lord said, "Take Aaron with you." Moses thought he could be released from his responsibility because he knew the troubles and difficulties of his own people by experience. However, the Lord did not accept the excuses of Moses. We see similar attitudes displayed in the midst of young brothers who are given a difficult responsibility. People say that they cannot undertake the bidding of the Lord for one reason or an other, but the answer they get from the Lord is, "Not to worry, take some brethren with you." Saints, when God gives us some work to do, none of our excuses can stand before Him. The reason is that His hand has been upon our lives. **Moses realized that he did not have the strength to deliver the Israelites from Egypt; he also realized that it would be difficult for him to lead these people and make them to carry the bones of Joseph all the way.** Yet, Moses also knew that what seemed impossible to him could well be done by the God of all impossibilities. Therefore, Moses readily accepted the additional responsibilities that were thrust upon him and took upon himself that great task

CARRIERS OF THE TESTIMONY

I love that Scripture portion which says, "And Moses took the bones of Joseph." What a responsibility! He took

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the weighty responsibility upon himself because God had promised Moses that He would go before him and the people. **For the bones of Joseph that Moses and the people had with them was an insurance that they would go on and reach the Promised Land.**

Brothers and sisters, we know the Lord and His Word is with us. Yet the Lord has left us with the testimonies of men of old who lived in the great hope of the overcoming church. They were able to see the great glory that is to come upon His people in these end times. **The bones in their midst provided them the promise of divine assurance that they would safely arrive at their destination. Hallelujah!** The assurance was given through the prophet Joseph who had spoken that sacred word.

Saints, in this dispensation of the New Covenant, we are the chosen ones to carry the testimony of the Lord Jesus Christ. Do you know what the testimony of Jesus is? "..... Fear not; I am the first and the last: I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death." (Rev 1:17-18). Let me tell my beloved brethren that we are not carrying a coffin of bones, but we are carrying the precious testimony of Christ within us. Oh, may the Holy Spirit open our spiritual eyes to behold this wonderful truth! Hallelujah! Thank You Jesus!

Christ within you is the hope of glory. *Hallelujah!* Dearly beloved, we are carrying the resurrection life of Christ within us. We have the substance of Christ within us. That is our

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insurance, people of God. The Spirit is witnessing with our spirit that we are the sons of God; we are the sons of God crying, Abba Father. Hallelujah!

In my walk with the Lord and the ministry, I have learned this principle in small measures. There were times when I thought I had no strength or ability to do the task. But when I trusted in His word and in His strength, I was empowered by the Lord. I have experienced the power of His resurrection many a time in my life. I knew that it was God's supernatural power that worked in me.

This is the power of the word of God. Let me encourage you; let the word get into you and you will experience a newness that will cause you to jump (triumph) with joy! Your weakness will go. You will arise in the power of His resurrection. Hallelujah!

The prophet Joseph had spoken a word and Moses stood on the ground of that word of the Lord. Saints, we cannot set aside what the prophets have spoken. We cannot set aside what God has spoken. His word cannot be broken. The bones they carried were their insurance. The word of the Lord to them was, **“Do not look around you My little ones; all the circumstances around you will try to overwhelm you. Do not look at the enemy and be fearful in your hearts. The enemy will not be able to destroy you. Have I not spoken unto you and will I not fulfil My purpose in you? Let it not be a small thing that I have spoken to you these things. But rest in My word and let your foundation be upon the Rock. For My word shall**

hold you up and the enemy shall not prevail though he rages against you”.

OUR STAND IS ON GOD’S WORD

Saints, Moses stood on that word and Moses knew that God's word would help them as they moved forward. Though the enemies would rage against them they would not be able to destroy them. May we stand on God's word! I have heard my God say unto me, “My son you are called to be a part of what I am going to do; I will do a work in you and you will be a part of it. And therefore let not the things I am revealing and speaking to you be a small thing in your eyes, but rest thou in my word.” May we stand firmly on the word of God! God in His mercy has caused us to hear His word in these days. There were men who had walked this way in the past, and God in His mercy has opened our eyes to see in a small measure what these men had seen. And let us confess that God's word cannot be broken.

Let the rebels take up stones against God’s chosen ones that believed in the promises of God! To them, the bones began to say, **“Don’t be fearful of the heap of stones that are hurled against you, for none will hit you. Let them gather all the stones in the region, but none of the stones will find their mark.”** How true that was. They gathered the stones but none of the stones hit them. God protected their lives. Saints, let our enemies continually spew their doctrine of defeat. There are many in today’s Christianity who say that it is not possible to go on to maturity and

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fullness. They say that in the beginning they had tried to do so but failed. Oh, there are many who churn out such negative confessions. They say there are ‘giants’ there; there are ‘high and strong walls’ there. **They wonder who could ever cross the terrible raging ‘river Jordan.’ They that speak such things are utterly confused. They speak death, defeat and discouragement. Where will they go? They will perish and lose their destiny!**

Let us understand that in the midst of all the surrounding confusion, in the midst of Israel, there is a coffin full of bones! **What are these bones saying? They speak of life and inheritance and victory. The bones say that there are many cities to be taken; there are many battles to be won. And that great wall is going to fall and great is going to be its fall. Amen!** What a tremendous witness these bones are.

Not only that, many of the Israelites said, “We are going back to Egypt. Brother, did you hear us? We cannot go on. We are going back. Why? It is because there are great difficulties ahead of us. **Do you not know that even those who once said it is possible to go on to maturity are now saying that they cannot go on? They also have left them who said that it is possible and they now say that those people have deviated from the truth.** They say now that there is something wrong with their teaching. We also were with them for many years but we have saved ourselves by leaving them.”

There were many who spoke about going back to Egypt.

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But these bones still continue to be in the midst of God's people testifying that they must move forward. **The voice of the prophets is still in the midst of God's people, saying they must go on. They must go on, ever onward and ever upward! They must go on to new heights. They must go on from glory to glory, from faith to faith and from strength to strength until they appear in Zion, their full inheritance in Christ!**

Saints, listen carefully. We see clearly that in the wilderness there were all sorts of people. **Let us consider the wilderness of present day Christianity. Here there are many denominations and groups with many different teachings and doctrines, each one emphasising what they consider as truth. There is pandemonium in the midst of God's people. Some want to go back and some continue to say that maturity is never going to happen! There are all types and kinds of opinions in the midst of God's people.** Many trumpets are being blown today and to them nothing is clear. This is what the apostle Paul said to the Corinthian believers who were living in great confusion. "For if the trumpet give an uncertain sound, who shall prepare himself to the battle?" (1 Cor 14:8). **The Church of Jesus Christ is called to be an army. Unfortunately, today it has become a mob, every man doing that which is right in his own eyes.** But in the midst of all these conflicting and confusing voices, we have the clear and distinct voice of the prophets that say, "you must go on". The believing will say, "Lord, Your promise will take me on with You; Your word is not only to bring me out of Egypt, but Lord, You and the Word will bring me into all

fullness.” There are those who can’t but move on. Therefore, saints, let us heed the voice of the Lord and move on.

