

LARRY TROYER

And the Lord is my Shepherd

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# Introduction

The author's intent in writing this book is for you to make sure of your salvation; not according to the traditions and theories of man, but according to the Scripture. True salvation is not a one-time experience. It is a lifestyle.

The author is not trying to convince you of anything, but this book was written to encourage you to examine the scriptures for yourself. You can learn to use the scripture as a measuring stick to see where you're at. Are you truly saved? And if so, are you walking in victory, or simply getting by? We are not called to just get by, but to walk in victory. No man can judge you, but scripture says we are to judge ourselves.

There may be things in this book that you don't understand, but don't discard them. Simply put them on the shelf until God reveals to you what they really mean. Scripture says if you seek Him, He will be found of you, if you seek Him with all of your heart.

This book is not based on theory, but the author's lifelong journey to know and understand the Creator and His ways.



## Everlasting: The hope of Eternal

**S**everal years ago I was a part of an evangelistic team that came in to my area. They were interested in the youth, trying to bring them to a place of making a decision for the Lord and so I thought, “This is a good thing and I want to become involved in it.” The first night when the invitation was given, there were a lot of things going on that I didn’t care for, but I thought, “Well, I need to be open minded.” But when the kids came forward, supposedly to receive salvation, and there were quite a few of them that did, many of them were coming up laughing and just having a good time. We had been trained to follow them up and then help them through the salvation process. I can only speak for myself and the young person I was working with, but I knew that this wasn’t the way that I came to the Lord. When I came to the Lord, I was broken and weeping. I didn’t see any of that in this place. After the second night I said, “Lord, these youth are not being saved.” He spoke to me and said, “Go home and I’ll teach you what true revival is.” I went to the church and I got on my face. I wept for a long time, because my heart was so grieved. I knew in the Bible it says that Jesus said to the Jews, “You go all over the world to try to win a convert and when he’s won, he becomes twice the son of hell that he was before.”

What does that mean? It means that they were bringing religion rather than salvation. Because one thinks he was saved and it was just religion, his “salvation” is not precious, and there is no conviction of sin or transformation of heart. Yet, he believes he is saved. He is deceived.

Paul said to work out your salvation with God in fear and trembling. Jesus said it’s difficult to enter into the kingdom of God. So, saying a few words isn’t being saved. That may go against some people’s thinking, but I want to show you in the scripture what Jesus said it takes to be saved.

To be saved means to have everlasting life. To have everlasting life there are some processes we have to go through. Some of those processes, if we have understanding of the scripture, can happen very quickly, but we still have processes we go through to be born again. In John 3:3 it says:

*Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.*

Those who are not born again cannot see the kingdom of God. In fact, Jesus said that to them it is foolishness. But those who are born again can see and feel and live in the kingdom of God.

Verse 5 says,

*Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.*

To be born of water is the water baptism. It is a covenant with God that you will allow Him to cleanse you. He has the right to lead you through the cleansing process. That’s the responsibility of Jesus so you can enter into the presence of the Father. It’s more



than just saying a few words; you have to make a commitment that you're going to get rid of the worldly things so you might be able to obtain the heavenly things.

When satan fell, he fell because he became self-centered. He wanted his way and God said, "No, I'm the Creator. I'm the one in charge and you have to leave heaven." Now, that's in my own words but that's basically what He said. So here we see that lucifer was kicked out of heaven because he wanted to take over. We must be willing to let our lives go, and let God take over our lives, to lead us out of this sinful state into His kingdom. His kingdom is a kingdom of government. In government you do what the leader says to do. Whether it's spiritual or physical, whenever you have a government, the government rules and brings order and discipline. satan in heaven brought nothing but chaos after iniquity was found in him and he fell.

When we are born of water, there is a covenant that is made. If we refuse to allow God to remove the world in us then we break that covenant and we're in danger of losing our everlasting life. We'll look at that more in just a little bit.

To be born of water is to make covenant with God that I yield myself to Him at the cross, I let myself die, and let the Spirit of Jesus take over my life. He can wash me. He can cleanse me. He can take me through whatever process is needed to show me the wickedness of who I am, because He's the light of man. In John chapter one it says that Jesus is the light of man. When light shines on something, you can see it. But if you're walking in darkness you can't see it. There would be no need to do dusting in a home if you never turned the light on. But as soon as you turn a light on, or the sun comes out and shines across some of the furniture, you can see dust if it's there. That's the way it is when Jesus comes into our lives. When He comes we see the filth of the world in us.

If you've never seen that within you then you've not allowed Jesus to come close enough to you to shine His light within you. You're probably in danger of not ever even being born again, because that's the work of Jesus. He's the light of man. Therefore when we are born again, He's willing to wash us with water, because when He comes to live in us, light begins to shine. Even though at first it may be dim, you can still see death and darkness holding you back from Him.

Paul, in his early life was on fire for the Lord, but in his last days he said, "I'm nothing but filthy rags." Every time the Lord draws me nearer to Him, I see filthy rags that I never saw before. The reason is because I'm being drawn closer to Him, and the light is getting brighter so I can see more clearly. That's going from glory to glory. That's a process of being purified in Jesus so that I can enter into the presence of the Father.

The other thing we must be born of is the Spirit. Jesus is now Spirit. He came in a physical body but now He's come in a spiritual body to us. So has the Holy Spirit. You cannot enter the kingdom of God without being regenerated from the fallen state and the only way you can be regenerated from the fallen state is to repent before the Lord that you don't want the world any more. So if you don't want the world, He said, "I'll come in and I'll begin to wash you. I'll put My Spirit upon you, and My Spirit is light and life." As life and light begin to come forth, you'll begin to see the things of the world that you've been doing that are not right. Then you are willing to let God wash you with His water. When Jesus died on the cross, two things happened. When the soldier pierced His side, out of His side came blood and water. The blood represents life and spirit, and the water is the covenant of cleansing. Here it says in verse 5 again,

*...Verily, verily I say unto thee, except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.*

The things of the flesh are flesh, the things of the Spirit are spirit.

John 3:15:

*That whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.*

When God gives you eternal life, you will never die. Period. You will never die. Now, God gave the angels eternal life. They are eternal beings but those that fell He kicked out of heaven. He's made a bottomless pit that He's going to throw satan and his angels who have rebelled against God into. They will be in this pit forever. It will be closed up because they were made eternal beings. They lived with the eternal God and they chose to try to take over.

We've not seen God. I haven't seen God, and Jesus said, "The only one who has seen the Father is Me, and I came from the Father." So we haven't seen Him, but we see His kingdom and we can see Jesus. We can see the workings of the Father by the Spirit. God the Father has many spirits that He releases, like the spirit of truth and the spirit of wisdom. We want to live in this realm of the kingdom of God where God releases those different spiritual powers upon those who are faithful to Him.

John 4:23-24:

*But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshipers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.*

If we're born again, we're born into something different. The difference is this. When we were born in the physical, we were born in the fallen state. But Jesus came to birth us back into the presence of God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We are birthed back not into a physical realm, but into to a spiritual realm that is spirit only. Our body does not go into the kingdom of God. Our spirit lives there. We still stay on this earth but we live spiritually in the heavens with Christ Jesus.

In John 3:15, Jesus says He doesn't want anyone to perish. That means to be lost. He wants to give everyone eternal life. But then in verse 16, he's talking about the created world. The now. That's for us now.

John 3:16:

*For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.*

Now, if we are born again, and begin to go into the realms of the kingdom of God, we have everlasting life. But everlasting life is not eternal life. Everlasting life is the promise of eternal life. But our everlasting is everlasting as long as the covenant is performed.

Several years ago, I knew a young lady who lived in a very troubled home, so she was taken away from her parents by the state. When this person turned 18 and got a job, I said, "Ok, I'm willing to help you by co-signing on a vehicle for you. You save

money to pay for the insurance and taxes on the vehicle and I'll sign with you for the rest." She said, "Ok, I'll do that." A month or two later I asked if she was ready and she said, "Yes, everything is good." So I went with her to get a car, and we found a nice car for \$4,000. We sat down to start the paperwork and I said, "Ok, do you have your money with you for the taxes and for the insurance?" She said, "Well, I had it, but I spent it." I said, "You what!?" She said, "I don't have it any more." She said there was something else she needed so she had to spend it on that.