FALSE NOTIONS OF CANAAN

And then in the midst of God's people, **there are those who stopped in the middle of the wilderness. They found some palm trees and decided to camp under the shade of the palms in the desert. And some others said this journey through the wilderness was very tiresome, so they had decided to call this place “Canaan”!** They called this place where they had halted, where there was shade and where there were some cool streams of water, as their Promised Land! They said in their hearts, **“Why go forward into the unknown?”**

In today's spiritual world, such companies are plenty. They are tired of the trials in the wilderness, they have found a place of shade and water, and they have decided to settle down there. They call that place their Canaan. This is good enough, they say. But what are they so satisfied about? **They are satisfied that they are no more slaves to sin in Egypt; they are satisfied that they are out of Egypt, that at least they had made it so far by the grace of God! They are pleased that they are not part of that group that wanted to go back to Egypt! They gleefully exclaim, “Look at the distance we have covered! At least we have made it where many others have failed. We have crossed the Red Sea and even passed Mount**

Sinai! In other words we have been baptized in water and have also been baptized in the Holy Spirit! We have every reason to be satisfied with ourselves!" They say that they have gone much farther than others and that their present state is satisfying enough for them.

Beloved, many have drawn false finish lines in their lives. **Saints you cannot call anything your land of promise other than what God has destined in His Divine economy.** Let me not hesitate to say that for many believers who look for prosperity and natural blessing, developed Christian countries in the west are their Canaan. Let them remember the prophet Joseph's voice that shouts out, "Move on for this is not the place of your resting. There is another place God has destined for your rest."

The voice of the prophet began to speak to the people through the bones that the land of promise with spiritual riches lay beyond the realm of their imaginations. As the apostle Paul rightly says "..... the ear hath not heard it the eye hath not seen it nor have entered into the heart of man that which God hath purposed for those who love Him." This is the promise for you and me who care to go on with God unto the destiny to which He has called us.

Are you going to be in the company of those who have dared to go on to their destiny? There is the company of Joshua and Caleb, the 'ables', who would believe and dare to go on with God. But there are also other companies and groups of those who want to go back, who want to settle down and who are satisfied with their status

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quo. They are always ready to pick up stones and hurl them against the 'ables'.

Beloved, the choice is yours. But let me tell you that in the life of a true child of God there is no choice but to move on to their destiny. Let us respond to that voice. It is the 'voice of the bones' that is in our midst. That voice of the saints who believed God and lived in that glorious hope until the end is testifying that there is a 'land' to be possessed. We are bearing their testimony amongst us encouraging us to go on and on to the fulfilment of all that God has promised. May God help us!

Let us respond to the voice of the Lord. Saints we must move on. Let us not be found in the tent of the unbelieving. But let us be in the company of those who want to move on. May God help us! There are so many who have unending questions. They always ask why this and why that. Why must we go on? There is a mystery yet, and the Lord will reveal it in His mercy as we progress in this meditation. **Let us not settle down for anything lesser than His highest for us.** Let us remember that our Lord Jesus Christ paid the full price to bring us into His riches! May our hearts ever remain open to the Holy Spirit and to His word! Amen!



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THE PREPARATION



THIS series of messages concerning the bones of the prophet Joseph were shared in the Summer Camp Meetings in Delhi in 2014. Saints, one thing I can confess from the depths of my being is that God is faithful in the midst of His people. There were many anxieties as we gathered for these meetings, but God was merciful in every way towards us and I am personally grateful to the Lord for giving me such a great privilege to bring forth the truth of His word. I felt very strongly that none should neglect this word or take it lightly in their lives. There is nothing more worthy than to be recipients of His favor and His truths. It is the highest that man can ever have in his life. May God help us!

I want to remind the saints that God's word cannot be broken or set aside. The Lord has, through these messages,

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helped to establish us in this truth. However, some of us may still be on shaky ground having come to the Lord and the deeper truth not long ago. And some others, from mixed backgrounds, may not have yet fully absorbed the things that the Lord has been speaking about. We know that when the Israelites left Egypt they were a 'mixed multitude.' The children of God were adversely influenced by the mixed multitude. And so it has been with some tenderfoots, but God has made it very clear that His word cannot be broken. His Word is the same yesterday, today and forever! The word that the Lord brought to the people of God in Egypt through the prophet Joseph, is also applicable for His church even after many centuries.

THE GROUND PREPARED BY JOSEPH

*And Joseph said unto his brethren, I die: and God will surely visit you, and bring you out of this land unto the land which he sware to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.
(Gen 50:24)*

And Joseph took an oath of the children of Israel, saying, God will surely visit you, and ye shall carry up my bones from hence. (Gen 50:25)

These prophetic scriptures from the book of Genesis were referred to in the book of Hebrews as a reminder to God's people in the new generation. Saints, the prophetic voice of the Lord is among His people even today.

By faith Joseph, when he died, made mention of the

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departing of the children of Israel; and gave commandment concerning his bones. (Heb 11:22)

Beloved saints, let our prayer be that God would open the spiritual eyes of our understanding to grasp the burden of the Spirit and fathom the heart of God for His people in these end-times. It is not a matter of satisfying the intellectual mind of man, but it the spiritual man in us that needs to arise and clothe himself with the light of His word. Our spiritual eyes are always in need of His enlightening to behold and know our calling in Christ. And in Joseph we see a man who saw the Lord and what was upon the heart of God. He lived in hope, in that longing and desire and he prepared the way for the future generations. Oh what a good picture this gives of the overcoming church in the end times! It is a picture of God's sons that will come into the full manifestation of the life of Christ.

God's word shows us that as they left Egypt they carried the dry bones of the prophet Joseph with them. In Egypt and right through the wilderness God's people were caught up in unbelief. Alas, they believed not what God said and it is true that they ended their lives according to what they confessed. They confessed that they cannot possess the land of promise. This negative confession was fulfilled in their lives.

We see the same condition prevailing all around us today. Beloved, I was broken in my spirit to see what is happening all around us amongst the people of God. **Whatever may be the opinion of people around us, it is clear that the man who has seen and heard the Lord**

stands out as being different from the rest. That which governs him is that which he or she has heard and seen from the Lord. Surely they have seen something that goes beyond human understanding. **They are able to overcome every challenge and opposition in their lives because of what they have seen and heard.** They are able to move on in their lives because of what has come to them from above.

The bones of Joseph testified about something beyond the course of their lives. The bones declared amidst every negative thought in their midst that they must move on in spite of their complaints or murmurs. The bones in a sense were the eyes and ears of their master, the prophet Joseph, and they bore his burden.

Let our prayer be for our lives to be different in the days to come because we have seen something of God's purpose and plan. Our lives should no longer be as people who lived in the days of Noah where they continued to think they were on safe ground until the flood waters came upon them and they were all destroyed. They heard the message, they heard the voice of God, they heard the confession of faith from Noah, but after they had heard it they all looked away and returned in unbelief to their dark and dingy lives. Is that what will happen to you after you have received this word? Will your life continue in the way it had been before you heard the word of God? Or will you turn to God and be a part of what God is doing on the earth in the midst of His people? I trust in God that our lives will be different in the days to come.

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Joseph made it very clear to his brethren that his bones had to go with them after he died. It was absolutely necessary and not an option that was open to their choice. Joseph had heard something and knew that there was something that had to happen. He wanted to be in it when it happened. This was binding on Israel. **Why did Joseph insist upon Israel taking his bones to the Promised Land? There is a kind of a mystery in this** and the Holy Spirit shall 'hopefully' reveal it as we continue in this meditation. It is true that the bones had to remain in the possession of Israel throughout their journey in the wilderness. The bones were to remain as a sign – a prophetic witness to God's people. It was a sign that would signify that God would surely bring them into the land of promise.

But Joseph had much more upon his heart. It was not just a matter of being brought to the land of promise. I believe that Joseph saw something further and deeper in his heart. Why did he really want his bones to be buried in Canaan rather than in Egypt? Egypt was a good place and he was a ruler there. As a ruler, he could have had a royal tomb made for himself in Egypt like other rulers in the land. Why did he want to make sure that the Israelites would take his bones out of Egypt all through the wilderness to the land of his youth? I believe there is a hidden mystery here. The need is not for a kind of natural or intellectual understanding, but a spiritual revelation of that mystery. Your heart will leap with joy when you begin to see the prospect of what lies ahead and of what God is about to do in His sons in these end-times. Precious things are concealed in what Joseph saw by the Spirit.

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When we turn to view Joseph's life once again, we realize that Joseph's body could have been rested in Egypt itself. Joseph was a very spiritual man and he knew that though his mortal remains were to be laid to rest in Egypt, his spirit would be with God. He knew that because he was a spiritual man. It doesn't matter where you are buried because your spirit shall be with the Lord. He knew that there was a place of rest for him wherever he would be buried. It would not be a place of torment, but a place of blessed rest in the Lord. Why then was he so concerned about where the mortal remains of his body were to be finally buried and rested? There is something here that the Lord would have us know. Saints, it was more than a sentimental gesture. Joseph was not an ordinary man; he was a prophet, a seer who could see and speak about future events. **He saw a glorious event coming. He saw a glorious event taking place seventeen centuries ahead of his time. He saw something happening after seventeen centuries.** He was convinced about this in his spirit. He saw the glory of God and the glory that would come upon those who would participate in that great event. So he saw something that would take place after his death and he wanted to be a part of that great event. He wanted to experience that glory.

Beloved saints, let us be available to what the Holy Spirit has to say to us in these end times. Please turn your ears to Him who speaks to hearing ears, for this is something that concerns His remnant in this hour! Here we are today and let us be apprehended of this matter for it concerns our times. This touches our lives as well. The Spirit of God revealed the glory that would come 17 centuries ahead to

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the prophet Joseph. He saw it. We know how Enoch, when he saw the heart of God, prophesied about the coming of the Lord with thousands of His saints to judge the earth. Hallelujah! Men who saw things which were to happen even after many, many years were governed by those strange things. Their walk was altered according to what they saw and believed. Thereafter their walks would never be as it was. I want to encourage you that while the majority of born-again, baptized believers, young and old, are caught up with a world of their own, there is a company of people whose spiritual eyes have seen something that God has promised for His church. **They are looking forward to what God is going to do in the future.**

The Spirit revealed something special and unique to this man Joseph. He realized that there was a glory that was coming, thence there was something he had to do. And that is very important, Saints. We cannot switch off knowing that there is something important going to happen in the near future. We cannot be those who are not concerned about what is going to happen. We cannot be men and women who are not open about the future. We must be those whose eyes have been opened to see what Joseph was able to see by the Spirit. Joseph's eyes could not be closed. They had to always be open to what he had seen by the Spirit although he was involved with many things and very busy as a ruler of Egypt and second to the king in Egypt. His spiritual eyes were never closed. They remained ever open until the end of his life. So it must be with us as spiritual people in this day and age. Is that a reality in some measure in your life? Let us be honest and ask ourselves

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whether we are desirous of coming into all that God has for us, as indeed Joseph was. It is something by which we can examine and check ourselves. Is it that when you have finished hearing the word of the Lord, you don't remember anything? I am not talking about remembering every single word of Scripture that you have heard or read. The question is to what measure the Spirit is revealing the Word to you.

It is a reality that your spiritual eyes can never be closed regardless of where you are and what you do. Your spiritual eyes must remain open in your office, in your college, your home, and wherever you may be. What you have seen by the Spirit will ever remain alive within you! That is what we see in the life of Joseph. This was so true in the life of the apostle Paul for he said to King Agrippa "Wherefore, O king Agrippa, I was not disobedient unto the heavenly vision." (Acts 26:19). The Message translation says, "What could I do, King Agrippa? I couldn't just walk away from a vision like that! I became an obedient believer on the spot." Saints, that is the effect of seeing something by the Holy Spirit. You and I cannot just walk away from what the Spirit has revealed to us. We are to remain obedient to what we have seen and live in the expectation of its fulfilment and be governed by it daily in our lives.

THE PRINCIPLE OF PREPARATION

Joseph could not close his eyes to what he had seen in the Spirit. He had to be open to the Lord to work out that which he saw. **He made preparations about it as the Spirit led him.** This is a very important principle. Nothing

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works automatically because the Lord has spoken it and shown it unto His people. We have to be open and be available to obey what He tells us in the direction of His revealed will. It was true in the life of Abraham who left the Ur of the Chaldees after the Lord of Glory appeared to him. He had to be open and obedient to the voice of the Lord in his life. We can see this principle actively working in every overcomer in the Bible.

This principle of preparation is clearly spoken by Apostle John

Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not. (1Jn 3:1)

Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. (1Jn 3:2)

The Scripture does not end there but says that every man who have this hope shall purify himself. He shall prepare himself in the hope to the reality of seeing Him. He cannot close his eyes but shall be given to a work of preparation.

And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure. (1Jn 3:3)

Note carefully the words "in Him". Those who have

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this hope in Him will purify themselves even as He is pure. In other words those who have this hope “that when he shall appear, we shall be like him...” they shall purify themselves even as He is pure. The Scripture is very clear. Saints, if your eyes are open and you see this hope in Him, then it becomes a hope working in you. The Scripture says “.....Christ in you, the hope of glory;...” (Col 1: 27) This hope will bring us to a preparation in our hearts.