Now, I had a choice right there. I should have said, "The deal is off because you didn't fulfill your agreement. Therefore it's forfeited and I don't have to fulfill mine." Well, I didn't do that. I thought, "This person has had a hard life, and it's been rough," so I felt sorry for her and I said, "Ok, you can borrow the money for the car, for the taxes and for the insurance." It came to almost \$5,000. I signed the paperwork, and I didn't want to mess with the title later, so I said, "Put her name on the title and I'll co-sign for the loan and she'll just make payments." You see, I lived around people that when they said they would do something, they did it. So I didn't think anything about it.

Well, as time went on, I got some calls from the bank. The bank was telling me she was not making payments anymore. So I contacted her and I said, "You know, you have to start making payments on this. You're two or three months behind." "Ok, ok, well we just had this and this and this." Next month goes by and the banks says, "You have to make some payments." So I went over and I took the car. I still had a key, so I went and took the car. I drove it over to a business and parked it, and I then went to get counsel with someone about what I could do, and they said, "Basically, you just stole the car." I said, "No, she still owes \$3,600 on it." They said, "Well, your name is not on the title therefore,

it's hers." So I went back to the bank and I said, "Look, go and repossess this car so that I can sell it and at least recuperate some of the money." The bank said, "No, it's not enough money to do that. We're just going to collect from you." I said, "What do you mean?" They said, "We're not going to mess with it. You signed and said if she doesn't pay for it, you will. Now, you pay it or we're coming after you." I went home and I said, "Lord! What am I going to do?" And He said very clearly, "Larry, you signed for the note, now pay it." I was shocked. "You signed for it, now pay it." So I went down to the bank and I wrote a check out to pay for the car. It was more than \$3,600 because I had to pay a penalty for paying it off early. I don't remember what it was anymore, but I paid it off and it was done. She had the car, I had that much less in my checking account, and she was debt free. She was debt free.

Now, let's look at it in God's view with salvation. He expects us to be faithful to the end. This person was not faithful to the end. She got on drugs. She got carried away. If I would make a commitment and say, "Lord, I'm going to follow you," but don't follow through, and He already gave me eternal life, not everlasting, but eternal life, I would be an eternal being just like satan. And I would be cast out just like satan and I would live forever in a place that would contain me so I wouldn't mess up and interfere with the kingdom of God. Now, do you think that's what God's doing? No, He said, "I'm going to give you life everlasting and if you make it through to the end, I will raise you again up into an eternal state and you will be eternally, forever, alive with Me. But you have to make it through to the end. It's in the covenant of water baptism that I can show you your sin and cause you to change so that it's not offensive to Me in the kingdom of God." We do that with our children. As they grow up

we continue to teach them how to be good adults, to be honorable and have the character of the fruits of the Spirit; the fruits of serving God. But not all of them do it. In fact, there aren't many who do it anymore. Many of the youth are just rebellious.

John 14:19:

*Yet a little while, and the world seeth me no more; but ye see me: because I live, ye shall live also.*

When we are born again, we begin to see Jesus and He begins to live in us. Now, the world cannot see Jesus. The world cannot see the kingdom of God. Therefore it's foolishness to them. But to you and I that have been born again, we've been born into a realm of the Spirit where we fellowship with and can see Jesus. We don't see Him as we see somebody in the physical here, but we still see Jesus. I have on several occasions literally seen Jesus as He is. But here it says that everyone who is born again can see Him. "Because I live, you shall live also."

John 6:44:

*No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day.*

No man can come to Jesus except if the Father draws you to Him. Now why is it important for the Father to send you to Jesus? Jesus is the High Priest and He intercedes for us that the Father would forgive us of the sins we've committed. Jesus is the light of man so therefore He comes to us and shows us our sin. He helps us overcome by defeating and destroying the works of sin that are in us.

Verse 45:

*It is written in the prophets, And they shall be all taught of God. Every man therefore that hath heard, and hath learned of the Father, cometh unto Me.*

Here we see that every man shall be taught of God by the Holy Spirit. Jesus says that you don't need to go out to be taught because the Holy Spirit will teach you. I've never had any education related to the Word of God, but the Holy Spirit came to me and began to teach me because I asked Him to do that. I wanted to know the Father. The work of Jesus and the Holy Spirit is for us to know and to come into the presence of the Father. How do we get God the Father to draw us to Jesus? It happens because with everything in us we want to know the Creator.

When you say, "God is my creator," and, "God is the creator of the universe," you are acknowledging the supernatural. The Spirit is the supernatural. If you don't believe in the supernatural, you can't believe that God lives, because God is in the supernatural. It's not supernatural for Him, because He knows how to do everything. It's just like you having something that you do that's high tech, and other people say, "Wow! How do you do that?" And you say, "Well it's very easy." It's easy to you because you've done it every day and you know how to do it. You understand it, therefore it's easy. It's very easy for God to do the things that we call supernatural, because He does it all the time. So therefore what is supernatural for us is His daily life. That's where He lives. He lives in the supernatural. Therefore He comes to us and wants us then to work in the supernatural.

John 6:65



*And he said, Therefore said I unto you, that no man can come unto me, except it were given unto him of my Father.*

There again He restates the fact that you can't come to Jesus unless the Father draws you. He has to have a reason to draw you to Jesus; you are crying out and you are in a state of brokenness and in need of a creator to change you. God can take away your pain, but often time He uses pain to cause the flesh to become silent so God can take over by the Spirit. We'll talk about that again a little bit later on.

So here we see that if the Father doesn't draw us, we can't be saved. Wouldn't that be a very precious thing to know that the Father has led us to Jesus? I know the Father did that for me. I cried out for a long time to know God, and the Father came and brought me to His Son Jesus and I was born again and accepted the covenant of Him changing and removing my sin and bringing me into that place. To show you what I mean, in John 16:8 it says,

*And when he (the Holy Spirit) is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:*

To reprove the world of sin means to convince you that you have sin in you. He's going to show you that you have sin in you. Another word for convince is to convict. To convict is showing you, by having light on your life, that you have wickedness in you. When the Holy Spirit comes and begins to convict you, light shines on you and you see your need for God. As the light comes, you begin to weep because you see the wickedness of who you are. You cannot see it except that the light of Jesus comes and shines on you; then you see your wickedness. When you see it, if you're sorry and you want God, repentance comes and you become broken and weep for sorrow of how you've hurt the Father and

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how you have hurt people through your sin that is in you working against the kingdom of God. If that doesn't happen, you probably haven't been saved. If you've gone to the altar laughing, then you haven't seen the sin that you walk in. John says that if you say there is no sin in you, you are a liar and the truth isn't in you. Everyone has sin. David said, "Even in the womb I know that I had iniquity (sin)." We can see here that the Holy Spirit is come to reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment.

Verse 9:

*Of sin, because they believe not on me;*

The Holy Spirit's job is to show you that you need to be born again and to have the sin in you removed. He's there to convince you, to convict you, but He doesn't condemn you, because you're already condemned. If you don't do anything about it you'll never enter into the presence of God and you'll not enter into the kingdom of God.

Verse 10:

*Of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more;*

Righteousness is responding in every way like God would. Abraham believed God and trusted Him and followed Him, and it was credited to him as righteousness. You can't gain righteousness by doing something, it's given to you by God because you obey Him. If you obey Him in righteousness, you

remove the sin that's in you and in its place is put the power of Jesus. If the power of Jesus is in you, you've gained authority. Righteousness is authority in the kingdom of God. To the degree that you have had sin removed in your life is the degree that you walk in power over the enemy. Not power over other people, but power over sin and the one who gives it out, which is satan.

Verse 11:

*Of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged.*

Judgment in its simplest form is choosing the right path. In the Garden of Eden there was the tree of good and evil. All of us know good and evil. Now, it's up to us to choose good. Every day, we make judgments. He's come here to show us judgment; how to choose the right thing. In the end, if you don't choose judgment for the kingdom of God, but choose it for the world, then you will be in the world and you'll not be saved. Making correct judgments is how God tells whether you are serious or not, although He knows what's in your heart. But when Abraham went to sacrifice his son Isaac, the promise, he chose to follow God and what He told him to do. When he was ready to sacrifice his son, an angel stopped him and God said, "Now I know that he is faithful." Now I know.