Joseph had to prepare for that day and he did so very diligently. He saw something that was yet to be fulfilled many centuries later. He saw that the children of Israel would reach the Promised Land. He believed that his bones would be laid to rest in that very age. He also knew all these things would be done not only for the bones to rest there, along with the bones of his forefathers, but there was an added hope that something further would happen. God would perform what He had promised was Joseph’s sure conviction. His great grandfather Abraham had “looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God...” And it is written about his great grandfather, grandfather and father “**...but having seen them far off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth**”. This verse in a nutshell speaks about their preparation while they were alive. They did everything in the light of what they saw. A cave had been purchased by Abraham for that very purpose and Joseph desired his bones to be laid to rest there and he made all the provisions for it, and yet that was not the end. It was all moving towards something far more glorious that was

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yet to take place. Joseph's eyes were upon those things the Lord had shown him. Joseph had a great hope of that which was so glorious and that would happen many centuries later. He knew that it would happen though it tarried! Habakkuk the prophet of God says:

“For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry..... but the just shall live by his faith.” (Hab 2:3-4)

The just Joseph lived by his faith confessing “though it tarry, wait for it, because it will surely come, it will not tarry”.

Beloved children of God, the Lord has spoken glorious things about His church in these end times. There are many Scriptures which are to be fulfilled before the coming of Christ.

“And that He may send [to you] the Christ (the Messiah), Who before was designated and appointed for you — even Jesus,

Whom heaven must receive [and retain] until the time for the complete restoration of all that God spoke by the mouth of all His holy prophets for ages past [from the most ancient time in the memory of man] (Acts 3:20-21 Amp)

Everyone who has this hope of being part of this great restoration and being part of that glorious Bride for which He shall come back, will have to prepare now even as Joseph

did. For the Scripture emphatically says:

So that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the Word,

That He might present the church to Himself in glorious splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such things [that she might be holy and faultless]. (Eph 5:26-27 AMP)

Saints, preparations like these are necessary to come into that realm. In order to participate in that which was yet to come something more is necessary. We are to live in this anticipation in our every-day living as our forefathers did. Now we need to prepare. A preparation is necessary in order to partake of that glory, all that is lying ahead for His glorious church. Thus Joseph prepared himself.

Many of us may wonder what the mystery is that lies ahead of us as we read these words. Are we just going around in circles? Many just want an answer so that their religious inquisitive minds can be satisfied and happy. But let us be those who read carefully, so that we may lay hold of what the Spirit wants to bring forth. The Holy Spirit will surely reveal as we progress in this meditation.

I wish to quote a man of God who said, "It is possible for a man to be marked by an analytical mind, so that he wants to argue out everything, reason out everything and subject everything to the microscope of his own brain, his own reason, and just see the whole thing right through in

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that way – not accept it until he can understand it like that. And so he becomes very analytical, very investigating in his mind over the thing, and until he can have the very best answer to all his questions from every side, he is not going to accept it. That man will make very slow progress. The same will apply to one who thinks that by getting a mighty wave of religious emotion he is going to enter into the things of God. That is one of the great snares of the devil today. Religious emotion is no criterion; it is no ground of true spirituality.

Our knowledge of the Lord, the very remotest bit of it and the very first ray of it, depends upon our spirit being awakened and illumined by the Holy Spirit. Progress in the things of God is simply the growth of our inner man and not the acknowledgment of our intellectual capacity to grasp truth. We may have an increasing capacity, by reason of association and familiarity with truth, for grasping ideas and grasping truth and teaching. And that capacity may expand and expand until there is very little that is available to be grasped, and yet with such there may be the very smallest measure of real spirituality.... The child of God is one whose spirit has been renewed and who has, at the centre of his being, a union and a communion with God which is not the possession of any man by nature, and which cannot come in any other realm but in the renewed spirit.”

This word is not for the analytical man, the carnal man, the smart natural man, but for the spiritual man who is hungering after God’s full purpose in his life. This word is for that man who says, “I am born again unto a lively hope,

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for an inheritance that fades not away, which is incorruptible.” Let us remind ourselves that this is not for the analytical mind but for the spiritual mind, and for the man who is after the things of the Spirit. As the Holy Spirit has opened our spiritual eyes to see the hope of our calling, let us prepare ourselves for those glorious things which are to be fulfilled in His church in these end times.



THE GLORY



WE have come to the most important part of our meditation concerning the bones of Joseph, which have been the focus in this series of messages. The mystery of the bones will be revealed to us by the Holy Spirit as we progress on. As we shared in the last meditation, all the preparations of Joseph were made with one object in view, namely to come into the fulfillment of God's promise to him. But it must be borne in mind that the revelation of God's word is not for the analytical minded person, but for those who are spiritually minded and yearn for His fullness and for the whole counsel of God in their lives. As the apostle Paul says in 1 Cor 2:14

“But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him:”

neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.” (KJV)

“But people who aren't spiritual can't receive these truths from God's Spirit. It all sounds foolish to them and they can't understand it, for only those who are spiritual can understand what the Spirit means.” (NLT)

“But the natural, non spiritual man does not accept or welcome or admit into his heart the gifts and teachings and revelations of the Spirit of God, for they are folly (meaningless nonsense) to him; and he is incapable of knowing them [of progressively recognizing, understanding, and becoming better acquainted with them] because they are spiritually discerned and estimated and appreciated.” (AMP)

Though the saints in Corinth were born again, baptized and filled with the Holy Spirit and some even exercised spiritual gifts, yet the apostle Paul warned them in 1 Cor 3:13 (AMP):

“BRETHREN, I could not talk to you as to spiritual [men], but as to non spiritual [men of the flesh, in whom the carnal nature predominates], as to mere infants [in the new life] in Christ [unable to talk yet!]. For you are still [unspiritual, having the nature] of the flesh [under the control of ordinary impulses].”

SPIRITUAL DISCERNMENT

The apostle Paul emphasized that though we may

be born again, baptized in water, filled with the Holy Spirit and even have spiritual gifts, yet we could still be under the control of our natural, ordinary, human impulses and not under the control of our spiritual faculties. This is a serious matter that cannot be overlooked in our spiritual growth. Saints, nothing takes place automatically. In other words, we cannot assume or take it for granted that because we have been born again from above and have some spiritual faculties, therefore, our understanding of things will not come automatically. It is necessary to exercise the spiritual man in us so that everything is “spiritually discerned and estimated and appreciated”. The carnal mind in us cannot profit us or anyone else, but the spiritual man in us shall surely be a valuable source to draw us to higher realms in the Spirit.

“Jesus, when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost.

And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent;

And the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints which slept arose,

And came out of the graves after his resurrection, and went into the holy city, and appeared unto many.”
(Mat 27:50-53)

Saints, this Scripture portion is written for our sake. It is difficult to understand this passage for there are many hidden things here. To the glory of God, many things were

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accomplished and fulfilled when Christ was crucified and died for all humanity having taken our sins upon himself. Praise God for all that the Father did in and through the sacrifice of His Eternal Son for all those who look forward to His sacrifice on the cross and all who look back to what He did on the cross. There is something very significant that happened at that time, apart from what He did for the sin of man.