God knows us by our works, or our fruit. According to John 15, Jesus is the vine, and we are the branch. If we bear no fruit, God will come along and cut it off and throw it into the fire. That's the end of you being in the kingdom of God. Now, if you are bearing fruit, but not much, what happens? You are pruned back so that new growth comes, and that new growth will produce bigger and better fruit.

The Father is the husbandman, the one who takes care of the vineyard. We get our life from Jesus, but it's the Father who prunes us back so that we will bear more fruit, or He'll cut us off if we bear no fruit. So there again we do not have eternal life, but we have everlasting life. The everlasting is a promise for eternal. If we make bad choices, and we bear no fruit for the kingdom of God, He'll come along and He'll work with us. But if we are rebellious and refuse, then we're not worth anything in the kingdom of God. We'll be like that person who took the car and kept it without paying, because I didn't remove the covenant I made with her even though she broke it. She didn't hold up to it at all. She only made four or five small payments. I paid for everything else. She owned the car, and God told me to go pay it off, and I'm sure under His breath He was saying, "Maybe he'll learn something. Don't give away free access to your life until they've been tested."

You see, judgment tests every person. When I get up in the morning I know that every day I'm going to be tested. Maybe two times, maybe one time, rarely no times, because I'll make judgments. Sometimes I can make judgments every 15 or 20 minutes, and those judgments line up with the kingdom of God, and if they don't, the Holy Spirit will come to me and try to convince me of the sin that's in me, and help me work, because I'm under grace, but there comes a point that when you refuse, and refuse, and refuse, God says, "I can't do anything for you. I'm going to let you go and I'm going to cut you off from the kingdom of God." It's really a scary thing to fall in the hands of the Living God.

I Corinthians 15:45

*And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit.*

Now, when Adam and Eve were created and put in the garden, God said I'm going to give you all of the herbs and fruit to eat for food. Why did He say that He would give it to them? It's very simple. This world is God's and He put man in this world to take care of it, but not to own it. He said, "I'm going to give you the fruit from the trees, now you take care of the things that I made, because I want to come back and I want to enjoy My creation." But when Adam and Eve fell, and ate of the tree of good and evil, then their flesh found that they could go against God (before that they didn't know). When the flesh finds something it likes, it wants to make you keep doing it. So therefore the flesh caused man to be rebellious and just do what they want. When Jesus came, He said, "The Holy Spirit is going to come and He's going to convict you of doing what you want. In the beginning I gave you these things to do and these things to eat, but this world is Mine, not yours." We're a long way from that today.

The first Adam was made a living soul. The soul consists of the breath of God and the clay body. When the breath of God came into the clay body it became a living soul. So now, this living soul has a problem because the body, the flesh, has found out that there's evil and this fleshly body enjoys rebelling and being disobedient against God. Jesus was sent to this earth to break the power of our flesh. John 17:2 says that the Father has given Jesus power over all flesh. So therefore to be born again and to come to Jesus, He is going to give us power over our flesh, that we will have no excuse of giving up and having victory over our flesh if we want it. If you don't want victory, you really don't want God.

For example, when a wealthy young man establishes relationship with a young woman, he must understand her motives.

“Does she love my money, or does she love me?” That’s the same problem Jesus and the Father have. He knows the thoughts and intent of your heart. He knows those who are coming to Him because they want Him, and those who are coming just because they don’t want to be put into judgment in the last day. We call it looking for fire insurance if all they want to do is escape judgment. People who are looking for fire insurance are not saved. The only way you can be saved is to know Jesus and the Father. John 17:3 says to be born again is to know the Father and the Son. If you don’t know them, if you only know the things they have, the things you want to get from them, then you’re not saved. That’s not eternal life. God knows, and if you’re after God’s things, or the pleasures of God’s things, the prosperity of God’s things, you’re not saved. You’re only saved if you want Him.

If you want Him, He will take you to Jesus and then you will be willing to make covenant of the water and of the Spirit to be cleansed and to begin to be taught by the Holy Spirit and by Jesus. Then your sins can be removed, you learn to walk in righteousness, and to make right judgments. Coming out of the sin cursed lifestyle brings great joy to you and you are looking forward to meeting and knowing the Father. Now that person is saved. That’s a person who is born again. They’re born into the realm of God and His Son and His Holy Spirit in the heavenlies and it’s by the Spirit.

The second Adam was made a quickening spirit. Jesus is a quickening spirit. In other words, when Jesus comes to you, and He knows that you want Him and the Father, then He quickens you to be born again and raised up into the kingdom of God. You are quickened into that realm of the spirit where you can fellowship and live with Him. If you don’t desire to live there, how are you going to stay there? Where have you been born

to? What does it mean to be born again? To be born again is to have the quickening spirit. You are quickened up into a realm of the spirit where Jesus lives, the Holy Spirit lives, and where the Father lives, and it's a wonderful place. It's an awesome place to be. Then Paul says in verse 46:

*Howbeit that as not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual.*

In other words, Adam and Eve were natural. We are natural, unless we are birthed into the spiritual realm. Then we're born of water and the Spirit, that is, the quickening Spirit.

Verse 47:

*The first man is of the earth, earthy: the second man, is the Lord from heaven.*

Which is the spiritual realm. The world cannot see, but you can see it. When you're born into it, you can see it and you can see the Lord.

Verse 48:

*As is the earthy, such are they also that are earthy: and as is the heavenly, such are they also that are heavenly.*

John says that if you're born again, you'll do the things that Jesus did. You can't be born again and go out and live like hell. You can't go out and live by the world. You can't just be intermingled within the world. No, you become separate. You can't live in

two places. So if you're born again, you're born into the spiritual realm. Jesus said, "It's hard to be born again." It's not an easy thing. We think it's an easy thing. All you have to do is say a couple sentences and you're saved. No, that's not the way it is. It's not the way it is at all. God tests us. We have the promise of everlasting life, but He tests us to see who we're going to be and whether we'll be faithful for all eternity. He doesn't want another satan and fallen angels. He wants a people who will love Him forever, and want to be with Him with all that they have. In fact, Jesus said when you find a treasure, like a pearl, you sell everything you have and you purchase the pearl. That's what the kingdom of heaven is like. That's what they have in the kingdom of heaven. You sell everything you have and buy that pearl.

Verse 49:

*And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly.*

We will bear the image of the heavenly.

Verse 50-53:

*Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption. Behold, I show you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, 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. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.*

What happens when our corrupt body becomes incorruptible?



We'll be changed forever.

Verse 54:

*So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.*

What is happening here is this: we are being transferred from everlasting to eternal. When we get our new bodies, then we will go from everlasting to eternal, and death is then swallowed up. That death will never come near us because we have eternal life. We can't destroy death. We can destroy the death that removes the Spirit of God in us, but what he's talking about here is because man sinned, you die. But when we receive our incorruptible bodies, we won't be able to be corrupted anymore. God is going to give us eternal life at the last day, when He comes. He's not talking about everlasting life, he's talking about eternal life, and so death is going to be swallowed up in victory.

Galatians 5:24 says,

*And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.*

The affections and the lusts are crucified. Now it says (verse 25),

*If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.*

AND THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD

How do you live in the spirit? By being born into the quickening realm of the spirit and pushing everything else away. So we live in the spirit, not in the soul. We live by the spirit only. That's where the covenant is, that's where the labor is, that's where it's at. We are born not of the fleshly, the earthly, but we are born in the heavenly realms through the Spirit and have nothing to do with the earthly. Therefore if the earthly is removed and we are quickened, the fleshly body does not restrain us to stay here, but we can go into the heavenlies. Then it says, if you live there, do what? Walk in it! How do you walk in it? You walk in it by commanding the enemy to be silent! That's how you walk in it.

Daniel 12:7

*And I heard the man clothed in linen, which was upon the waters of the river, when he held up his right hand and his left hand unto heaven, and swore by him that liveth forever that it shall be for a time, times, and a half; and when he shall have accomplished to scatter the power of the holy people, all these things shall be finished.*

When is that going to happen? When is the power of the holy people going to be scattered? When those who were quickened go back to live by the flesh, their power is scattered. When will that happen? When will the people turn from looking toward heavenly things to filling their pockets? When is that going to happen? When are they going to quit sojourning into a place untouched by human hands, to coming back to ownership and having it in their pockets? It's already happened. We're already past that part. We are in the end of the end. There isn't any question about it. The power of the church is gone. It's been scattered because they've fallen from that quickened place of

being truly born again. Those who have fallen are trying to keep you from increasing in the heavenly realms. Yet you want to be nice to those people who are trying to destroy your inheritance. You're willing to let the earthy people influence your children to destroy their inheritance.

Ezekiel 28:14-16 (talking about lucifer)

*Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire. Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee. By the multitude of thy merchandise they have filled the midst of thee with violence, and thou hast sinned: therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God; and I will destroy thee, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire.*

Lucifer protected the kingdom of God. He walked among the power source of God. He walked there and he was an instrument of worship to the Lord until he became self-centered, which is iniquity. When iniquity was found in him, he was cast out of the presence of God. That's what happened to man. When man knew the difference between good and evil and he chose evil, he cut off his relationship with God. Then Jesus came with a quickening spirit to quicken us out of the realm of the earthy into the spiritual realm with victory over death. If you don't have victory over death you won't get the eternal life. If you don't make it through, the everlasting life will be forfeited, because everlasting life is given on the prerequisite of you being obedient to the end. But when you are eternal like the angels, then God has to deal with you from a whole different perspective. The eternal

beings cannot die because they were made eternal. Therefore, they have to be put into a place of holding forever. Forever.

Verse 17:

*Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness:*

What happens when an angel of light comes in a person? That brightness leads them in that brightness, and they think it's still God and it isn't. That's why the god of force has carried the church off. They think it's God because they see a brightness, but they can't recognize the difference between the brightness of God and the brightness of satan. The brightness of satan is not bright at all. It's all deception.

Verse 17b-18:

*I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee. Thou hast defiled thy sanctuaries by the multitude of thine iniquities, by the iniquity of thy traffic; therefore will I bring forth a fire from the midst of thee, it shall devour thee, and I will bring thee to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all them that behold thee.*

All of the wealth of lucifer was burned up. He still lived, but his equity was burned to ashes, and he became nothing.

Verse 19:

*All they that know thee among the people shall be astonished at thee: thou shalt be a terror, and never shalt thou be any more.*

All the people who knew satan, when they saw him burned were shocked that he had no power any more. The only thing that he could do was to go around like a roaring lion to see whom he may devour. Do you know how weak that is? If we could live in that quickening place of the Spirit, satan would just be a burned out pile of ashes. That's all he would be. Nothing but a burned out pile of ashes, because he's already been destroyed. That fire has devoured him. His power is broken. We as the people of God functioning in His kingdom and His government, out of that quickened spirit through Jesus Christ, with the invitation of the Father, and the teaching of the Holy Spirit, SHOULD become the greatest people on the face of the earth. Even Jesus testified that he that is after John the Baptist is greater than John the Baptist will ever think of being. That's why. John the Baptist was never quickened into that spiritual realm. He was still held to the earthy ground. He stayed away from the filth of the people to keep some sanity in his being so he could make a way for the Lord to come. He stayed out in the wilderness with a coat of camel's hair eating grasshoppers and honey. He made the way for Jesus to come, for us to be quickened into that heavenly realm that we might swallow up death and have our eternal bodies.

Mark 13:13

*And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.*

Here we see that we're going to be hated. Now, the world doesn't hate us, it hates Jesus in us. That's what Jesus said. We're going to be hated because Jesus is in us. The only way satan can get to Jesus is to drive those who are filled with satan to work

against and try to destroy those filled with Jesus. So we're going to be hated for His name sake.

*But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.* The end of what? The end of your life until you have your incorruptible body. Those that make it through to the end faithful to God, they shall be saved. What happens to the rest? The rest never wanted to do the work of God. They just wanted fire insurance and those who are just wanting that never learned to know God, so Jesus said, "Depart from Me you workers of iniquity." Works of iniquity are the works of your self-centered lifestyle. "You never let Me convince you of sin and you never let Me wash your sin away so that you put on My character. You never learned how to act in the presence of the Father, and I don't know you. I just don't know you." But those who make it through to the end and love the Lord with all their heart, with all their soul and with all their might, He'll say, "Enter into My rest. I'm going to give you eternal life."

John 3:36:

*He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.*

## Understanding the Four Kingdoms

**B**efore we go on, I want to make it very clear that it is God who makes the decision who is saved and who isn't. Not me. But what I am trying to do is to show what the scripture says about salvation. I'm not interested in how little I can serve God and still make it to heaven. It's very clear in the scriptures that God is calling forth a bride without spot, wrinkle, or blemish. That's where I'm coming from. I want to become one of the sons of God described in Romans chapter eight. All of creation is waiting for the sons of God to arise. Therefore I'm coming from that point of view.

If you want to take a chance on your eternal destiny, to live eternally with God, and play around with the world and play around with the desires of your flesh that count for nothing, that's up to you. The flesh is an enemy of the spirit. Therefore when we begin to become complacent and let our flesh take over, if we're not careful, we'll soon find ourselves becoming cold towards God and losing everything we had in God. I'm coming from that point of view and I want you to know that. To live in the world and be carnal and try to figure out what carnal means other than the fact that you haven't allowed God to remove the world, is very, very, very dangerous. Your flesh will carry you off. It did Solomon

and many, many anointed people. It says in Daniel that many people will stumble and fall. Some will be tried and brought back, others will continue to serve and follow the flesh and those who are in the flesh, but they will lose their eternal destiny. With that understanding, let's continue on.

There are two things I teach. One is how to come into the presence of the Lord and the other is what it is God wants in this day and age that we're in. What is it that He wants to accomplish and who is He looking for to fulfill those things? Let's look in Daniel chapter one. We know that Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were part of the royal family. They were taken from Israel and were made eunuchs to serve the king of Babylon.

These young men were selected to be prepared to serve the king. Because they were going to serve the king, he wanted them to start eating food from the king's table. These four young men said, "We will not eat of the king's food because it's polluted. We'll just eat simple foods. No wine and no fancy foods." They told the man in charge what they would eat. "If you'll prepare that for us, we'll do just fine." Well, the person in charge of these men was a little bit afraid. He said he would give them ten days with the food of their choice, and if they were healthy at the end of those days they could keep eating it, but if they weren't healthy at the end of those days they would have to eat the king's food. Daniel 1:17 shows us how God responded to them choosing not to eat the polluted food:

*As for these four children, (they were just young boys) God gave them knowledge and skill in all learning and wisdom; and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams.*

Wisdom, understanding, knowledge, and skill are very impor-



tant. Daniel and the three other young men with him received great abilities. I've said for years if you are born again and you only have life in you, you should be many times more alert, stronger, and wiser than the heathen. They have death on their brain, and we have life, not death. Because there is only life and no death in God, everything in Him multiplies, increases, and expands. It's difficult for us to understand a world where nothing dies. In God, nothing dies. When we receive Jesus we receive life. We have the everlasting life and then eventually we will have eternal life. But for right now, we see here that God blessed them because they refused to become polluted, and then God could use them. Think what would happen to you if you knew how to allow the Spirit of God to cleanse you. What if you knew the process and you didn't resist it and God cleansed you. Then He would be able to use you in this last day to finish up the end of this age and enter into the thousand year reign.

Daniel 1:20

*And in all matters of wisdom and understanding, that the king inquired of them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and astrologers that were in all his realm.*

Here we find that at the end of the period of time Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego went before the king. The king tested all of the people that were selected as well as other people that were in Nebuchadnezzar's kingdom before. He found these four men, because they had understanding, knowledge and wisdom from God, were ten times better than any of the other people. The magicians and astrologers were all serving satan. Daniel and his three friends were ten times smarter, and had ten times more skill in everything the king talked about. God gave

them the skill of learning. The skill of learning is to not only know how to do something, but what not to do as well. That's part of the learning process. You learn what to do, and what not to do, so when the forces come to lead you off the path, you recognize them. If you know that, and you know how they function, then you have a lot better chance of making it than you would if you're just blind and don't know. That's the purpose of this book – for you to take the blinders off your eyes.