As Scriptures show us many things happened on the day when the Lord was resurrected. We read that the veil in the Temple was rent in twain. It was torn from the top to the bottom. There are many interpretations about that which we shall not touch upon right now. The earth began to shake and the rocks broke apart. Glory to God, some world-shaking and history-making things happened at that precise time. The Lord Jesus Christ overcame the one who had power over death!

“Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;” (Heb 2:14).

The Lord spoke to the apostle John and said, “.....Fear not; I am the first and the last: I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.” (Rev 1:17-18 KJV). "Don't be afraid! I am the First and the Last. I am the living one. I died, but look—I am alive forever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and the grave." (NLT). “Do not be afraid! I

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am the First and the Last, [Isa 44:6.] And the Ever-living One [I am living in the eternity of the eternities]. I died, but see, I am alive forevermore; and I possess the keys of death and Hades (the realm of the dead).” (AMP).

The Lord who is victorious through His death brought about a great shaking at that time. Jesus died that death for humanity and overcame the one who had power over death. **God gave a jolt to every power and principality that ruled that realm until then. Thereafter, they lost the key to death that they had till that time.**

The Scripture talks about another great shaking that is yet to come. We read about this in the book of Haggai. “For thus saith the Lord of hosts; Yet once, it is a little while, and I will shake the heavens, and the earth, and the sea, and the dry land; And I will shake all nations, and the desire of all nations shall come: and I will fill this house with glory, saith the Lord of hosts.” (Hag 2:6-8)

The writer of Hebrews quoting Haggai says, “Whose voice then shook the earth: but now he hath promised, saying, Yet once more I shake not the earth only, but also heaven. And this word, Yet once more, signifieth the removing of those things that are shaken, as of things that are made, that those things which cannot be shaken may remain.” (Heb 12:26)

When God will begin to move and do the things He has promised to do, there will be a great shaking in the earth and in the heavens, because the powers of hell will

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be devastated and stripped. These things are prophetic and certain to happen. There will be a greater shaking when His church will enter her glory and will begin to manifest the wisdom of God. Read Eph 3:10, "To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God,"(KJV).

[The purpose is] that through the church the complicated, many-sided wisdom of God in all its infinite variety and innumerable aspects might now be made known to the angelic rulers and authorities (principalities and powers) in the heavenly sphere. (AMP)

The Scriptures say in Mat 27:52 & 53:

"And the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints which slept arose, And came out of the graves after his resurrection, and went into the holy city, and appeared unto many."

This may be difficult for many of us to grasp, but don't worry, the Spirit of God can illuminate every soul. Let us be reminded by the Holy Spirit that it is the spiritual man in us that must grasp the deep meaning of the Scriptures. The question is which man in you is trying to understand this? Is it your spiritual man? But if your natural man tries to intrude into the spiritual things then you will be confused and perplexed.

Jesus said, "Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man,

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and drink his blood, ye have no life in you.” And those who received that word in the natural man began to question, “How could this happen?” They said it is a hard thing. Many times people say, “Brother, we have not understood what you say. What you say is too difficult for us to understand.” The reason for this is that the natural man in us always tries to intrude and get hold of the spiritual things. Though the twelve disciples did not understand what Jesus meant, but they received what He said in their spirit by the Spirit. And later on the Holy Spirit revealed the words of the Lord Jesus to them.

Young brothers and sisters in the church need to consider this advice carefully. When we hear something from the Lord we need to store it away as information is stored away in a hard disk of a computer. We may save the file in a document folder in the hard drive of our spiritual man for the time being. Later on when the spiritual man opens the file, the Holy Spirit will make the contents clear by revealing the things that the natural man could not understand. Those very things which were difficult to understand but were stored away will make absolute sense then. This is what the Holy Spirit can do in your life. But if you reject it outright or are not open to receive it because you don't know what is meant by it, then you will have to wait to hear the same thing again another time. On the other hand, if you hear it with an open heart though you don't understand what you have heard, then the Holy Spirit can come upon it and reveal the hidden things in His own time! Hide that word in your heart for a time, and the Lord shall illumine it. This is what happened in the life of the

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disciples of Jesus. When the Lord Jesus blessed the bread and broke it and gave it to them on the eve of the Passover Feast their eyes were opened to understand what He meant by eating his flesh and drinking his blood, which they did not understand earlier when the Lord had said “except ye eat my flesh and drink my blood”!

One day a brother told me that the internet was really slow and he had to wait several hours to download some files. Let this not happen to your spiritual lives. **When we are connected to the Lord, let us give place to the Holy Spirit to download everything into our minds, hallelujah!** Save it, keep it and the Spirit will remind you and reveal it to you another day. We need to receive the Word into our heart and not to add anything to what we are hearing. Receive it, as it is. Saints, don't mix it up with your own thoughts and revelations. Listen to it first and then let the Spirit make everything clear at the right time. But when the Spirit is trying to make it known, don't add something to it. Keep it in your heart.

THE MYSTERY OF THE GRAVES EXPLAINED

*“Let us consider the following verses very carefully:
“And the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints which slept arose, And came out of the graves after his resurrection, and went into the holy city, and appeared unto many.” (Mat 27:52,53)*

Jesus had been crucified. He had paid the penalty for our sins and on the third day had risen from the tomb. Then

after his resurrection, the graves of many of the saints were opened and they came into the city. **We read very specifically that the graves were opened. And many bodies of the saints arose. The Holy Spirit does not say, 'all the saints arose'. He says, "many bodies of the saints which slept arose". The Scripture does not say who they were.** My spirit does witness in me that there were many saints who were part of this event. Those saints could be the saints who are listed in the chapter on 'heroes of faith' Chapter 11 of Hebrews.

Beloved, right from the beginning there have been men who lived by faith, who looked unto a city whose builder and maker is God, men who lived as overcomers, and men who lived beyond their times. Take that into your heart. **The Scripture says they came out of their graves after the resurrection and went into the Holy City and appeared unto many. The Scripture does not say that they appeared unto all.** They went into the city. So we see that these graves were somewhere around the city of Jerusalem. It does not say where they were, but the place was very close to where all this happened. The cave where Abraham was laid to rest was also near to the city. The historical books clearly indicate that it was north of Jerusalem. Now we know that these men were resurrected and went into the Holy City and appeared unto many. They appeared unto many, praise the Lord! It does not say that they were recognized. The Scriptures are silent on many things. But they appeared unto many. **It does not say they saw Abraham or Isaac or Jacob. However, the Scripture says that they were seen. They were not seen as ghosts**

but they appeared in their 'resurrection' bodies. It was not as if their bones were seen rattling on the streets of Jerusalem scaring people so that they ran helter-skelter full of fear. This was not the time of fear psychosis, but a time of the manifestation of the glory of God. Some were seen in their bodies, their new bodies, their resurrected and glorified bodies, in the fullness of their bodies.

Beloved in Christ, what happened on that day was not in violation of God's word. But this is very much in line with the authority of God's word. And remember that Scripture does not say that they went back to their old graves or died again and returned to the dust, so that they might rise again when Christ would return. Where did they go? I want to tell you in the authority of God's word that it is up to you to believe what you want to believe. You can say, "Who can believe that?" You can murmur in your heart and doubt the Scriptures. But there are those who believe. There are those who will proclaim that these are words of eternal life to my spiritual man. These spiritual men of faith did not go back to their graves with the hope that when Christ should come they would be raised up again. That is not the case. But these saints were more privileged. They had a greater privilege over other saints. Hallelujah! There is a great principle of God here! He that has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit is saying!

We can see this in types and shadows in the Old Testament the book of Leviticus.

"Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them,

The Glory

When ye be come into the land which I give unto you, and shall reap the harvest thereof, then ye shall bring a sheaf of the firstfruits of your harvest unto the priest:

And he shall wave the sheaf before the LORD, to be accepted for you: on the morrow after the sabbath the priest shall wave it.

And ye shall offer that day when ye wave the sheaf an he lamb without blemish of the first year for a burnt offering unto the LORD.” (Lev 23:10-12)

Here we read of the waving of the first-fruit before the Lord. The Lord said clearly of the way they were to bring in the harvest first-fruit and wave it before the Lord. That is a picture of Christ, the first-fruit, being waved before the eternal Father. Amen! Jesus Christ is the first-fruit. Remember that till that single corn of wheat fell to the ground and died nothing happened, but when it fell to the ground and died then it brought forth many fruit (John 12:24). It was a “sheaf” or “handful” that was waved before the Lord. Hallelujah! **After the Lord Jesus Christ was crucified and gave up His spirit, then many more were raised together with Him on the day of His resurrection. They are the first-fruit together with Christ.** Christ Jesus was the first one, but now with Him there are a handful of fruit because the corn of wheat fell and died in the ground. Do you think that there was only one fruit? No. It was a sheaf, a handful, there were many! Surely, there is a great harvest that is yet to come. But before the great harvest is to come there is already a first-fruit in the earth. A handful

will be waved before the Father. This is a wonderful typology. The Scripture says that at this time of history, one Man died for all mankind, but “many” of the saints arose with Him in resurrection bodies to witness the power of the promise of God!

LAZARUS' EXAMPLE

We all know that Lazarus was raised to life (John 11:1-46). Did he die again? Surely he did. But here the incident in Chapter 27 of Matthew, we find that the bodies of the saints were raised up unto resurrection, never to die again, never to go back into the graves again. **Lazarus was raised to life again but not unto resurrection life!** So he died again, but here those saints were raised up to have resurrection life with glorious bodies. What a tremendous thing this is! Those resurrected ones appeared unto many! Once again we see that the Scripture does not say that they appeared unto all, but that they appeared unto many! In those days there were those who believed in Christ; they had seen their Saviour crucified, done away with, but these glorious ones rose up out of their graves, appeared unto them and witnessed to them. They witnessed to those who believed in Christ that there is a resurrection. They witnessed to the disciples of Jesus Christ that if we suffer with Christ we shall also be raised up with Christ in His glory, hallelujah!

Was Joseph included in that company? Yes, indeed, Joseph was among those who walked in the streets of

The Glory

Jerusalem, along with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Hallelujah! Joseph, in his day, saw something which was much beyond his times. He knew that something was going to happen! He knew that there would be a first-fruit company that would be raised up with Christ by the Holy Spirit. He knew that he was called to be a part of the first-fruit. Therefore, he said, "My brethren, leave not my bones here to be buried, but carry them with you because I am called to be a part of that fruit that will be raised up on that day. I see something that is yet to take place and I am called to be a part of it. I will be raised up on that day to be a part of that sheaf that will be raised up before the Eternal God." Glory to God!

Let me also say that there were many other saints who died but not all the saints rose up on that day. The Scripture says 'many' - not 'all'- the saints rose up. This is very important. Let these Scriptures speak to each one of us.

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE RESURRECTION

In Matthew 22, we see that the Pharisees and Sadducees raised up some questions about resurrection (the Sadducees never believed in the resurrection). They were quite confused. They were in error and deception. But see the reply of Jesus:

"Jesus answered and said unto them, Ye do err, not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God.

For in the resurrection they neither marry, nor are

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given in marriage, but are as the angels of God in heaven.

But as touching the resurrection of the dead, have ye not read that which was spoken unto you by God, saying,

I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob? God is not the God of the dead, but of the living.

And when the multitude heard this, they were astonished at his doctrine.” (Mat 22:29-33)

Abraham had died many centuries earlier. **Abraham was not alive, neither were Isaac or Jacob. Jesus did not say that He ‘was’ the God of Abraham but that He ‘is’ the God of Abraham.** God is not the God of the dead, but of the living. Though all those saints of old had gone to the grave, yet they lived with a hope of being raised up in the power of resurrection, so that they could take part in the glory that was to come at the resurrection of Christ.

The multitudes could not understand that God is not the God of the dead but of the living. The problem with the Sadducees was that they never believed in the supernatural. They could not understand simple things because their analytical minds could not bisect and dissect those things. They wanted to understand everything by the faculties of their minds. That is why they never believed in the resurrection and the supernatural. But let us know that the God of the living is the God of the supernatural.

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Our God is the God of the living and that is why many people could see some men walking in the streets of Jerusalem when Christ rose from the dead. They appeared unto many people, but not to all the people in Jerusalem. That was a tremendous thing. But one thing we should know that in all that the Lord did on that day, He only spoke in relation to the first-fruit. **We know that the day the Passover Lamb was killed pointed to Christ being crucified. The Feast of the First-Fruits pointed to His resurrection. In other words, while the death of Christ was the fulfilment of the Feast of Passover, His resurrection was the fulfilment of the Feast of the First-Fruits.** The presentation of the resurrection from the dead before the Father was not one corn but it was a sheaf, a company, a handful. Saints this is very significant and important to those who want to live an overcoming life. This is so meaningful to those who are looking unto God to be a part of the company of sons in the end times. There were many saints who died in faith before this incident at the resurrection of Christ, but let us remember that not all the saints were resurrected on that day. Only some appeared unto 'many', but not unto all. This is very significant.

The bodies of many saints including the New Testament saints who have gone to be with the Lord are still waiting for the resurrection. They are waiting for the day when they shall be clothed upon with life and "death shall be swallowed up in victory" (1 Cor 15:54). This is our inheritance in Christ as His children who have been redeemed by His precious blood.

Now the precious thing that happened with Joseph and the saints with him was that they didn't have to wait for the last trump to put on in-corruption as mentioned in 1 Cor 15:52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed." Those saints including Joseph put on incorruption on that day when Christ was raised from the dead! Glory to God! They have been enjoying their glorified bodies for the last 2000 years! Why did such a thing happen with those saints? It was because they were overcomers, men and women of faith, who looked beyond their times and prepared themselves for what God had promised them!