In Daniel 2, Nebuchadnezzar had a dream, and he told all of his wise men that if they didn't tell him the dream and the interpretation he would cut all of their heads off (kill them). Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were also part of his wise men. So it was told to Daniel that the king wanted to know the dream and interpretation. The magicians said to the king, "If you tell us the dream, we'll tell you the interpretation." Nebuchadnezzar said, "I forgot it. And if I did know it, I wouldn't tell you, because then you would just make something up. But if you would tell me what the dream was, I would remember it, and then you tell me the interpretation and I'll believe it." So Daniel goes home and tells his three friends, "If we don't get the interpretation, we'll be dead." How many know that would help encourage you to seek God? Daniel prays and God gives him the interpretation, or the understanding, of the dream and tells him what the dream is. Now, for God, that's a very easy thing, because He knows all of the things that happen. But for the human being, he can't know on his own. He has to have divine intervention. For us to accomplish what God wants, that's what we need. We need divine intervention. We need to find favor with God and the only way we can find favor with God is to not be rebellious towards Him. The only thing we can give God is obedience. Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego

displayed obedience to God rather than man. We see they were challenged by the king. God told Daniel what the dream was and the interpretation. So Daniel went to the king and said, "O king, I know the interpretation, because the God of heaven has told me what it is, not for my sake, not for my glory, but because you O king had this dream and God wants you to know what it is." Daniel doesn't take any credit. He doesn't get up and say, "I'm great, I'm this, I'm that," no, he said, "It's not for my sake, it's for yours."

Verse 31:

*Thou, O king, sawest, and behold a great image. This great image, whose brightness was excellent, stood before thee; and the form thereof was terrible.*

This statue was upwards of ninety feet. It was a great image, and the brightness was excellent. Excellent means it wasn't just a sloppily put together image, but it was one of great excellence. Something of great excellence can deceive you in thinking that it's from God.

Verse 32:

*This image's head was of fine gold,*

The head of it was fine gold. Gold represents God.

*...his breast and his arms of silver...*

In Solomon's temple, when something was silver, it represented Jesus. When it was gold it represented God. Whenever you look

at the instruments and see gold, it represents God. When you see silver, it represents Jesus.

*...his belly and his thighs of brass,*

In the holy place and in the outer court, they used brass bowls (for burning incense). This incense represents your body dying to the flesh and giving birth to God. Brass represents judgment, sin judged. Wherever you see brass, it means sin judged.

Verse 33:

*His legs of iron, his feet part of iron and part of clay.*

His legs of iron – that represents the world but it's very strong. Iron is stronger than brass, stronger than silver, and stronger than gold. You take iron and you can beat out those three different parts. Then it says also that his legs of iron, his feet part of iron and part of clay. The legs were iron, but the feet were part iron and part clay.

Verse 34-35:

*Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his feet that were of iron and clay, and broke them to pieces. Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshing floors; and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them: and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth.*

In the interpretation, each area represents a kingdom. The head of gold, the chest (or breast) and his arms of silver, the belly and thighs of brass, and the legs and feet of iron and clay.

These four kingdoms represent the enemy trying to destroy your soul. These kingdoms are the kingdoms of satan that are set up in this world to destroy you. The first one is the head, which represents who is in charge of your life; the kingdom of God, or the kingdom of satan.

We need to understand that God is the Creator. To be born again is to be born in the supernatural. If you don't believe that God exists you can't be born again. You can't go to where the Father is, and His Son and the Holy Spirit, if you don't believe in the supernatural. One of the very first things that God taught me is, "Acknowledge Me as the Creator." I had no idea when He said that what it meant and why, but now I do, after twenty five years. The kingdom of God is ruled by the Creator and He does it in the supernatural, that is, the things that you can't physically see with your eyes. Number one: God is the Creator of all.

Secondly, He sustains all things. It's very difficult for us to cleanse water. Like the ocean – it's a very expensive process to take water from the ocean and take the salt out and make it drinkable and usable for crops and everything, but for God it's very, very easy. All that happens is that if the water is polluted, a pond, a mud hole that's all dirty and you couldn't drink it, the water evaporates, leaves the dirt and the pollution in the mud hole, goes up into the air, and through the process of the weather it comes back down again purified water. You can catch that water and drink it without any issue of pollution. Therefore we see that God regenerates everything. You can take a tree and it grows and you cut it down and you burn it for firewood to heat your house. It turns from wood to heat that came from the sun

and was stored in that wood, then it goes up in smoke. The ashes, which are the minerals and elements it took to make the tree can be scattered on the ground and are reusable to grow another tree. Also, the water that comes down as rain will grow another tree. It will grow thousands of trees for thousands of years. You see, that's just an example that everything is renewed in God, including man.

The nature of God is that He will regenerate everything He's created on the earth in this world. We can be regenerated through Jesus. God is Lord. He's the King. He is Lord of all. He owns everything. If you remember, I talked earlier about Genesis chapter one where He made the animals and the trees and all of the herbs and everything that grew. He said, "I'm going to give you these things to eat." If He's going to give it to me, He has a plan for it to be renewed. He didn't give me all of the creation; He gave me things in the creation that are renewable. When we take those things that God has made, and we give thanks to Him for it, He shows us that it's all His. Then He asks us to give Him back ten percent of everything we make so He can use it for those who are full time helping Him establish His kingdom.

What you're doing in paying that ten percent is paying rent. There are many people who don't pay rent, so they're not blessed by God like they would be if they were paying rent. It's not any different than if I had some farm ground and I rented it to a farmer and he put the crops out and took the money off of all the crops but never paid me anything for the land that's mine. I should have something of that profit as well, because it's mine as long as I'm on the earth, because I've purchased it. There's no difference between that scenario and with God; everything is His. David really does a good job expressing this. Everything is God's and David gives back the things that God gave him. David

gathered gold, silver, and precious things so Solomon, his son, could build the temple. Then David said to God, "It's all Yours. It seems strange that I should give back what You gave me which was Yours in the first place." But you see, that's what God wants us to do. He wants us to give back to Him ten percent of what it is that He's given. If we do that, and if He needs more money to finance the people who are working full time for Him, He would just bless the people who were giving the ten percent and they have more to give. In the Old Testament they gave the Levites ten percent of all the increase, more than that actually, and the Levites gave all their time for His service. When you get blessed and you only have to give ten percent of that to the Lord, the rest of the ninety percent is yours. The exception now is we live in a world now where the government gets many times more than what God does, and the government acts like they are god, but in reality, they're not. God is God, He's the one who owns everything, and He's the one in charge.

So to overcome the first kingdom, we first need to acknowledge God, that He exists, and that He is one who will reward them that diligently seek Him. I believe these things, and I have received the blessing of acknowledging Him, and I've received the blessing of giving back to Him. God is the head, and the opposite of that is you're self-centered and you want to be god of your own life. You can't come out of the polluted state on your own because flesh gives birth to flesh, but spirit gives birth to spirit. You can never fulfill the desires of God out of your self-centeredness and out of your desire to please God in your own way without submitting to Him. It's not possible. We must be born again into the kingdom of God. When you're born again you become a good tree, and a good tree cannot produce bad fruit. If you're producing bad fruit you're in trouble because a good tree produces good fruit and a

bad tree cannot produce good fruit no matter how hard they try.

I've known people who were mean, try to come out of that meanness. They would try to do it on their own, through their mind and the law. Two or three days later they would say, "How am I doing?" And I have the same saying that I tell everybody. "I don't know how you're doing because you've only done it two or three days. But if six months from now you're still doing what you're doing now, I'll know that you were quickened by the Spirit of God. You're changed and you're a good tree." Most people who are not born again, or not given over to the quickening spirit, but do it out of their flesh, will last two or three days, maybe a week, maybe even a month but then it will begin to wane, and it will go into nothing and they'll be back where they were at.