THE FIRST-FRUITS COMPANY

Saints, let us once again look at the life of Joseph. While he was in authority, he made the children of Israel take an oath that in spite of the difficulties, they would carry his bones until they could put his bones to rest in the cave of his fathers. By the eye of the Spirit he not only saw the departing of the children of Israel from Egypt, but he also saw a greater event that would take place after many years and he made sure that he would be near enough to be part of it.

The saints who arose from their graves with Christ were the first-fruits of the resurrection. They are living proof that the harvest will come and will be a reality. We do not have to fear in any way that this glorious promise

The Glory

of life after death is only a myth or fable. Jesus Himself with many of the saints actually arose and walked the streets of Jerusalem in their new bodies and they were seen by the people. These were the first-fruits and Joseph was in the first-fruits company because of his vision, his desire, his faith and his preparations.

What does this message signify to us in these end-times? What effect does it have on God's remnant people in this age and this hour? Let God's people have a strong desire to see (by the Holy Spirit) the glorious thing that God is about to do in the earth in our time. Dearly beloved, as it happened in the day that Christ rose from the dead, at the time of the first-fruit, surely something very precious and glorious is going to happen in the time of the full harvest, at the second coming of Christ! *Hallelujah!*



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OTHER BOOKS BY BRO. JOY THOMAS



I AM THE ALPHA AND THE OMEGA

As the title suggests, Jesus is the Alpha, the Beginning and He is also the Omega, the End or the Finisher. In the Book of Genesis, we see Him as the Beginner and in the Book of Revelation, we see Him as the Finisher....If we know Him as the Beginner then in these last days we need to know Him as the Finisher as well.

THE MARK OF THE LORD AND THE MARK OF THE BEAST

The book brings out enlightening Truths from the Book of Revelation demolishing the traditional teachings on the mark of the beast. The author in his own inimitable style writes in the Preface : "undoubtedly certain things have been brought to light which are radically different from the sensationalized uttering of prophetic speculators of this day..." The book details Cain, a man with a mark of the beast and Jesus, a man with the Mark of the Father. It describes the False Church , with the Mark of the Beast and the Glorious Church , with the Mark of the Father. If we understand the Truths contained in this book, we are truly privileged to progress on in the plan and purpose of God for His people!

THE THREE APPEARANCES OF CHRIST

The book expounds the Three Appearances of Christ recorded in Verses 24, 26-28 of Chapter 9 of the Book of Hebrews. To understand the subject, one has to know the important Feasts celebrated by Israel in the Old Testament. The author has therefore taken great pains in giving a brief gist of all the important feasts recorded in the Bible. If the book understood

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as it should be with the help of the Holy Spirit, it would create a deep desire and longing in the hearts of the readers for the Lord Jesus Christ to appear in our lives. His third appearance will be at the Outer Court near the door of the tabernacle for those that are looking for Him !

THE CHURCH - GOD'S ONE CORPORATE MAN

The chapters of this book are excerpts taken from a series of messages spoken in the House of God at New Delhi in 1989. The book details the setting aside of one nation - the natural Israel and the establishing of another nation - the Spiritual Israel , which is the church. The clear teaching of the New Testament has been expounded, that the Church is God's One New Corporate Man for ever. God's whole purpose in the out pouring of the Holy Spirit, the demonstration of the 5 fold Ministries is to build His Body, the Church - which is the Spiritual man , a corporate many-membered man under the Headship of Christ, to fulfil God's ultimate purpose in this generation! God's anointing on the pages of this book can be sensed, if read prayerfully!

THE BRIDE OF THE LAST ADAM

These messages were first spoken in the Bangalore Camp Meetings in December 1993. Thereafter, it was also ministered in the House of God in Delhi. The author, along with his fellow brothers felt a guidance to have these published in print.

The book brings out the truth of the Body of Christ, the bride of Christ, who prepares herself and makes herself ready for her union with the Lord. The Lord is calling His church in these days to have a greater union , closeness and intimacy with the Lord. Therefore, all else is to be set aside to the one great priority to fulfil the desire of God for His people upon the earth. The one who has ears to hear, will surely respond to the call and voice of the Holy Spirit in these last days!

THE TENT OF HIS GLORY

The substance of this message was shared in Camp Meetings at Hyderabad, in December 1989. The book is an eye-opener to all

who hunger and thirst for the Truth of God's word. In a time when many Christian leaders the world over are expounding the rebuilding of Solomon's Temple, the only promise of re-building in the New Testament concern the Tent of David, which is a spiritual one! It would be a privilege to read this book with the eyes of our understanding opened to see the fulfilment of God's ultimate purposes in the shining forth of God's glory through a many-membered Body of Christ, the Church, of which we are a part !!

BRINGING MANY SONS UNTO GLORY

The message in this book was shared in the Summer Camp Meetings in 1990 in Delhi. The book has been dedicated to all the saints in the body of Christ who are committed to God's purpose of bringing many sons unto glory. The books begins with God's desire in the Book of Genesis for man to have Dominion over all His creation. Many enlightening aspects of the responsibility of Sonship, the adoption of Sons, the aspects of Sonship etc. ,are dealt in the book. The desire of God is that we be conformed to His image and we grow to become mature saints in the house of God. We are privileged to read and understand and appropriate His desire in our lives to make our calling and election sure, in bringing many sons unto glory!

THIS IS NONE OTHER THAN THE HOUSE OF GOD

To-day, many in the Christian world do not have a clear understanding and revelation of the house of God. The common understanding is that of a physical or a natural house. The house of God represents a divine order where the working the cross is central and supreme.

THE BRIDE HATH MAKE HERSELF READY

This book contains a series of messages delivered at the Winter Camp Meetings held at Delhi in 1994. The author very clearly brings out the burden of the Holy Spirit, which is to prepare a people for His Son the Lord Jesus Christ. The book brings out a wonderful exposition of the preparations of Rebekah on her way to be united with Isaac. A purging and a cleansing through the situations in one's life is part of the preparations of the bride, the

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church, to be united with the Bridegroom, the Lord Jesus Christ. The Lord will not compromise on the quality and character of His bride. The Lord will open the eyes of all those who are hungering and thirsting for reality in their lives!

THE NEW GENERATION ARISE! (SECOND EDITION)

In the history of mankind there have been many generations. But there is only one particular generation that the heavens are interested in. Which is this generation? Is there another generation that inhabits the earth in this hour?

COME OUT OF HER MY PEOPLE

There are many Jonathans today, who could either continue to remain a part of Saul's house (the organised church) which is decaying and dying day by day or they may arise, separate themselves and be a part of David's House (the body of Christ) which God is establishing by His Spirit. This book is a 'sign-post' to many in the valley of decision.

MY TIMES ARE IN THY HANDS (SECOND EDITION)

While many are keen to know the happenings in the natural, few know how to determine the times in the spiritual. If one does not know the times in the spiritual, one will seldom know what to do or what not to do.

THE PURSUIT OF A HEAVENLY PATH

'Heaven' is not merely a location but a rule, an order, a system and a realm, which is the true one and the ultimate one. Church, the masterpiece of God is of heavenly origin, of heavenly calling and of heavenly destiny.

THE DESTINY OF THE CHURCH

The book brings out valuable historical background of the Church to portray its ordination, deterioration, restoration and the church's ultimate destination. The Church means more to Christ, than all the wealth of the universe. The Lord loved the Church and gave himself for her.

THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE SON

The word 'Fellowship' is one of the most misquoted and misunderstood words which carries a very shallow meaning today. We are called to know the Eternal Son and to have fellowship with Him, without which we will not be able to progress spiritually.

"YE ARE COME UNTO MOUNT ZION" (VOL I, II)

For many today, Zion means a mountain or at best a city in the natural. But Zion is a people in the complete and perfect work of Christ.

I KNEW A MAN IN CHRIST (VOL I, II)

The great Apostle Paul, expressing his deepest yearnings from a Roman prison near the end of His life worded it thus: '...that I may win Christ, and be found in Him...' (Ph.3:8b,9a). What does it mean to be IN CHRIST?

THE RECOVERY OF GOD'S ORIGINAL THOUGHT.

The Church has lost its primal and original character and nature. God's people need to know what is God's original intention for mankind and for the Church.

GOD'S MANIFEST PRESENCE.

If you are hungry for the Lord and nothing but His fulness will bring you satisfaction, then here is a message that will accelerate your steps in the direction of His presence.

PURSUING GOD'S PRESENCE

By showing the way to enter into the very presence of the Lord this book is a signpost for the famished soul in the painful trail of God's presence. It reveals the secret that can unlock the door to His presence, even a broken heart and a contrite spirit.

DISCOVERING GOD'S PRESENCE

God's people have become too familiar with the pleasures of His provisions; they have become too familiar with the blessings

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from His hands that they have discarded tears of repentance. This book shows how passionate desperation and dependance upon God enters His church, you will discover God in the folds of time!

THE GLORY OF GOD

Here is a gripping 2 part book that unveils the secret of David's tent which the Lord say's He will rebuild in these last days. Ezekiel the prophet too was shown a temple not made with hands in which the glory of God descended. Learn more about it in this book.

A PECULIAR PEOPLE .

The calling of God in our lives is to be "His People" and also to be " His Bride ". Like Queen Esther of old, the church of God is to prepare herself and do that which pleases the king.

CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH

The apostasy of the last days is now in full boom. The false and the counterfeit abound in every nook and corner of the world. We have not only to contend with other religions, new age promoters and cults, but also with countless perversions that are mushrooming within the very ranks of so called believing churches. A must read to know and discern the times.

A SURE FOUNDATION

Spiritual growth demands the provision fo strong, solid and stable foundations. You cannot hope to progress spiritually with weak and insecure foundations, however hard you try. This book could not only help you lay a sure foundation but also enable you to examine whether your spiritual growth is according to His pattern.

THE NEW JERUSALEM

The majority in Christendom believe that Holy Jerusalem or the City of God is a literal place. The hungry and searching heart of a true child of God has to be open to the Holy Spirit for a fresh input. It is my prayer that your spiritual eyes may be opened to behold Holy Jerusalem, the City, of God as you read the pages of this book.

THE TRUE REMNANT

This message on God's True Remnant is released in printed form so that those who have deviated from God's revealed purpose may hear God's corrective word and be aligned to His thought; and those who are discouraged by the moral deterioration and declension in the Church may be encouraged; those who are confused may hear a clear voice in the midst of many voices; and those who are hungry may be fed by His Word to be steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord!

A PROPHETIC VOICE FOR THE END TIMES

The prophet and his ministry is the focal point of God's recovery movements. This means that such a ministry is brought in at a time when His people have departed from God's full intention. God brings a voice in the midst of His people when things have departed from God's full intention.

THE UNVEILING

The thoughts shared in these pages are based upon the first three chapters of the Book of Revelation. The word 'revelation' means unveiling – the unveiling of something that is hidden or unknown. This is a sovereign act of God.

THE SCRITURAL STAND ON DIVORCE AND REMARRIAGE

we can believe whatever we want on divorce and remarriage, but on the Great Judgment Day, we will be judged by our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ for what we have done and what we have encouraged others to do. Each person is entitled to have an opinion on divorce and remarriage. However, having an opinion, even a very strong opinion, does not make it a truth or make it right.

ENTERING BEHIND THE VEIL

In Acts 3:2, we read of a lame man who sat at the temple entrance for 40 years. If he knew anything about what was happening inside the temple it would only be a second-hand knowledge. Like this lame man, the church has been waiting before the veil

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of the Most Holy Place for several years. Now is the time for the church of Jesus Christ to enter in, leaping and praising, to know for herself what the Lord has wrought for her. This booklet is presented to throw some light on the pathway to God's purpose in Christ Jesus. God's purpose is a vast subject, but it is offered here in a condensed and abridged form.

THE CALL OF THE REMNANT

To those who are called to be part of the overcoming company in these last days, this message is written to encourage, to comfort, to strengthen, to challenge and to prepare. This book draws from the biblical account of the faithful and enshrines the divine principles they overcame the enemy's forces and triumphed in the fiery trials of their faith. In the face of satan's mounting deceptions and flood of iniquity in these present times, Christians find their faith floundering like ship in troubled waters.

In this challenging times the saints of God need a definite word, a strong message from the Lord not only to show the way, but to prepare them to be God's faithful witness before the nations and to endure through the tribulations until the end comes....

GOD SHALL BE FOR A SANCTUARY

The burden of the prophet for Israel, the people of God, was that the Lord shall be sanctuary and a sacred and indestructible asylum to those who reverently feared and trusted in Him. In these perilous times, the Lord Himself must be our sanctuary. It is the Lord Himself who must be our defense, our deliverer, our sanctuary and our security. However, this is not rightly understood by the majority today. The thrust of this book is to clearly bring this home to the remnant of God. This is not so much a matter of confessing that God is our sanctuary and asylum. But this speaks of an intimacy and a union with the Living God. It signifies a relationship and intimacy established by the Holy Spirit to which we must come into experientially these days.

THE MYSTERY OF FELLOWSHIP

This book stresses God's desire to have fellowship with His people

in splendid fullness. It offers practical guidelines for experiencing His fellowship and shows how light, fellowship and life are so linked together in God's divine economy. As you read these pages, you will discover how God intends to bring His people into His ultimate purpose. Unless His remnant will come into an exclusive, pristine fellowship with the Father and the Son and with one another there is no way He will be able to fulfill His purpose.

HANDFULS OF PURPOSE (VOL 1,2)

The contents of this book are taken from the weekly devotions which were sent by email to the remnant of God both in India and abroad. This book is for the hungry that yearn for more of God and are willing to glean in the fields of the Heavenly Boaz, Jesus Christ our Lord!

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