This first kingdom, the head of gold, was Nebuchadnezzar. That's the first thing Daniel says. "O king Nebuchadnezzar, you are the head." He wanted to be god. Nebuchadnezzar's headquarters were Babylon, which today is Iraq. Iraq had Sadaam Hussein and he wanted to be god; he wanted to be the new modern day Nebuchadnezzar, but he didn't make it. It says also in Daniel chapter two and Daniel chapter seven that this kingdom went all over the world. So even though its headquarters to be god are in Iraq, it has polluted the whole world, and it's power exists throughout the whole earth.

The second area then is the breast and the arms which are silver. That area is where daily life exists. In the area of daily life, you have the heart, the lungs, the different parts that every day work all day long and if it doesn't work, you suddenly die. That's the place of righteousness.

We're to walk in righteousness every day, all of the time. Righteousness has to do with the power of living. Abraham was credited with righteousness because he obeyed God every day. He



was not rebellious but he obeyed God and it was credited to him as righteousness. We must walk in the righteousness of God and not the righteousness of man. The righteousness of man is manmade rules; the do's and the don'ts are self-made righteousness. But when we walk in the obedience of Jesus (represented by silver), and that is an everyday occurrence, to have fellowship with Him and be taught by Him, we enter into His righteousness. God teaches us things, Jesus teaches us things, and the Holy Spirit teaches us things. We live in Jesus every day, being obedient, instead of us doing what we want.

I used to think there's the kingdom of satan, there's the kingdom of God, and then there's my kingdom. I thought, "There are some things I don't have to give to God. I'm not giving it to satan, but they're things that I want to do and nobody can touch it." I found out though that in the very first day of the creation God made the kingdom of light on the earth. Darkness was on the face of the deep to begin with, but He made the kingdom of light. Now, He didn't make the sun until the fourth day, therefore, the light had to be a spiritual, supernatural light that He made, which is the kingdom of God. satan was thrown out of heaven and thrown to the earth. Jesus said, "I saw satan fall like lightening to the earth." If that's the case, He said, "I've made the kingdom of darkness and the kingdom of light." As you go through the scriptures, light represents God and darkness represents satan's kingdom. There is no third kingdom.

People of the night don't want to have the things they do seen, so they do it at night. Rock stars who serve satan wear sunglasses because they can't stand the light. You'll find that to be true, wherever you go. People who keep their shades pulled that don't like light can call themselves Christians, but if they have the shades pulled all day and it's dark in their house and dreary to you,

but it's not dreary to them, something is wrong. People of satan don't want their actions exposed so they stay in the darkness. Jesus came to bring us righteousness.

Nebuchadnezzar's kingdom was taken over by Iran (the Medes and the Persians), which is the second kingdom. Today modern Iran serves islam, and they think that we are the unrighteous, the wicked, and they are the righteous. That kingdom is trying to spread and take over the whole world. Right now that kingdom is dangerously trying to take over everybody's life on a daily basis.

We've looked at two of the kingdoms so far. We have Iraq that wants you to be god, not to let the living God be in charge, but you with the help of satanic beings. And then Iran, which is the righteousness of man. Jesus told the people, "Unless your righteousness exceeds that of the Pharisees, you will not enter into the kingdom of God." What did they do? They studied the Old Testament, the Torah, and they tried to walk to the letter of the law. They did everything they could. Today you'll see Jews that when they pray they make every part of their body move. To them it is serving the Lord with everything within them. They make themselves move so that they are reading the word with all of their muscles and with all of their body thinking that will bring salvation. Jesus said that's only the righteousness of man. We find that many denominations have religious ideas that have no value and are not righteous because they are manmade. What we need to know is what God has commanded us to do, and how to do it, and then we'll walk in true righteousness. If we are following manmade rules, that's Old Testament law, and the law brings death. But when we're born into the realm of the Spirit to live with Jesus, we do heavenly things. The other things of the world to try to make ourselves more holy or righteous, just doesn't cut it anymore.

The third area of the statue is the belly and thighs of brass. Brass represents sin judged. We have in that area, from under the rib cage all the way down to the thighs, the area of division. The stomach takes in the food and begins a process of breaking it down, then it goes into the intestines and in the intestines the good particles, the good nutrition part of that food is taken out and the gut is polluted with bacteria. If the bacteria got into the rest of the body, you would be dead very quickly. The intestines have little fingers that take the nutrients out and separate the useful from the waste, the polluted. That which is unusable and polluted goes on out, passing through the process of the intestines into the colon and then on out of the body.

Here we can see that judgment is a very important part of our life. You've heard the expression, "I have a gut feeling." Well, a gut feeling is, "I'm trying to discern what's right and what's wrong, so that I can take the good and let the bad go." I do that a lot of times. When I hear someone teaching or speaking, if the words trigger something in me, that "Hey, that's right," I'll take that. He may only have one sentence that's true and the rest of it is his own thinking, and his own imagination, but I'll take that one minute of him talking and apply it to my life and the rest of it I'll let go, because he didn't get it from the right source. We can discern that in judgment. Here we see that in our gut we separate good from evil. When God breathed into us the breath of life, all the things that are needed to sustain life began to function in our body. When He breathed into the body, the heart did a certain thing. The lungs did a certain thing. The kidneys did a certain thing. The spleen did a certain thing. We can go on...the stomach, the bowels, the bladder, and all of the things that are responsible for life went in us.

Our intestines are the area where we discern right from wrong.

It's not from our brain, or intellect, but from our intestinal area, because that's the place where the Spirit of God divides good and evil. It's in that place that we discern what is right and what is wrong, and then we put it to our mind and to our heart. Our mind is just an accumulator of physical information. If we step on a nail, the nerves in our feet send the message to our brain that we stepped on a nail. Now we have trouble. Now we have to soak our foot and get rid of any poison in it and take care of it until it's healed again. So the mind is simply a place of accumulation of information. When we see something that's not right, we say, "No, we discern that's not right by the Spirit of God in us." Then it goes to our mind and our mind goes to our heart and our heart says, "I'll receive this, but I won't receive that." When iniquity, or self-centeredness, is in us, it is an enemy against God in our body. There is a war in the members of our body. Therefore there is a fight to own your soul. When Jesus comes to quicken us, He saves our soul. That's our entire being. But satan wants your soul. We choose the saving of our soul or the destruction of our soul. The third kingdom is brass, representing judgment which discerns right from wrong.

The third kingdom then that satan set up was in Greece. In the physical, who was it that came up in Greece? It was the theologians. They developed their own theories. Greeks have many gods. Many gods. I know a Greek, and we were talking something about the Lord, and he said, "I'm a Greek." I was thinking, "So?" He said, "Greeks have many gods." He was polluted because he lived in Greece. He came to the United States and started a business; but he's a Greek and he has many gods. That's theology and if you want to study theology of different ideas, different gods and philosophies, you'll get the Greek philosophers that come out of Greece. That force has also spread all over the

world.

So, you're influenced by Nebuchadnezzar, wanting to be god; Iran, wanting to develop your own righteousness; and Greece, wanting your own theories as to who God is, or who made the earth. You have theologies such as evolution. Evolution tries to destroy the supernatural God. We find here the first three kingdoms have to do with who you're going to serve, and how to serve Him, and to know His ways.

Scripture tells us to live in the Spirit. The first three areas of your soul are learning to live in the Spirit. That is, God is God, He's the head. Obedience brings us into His righteousness. Discerning by what God has spoken and by the Holy Spirit in us that we've been quickened to, that we walk in truth. The truth will set us free. Everything in our soul will spring forth if we walk in the truth of God. The truth will set us free in the other three areas. So it's extremely important for us to understand truth and to not allow the kidneys to fail, or the liver to fail, because they take the poison out. They show us the wickedness. The kidneys are extremely important and they are one of the most attacked parts of the area of truth, because if we don't take the poison out, we stay polluted. Therefore, the different members of our body are at war with each other; different spirits have different parts of the body they are experts in. Fallen angels put pollution in us and cause us to sin. We must be able to discern and bring judgment to the members of our body to remove that pollution.

You're fighting against Iraq that wants you to make your own gods, and Iran, to walk in your own righteousness, and Greece, to have your own philosophy. "Well, I believe this, I believe this." It doesn't matter what you believe, because you're not in charge. God made this world and He's in charge. Now He's testing us to see who we will serve, because He's looking for someone who

will remove the pollution and serve Him. If you're not willing to do that, He can't use you.

When I began to understand that, I began to say, "Lord all of the things of my generation that you wanted to do through this generation of mine, put it on me and I'll do it," and He started doing it. But to do that, you have to be totally submissive to Him and let Him remove the pollution. The only way you can see the pollution is to come into His light. If you don't want Him, you'll never see the light. The reason you haven't seen it is because you haven't let Jesus, who is the Light of man, come near you and begin to expose you. Scripture says those who don't want Jesus don't allow Him to come near them for their deeds to be exposed.

The fourth kingdom was the legs and feet of iron and clay, and as we study more about it we see that the fourth kingdom was diverse. The fourth kingdom deals with our works. Jesus said, "I'm going to wash your feet. Then you'll be a part of Me." Peter said, "Jesus, You're not going to wash my feet." But Jesus said, "If you don't let Me wash your feet, you'll have no part of Me." So Peter said, "Not just my feet, but everything." And Jesus said, "No, everything in you is clean but your feet."

The feet are very important because it's your feet that take you where you're going to go. The fourth kingdom has many pulls to try to get you out of the will of God. "I want to do this, I want to do that." "I want to go here, I want to go there." People who call themselves Christians go to worldly movies and worldly events to be entertained. But how can we get rid of the world if we enjoy it? It says we have to hate the world. We have to hate the sin of the world and do what we can to help others see that the world has nothing good for us. The life is in Jesus. The life is in the Father. The life is in the Holy Spirit who comes and teaches us the will of the Father.

Those are the four kingdoms, and the fourth kingdom is a devastating kingdom. It will trample you. If you aren't soundly grounded in God, it will destroy you and you won't make it. You must be grounded in God, and you must have settled in you, "I'm going to follow God no matter what," because Scripture says the greater that people torment you and make fun of you and say all manner of evil against you, great is your reward if you stay faithful. Because you've been tested, you've been proven to be faithful. Faithfulness is the reward, because you can't do anything unless the Spirit quickens you. How can I go somewhere if I haven't been sent? How can I go do something if God hasn't spoken it? When He speaks it, He gives us a seed. In that seed is all we need to accomplish the task.

It says in Isaiah that when His word goes forth it doesn't return to God until it has accomplished the purpose it was sent for. When I began to understand that I said, "O God, all of the words that don't find a place to rest on, put them on me and I will be obedient and I will follow Your instructions so that Your will will be accomplished." What a blessing. Most people don't understand, there is such great wealth to be taken for eternity. I just don't run on to many people who are in the Spirit and have an understanding that there is great wealth to be taken. I say, "God, if nobody wants to do it, I'll do it." I'm not here to tell you what all God is asking me to do, but I can tell you, I'm a wealthy person. I know I'm wealthy. But the most important thing is not my wealth, but I get to be with God forever. That's the most important thing. I'm not going to heaven to be wealthy, although I will be. I'm going to heaven because I want to be with God.

Jesus said in I Corinthians 15 that He's going to take back all of the kingdoms. These four kingdoms have to be pulled down and destroyed, and the saints that have been purified and are

in this last day army will pull down these four kingdoms to the very end. They first must do it in themselves, and once they have conquered this in themselves then they have the ability to begin to pull these kingdoms down, and the kingdoms of this world shall become the kingdoms of our Lord and then He'll return. A lot of people want to fly away, but the bottom line is that we have to destroy these kingdoms, and Jesus is the Lord of Hosts. He's the one who will lead us into battle to destroy them. It's Him that says when these kingdoms will be destroyed. In each of these four kingdoms there are many parts. There is a lot of work that needs to be done, but God is going to have His way.

The government in the United States is important, but the supernatural supersedes the physical. When God says, "I'm done with it, I'm going to remove it," it will be removed. Whatever it is. Whatever it is that we cause God to become jealous and His jealousy stirs, the wicked people in Washington, the wicked people in the United States, could be gone just like that. Believe me. I know how God works. I know how He worked in me. I know how He caused me to come to a place that I had to make a decision, am I going to serve Him, or am I going to live the way I am. I said, "God I'm sick of being in charge. I don't understand who You are, I don't know much about You, but I want to know the deep things of God." In I Corinthians 2 it says that if you ask the Lord, He'll show you the deep things of God. In this book we're going to show you some of the deep things of God that we as those who are born again can enter into. It's up to you whether you want to, but it's obedience, obedience, obedience. That's what it takes.

In Psalm 23 David says, *The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. The Lord is my shepherd. I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.* Now



this is what David knew about his God. First of all, the Lord lives. And He is my shepherd. Because the Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. A good shepherd will lead you to green pastures and quiet waters. He gives me all I need to drink and He gives me all the food I need, and see, that's going back to the beginning of creation. He says, "I've made all these things, now you take care of them and I've given you these things to eat." So He leads us to green pastures and quiet waters. If we have those things, and our flesh is quiet, then we can say as David did, "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want." He provides for my needs but I don't want anything.

Today when you go to a store the little kids throw fits because they see things they want. Not what they need, but what they want, and they throw a tantrum to try to get it. Well that little fellow, or that little girl, have a lot of points against them early in life because they are very self-centered. I've heard people say, "Well I was born a homosexual." When they talk about that, I say, "You know, I was born selfish, but God changed me." Now, the Lord is my shepherd I shall not want, because He brings me to green pastures and still waters. He leadeth me beside the water.

*He restoreth my soul:* He restores. He brings quietness to my soul because it's healed. Those are the four areas that we're talking about. He will restore your soul. The devil has come in with the four different kingdoms to try to take your soul, but God will restore your soul.

*He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.* He gives you the power over the flesh. That's walking in righteousness. In your everyday life He gives you power over the flesh according to John 17:2. Jesus said, "My Father has given Me power over all flesh." So therefore if the Lord is your shepherd you won't need or want anything, and if you don't want anything He'll

take you out to green pastures and quiet waters and then He'll restore your soul. Then He'll lead you into paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

*Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.* Even though I walk in this world where there's death everywhere, where these four kingdoms are trying to swallow me up, I'm not going to fear any evil because He's with me. His rod and his staff protect me. Isn't that something?

I hope that I've opened up something totally new to you in fighting the enemies of your soul. God is the answer and I'm excited and honored to help you begin to see the enemy. If we invite Jesus into our lives He will quicken us into the realm of the Spirit. We can then be taught how to do warfare against the enemy we can now see. Now there can be death to the flesh and removal of the sin and iniquity within us which fights against the kingdom of God. I pray that you have victory, that you'll not want the things of the world, and that you will allow God to lead you upon paths of green grass, clear quiet waters, and righteousness, that your soul might be restored.

## Power to Overcome

**I**n Chapter 2 we looked at the four kingdoms from the ninety foot high statue Nebuchadnezzar built. God revealed to him the four kingdoms. He was one of those four kingdoms satan used to gain ownership of the soul, controlling the body and the soul, and then keeping us from being able to fellowship with God. Whether we're aware of it or not, those four kingdoms have control and authority in our lives. God doesn't want to be polluted, therefore when pollution comes or sin is found, it brings separation from God. Sin is an enemy; it fights against the kingdom of God which is life and increase. satan (lucifer) was cast out of heaven when he was found to have sin in him. He wanted to take over God's kingdom. But God said, "I rule alone, therefore you must leave." And he was thrown out of heaven down to the earth, which was his burial place. We don't know how long that period of time was but we know that in the second verse of Genesis chapter one water covered the earth. On the first day of creation, God's Spirit hovered over the earth and began to create the things we know and see today.

Let's go back to Daniel 2:34-35:

*Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote*

*the image upon his feet that were of iron and clay, and broke them to pieces. Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshingfloors; and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them: and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth.*

It says Daniel saw until a stone was cut out of the mountain without hand. That stone was Jesus being sent to the earth to be our High Priest and to destroy these kingdoms which satan had. Jesus came and defeated satan and his kingdom but left the four kingdoms intact. His work was to break the power of sin in our lives and make a way so we could rise up, defeat and destroy those four kingdoms, so we can once again have fellowship with God. If we would be able to destroy those kingdoms, God would then be able to use us for all eternity to do the things that He wants. This earth is a testing ground of your capability to take what God gave you, to come up out of the destruction of sin, and defeat sin through Jesus your High Priest. Then you can take the power of Jesus that is in you and throw it against those four kingdoms in your life and destroy them. Finally we see that when they're destroyed, death is swallowed up and we have victory. Then we've overcome the world.

We are called to be overcomers. We're not called to be lazy. We're not called to just sit here and let God do everything for us. He's given us a job and He gave us the creation to take care of. He's given us the food we need, He's given us all the things we need to survive and to live and it is up to us to take back what we gave the enemy through Adam and Eve. When they sinned in the garden they gave their authority to satan. Jesus came and destroyed satan's authority and said "Now you take back that authority and

destroy satan's kingdom." So He's in heaven waiting for us to rise up and have victory over death. When we have victory over that death then He'll give us eternal life and we will do a work for the Father forever. We must be willing to rise up and take what Jesus gives us, the tools, the equipment and the know-how to destroy these four kingdoms. If we have the desire to do that then we'll have the desire to serve Him like Jesus serves His Father, forever. Then He will give us eternal life when we have overcome.

Overcoming means to destroy and have victory over death in our lives. Then we can help others to have victory just like Jesus gave us help to have victory, and take back dominion so that when the Lord returns we can say the kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and Savior. We're not holy bums but we are called to be mighty. We're not to beat the air as if we can't see because we've been given spiritual eyes and we've been ushered into the presence of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit to do a job and to accomplish it with great victory. Then He'll use us for all eternity to do what He wants. He's looking for a people who will love Him; not because of His wealth, but because of who He is.

## Renewed by the Creator

**L**et's turn to one of the saddest scriptures in the Bible. In less than two thousand years, the beautiful world that God made was in total chaos. That's one of the saddest things for me. God had great expectations of the earth. Often times, God was very discouraged with the creatures He put on the earth. We've not performed well before Him. In the days of Noah there were fallen angels that came and had daughters and sons from earth women, and they were beginning to corrupt all of the creatures. If God would have let it continue, all of the human race would be intermixed with fallen angels. One of the things God saw in Noah was that he was pure in his generations. There are a lot of people who don't believe the flood happened, that God would not destroy His creation, but there was little to salvage. The rest He wiped out.

Genesis 6:5

*And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.*

That's the conclusion God came to. The thoughts of the heart were only bent on wickedness. Then in verse 6 it says He was sorry He had made man.

Verse 6-8:

*And it repented the Lord that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart. And the Lord said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repenteth me that I have made them. But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord.*

He found Noah, who was righteous and his generations were pure. And Noah walked with God. It's amazing what God can do if He finds someone who will walk with Him.

I want to talk about God. His nature is to regenerate or renew everything in this creation. We have Al Gore, and a lot of people who are extremely concerned about the earth, that it's going to be destroyed by man. But really the only thing that's been destroyed on the face of the earth is when we made the atomic bomb, we destroyed the atom that God created to be renewed. When that happened, the earth was greatly polluted and we now have radiation which is the broken down parts of the creation that man began to mess with that we should not have. The release of that power pollutes the earth.

Psalm 104:30

*Thou sendest forth thy spirit, they are created: and thou renewest the face of the earth.*

He sends forth His spirit. We know that God can release a portion of who He is, because God is spirit. He is not flesh, but He is fully spirit, therefore energy can go through energy. There's nothing that can stop God from going wherever He wants to go. The Spirit is often described in the Bible as wind. You can hear it, you can see what it does, but you can't see the wind, and that's the way the Spirit is. The Spirit is also the breath of God.

God can at any time withdraw life from something. For instance, a kernel of corn. When you put it in the ground, you expect it to sprout. But if God would withdraw the life from that seed, it would rot. If God would withdraw life from a human being, it would die. You don't hear anything about that, except that they are alive or dead. They don't say how man exists. If I cut myself, how does my body know that I cut myself and everything rushes to begin to heal it? It's an unbelievable thing. If a disease begins to come on me, and my body knows what that disease is, it will begin to fight it right away and it will destroy it before it can do much damage to me. So when He releases His Spirit, it has life.

Today we find there are many people who mock God the Creator by performing things which bring death. For instance, when two men get married they can't have children. When two women get married they can't have children. So they must find ways to use God's creative power, and bring it into their death camp to have children. Then they think it's alright. But God only has life in Him. The only thing that God can do because He has life in Him is to increase, multiply and expand. He can't do anything else. That's the way we should be. In fact, that was the commission God gave to man. To multiply, increase and expand, and fill the earth with His creation as the process goes on.

The conclusion we have to come to is that the Spirit, which



is energy, gathers the different energies that are in the earth to create what God wants. There are many energies. We have people who advertise that if you use their products, you'll get all kinds of energy. They are trying to sell a particular kind of energy the body needs that will help build energy in you. Everything is based on energy. It's not just energy, but it's intelligent energy.

Energy is one thing, like the wind. But all of the energy has intelligence so that when God says "Let it be," it comes into existence out of nothing except the energy that God has. When God releases His Spirit, which is intelligent energy, it puts things together because of the command of God the Creator. How can He do that? I have no idea. But I see it happen all the time. This morning one of my ewes had a pair of lambs, and I stood at the gate and watched the two little lambs get up and go to the back where the milk is and begin to suck within minutes. They got up like they had done it several times and it didn't take them long to find it and drink that milk. No one taught them except the intelligence of God that's in them. It's just amazing. We could go on and on with the creation. God enjoyed creating all these different things, and He loved them.

Now, "He sends forth His Spirit and they are created." He can say so much in just one little phrase...you know, you could write a book on that. "He sends forth His Spirit and it's created." The only problem is we don't know how He does it, so we can't write a book on it. Someday we'll know. We will stand before the Lord and He will begin to teach us the deep things of his creation.

Then it says, "And thou renewest the face of the earth." He renews the face of the earth. That is the character of God, that He renews all things. For us, it's very difficult. But for Him, it's very easy. Our neighbor had a calf that would come and step in the water tank. Every morning he would come there and it would

be dirty. So, he would take strainers and clean the water, right? No. He just dumped it out and went and got fresh water. Why didn't he clean it? Because it's easier just to wash the tank out a little bit, pump in new clean water, and it's done. So he leaves God to clean that water, because that water has been around for thousands of years. How does God do it? Well, He puts the water in the ground, and it either goes down through soil and purifies itself, or it evaporates and comes back down pure in rain. He does it very easily. It's very simple for Him. But for us to do those kinds of things would take all of our time and God just does it in the passing of time.

So God renews the face of the earth. He even cleans the air when it rains. He even cleans the air. Did you ever notice how after a two or three day rain, the next day when the sun comes out everything is so bright and clean and quiet? I love that. You can see a long way. He's renewed the air.

Verse 31:

*The glory of the Lord shall endure forever: the Lord shall rejoice in his works.*

What is the glory of the Lord? It's all of the things He has, that He's created, all of the things He's doing and what He's done, and all of His possessions. And if God's glory only has life in it, it's going to live forever. It can't die. Even the earth. He renews the water, and the next day or two it comes back down again and waters the earth, and helps to make trees grow. Then the trees take it and evaporate it and it goes up to the sky and comes back down and waters it again. How many times would water go up and down, up and down, in the course of a year? A lot of times,

especially if it's hot. Water can come down and evaporate and go up and come back down in a day or two, or even less.

He creates out of nothing that we can see. Like the wind, the energy cannot be seen unless it's put into a mass. For instance, energy is what we use for cell phones, and you can be in a house, or in a brick building, and the telephone communications will go right through a cement wall. It's amazing. It goes right through a cement wall. It slows it down a little, but it can still go through it. Now if it goes through enough of them, it wouldn't be able to go anymore, but God's creation is just amazing. God's glory is in all creation.

The Word says, "The Lord shall rejoice in His works." He rejoices in His works. Why does He not rejoice in our works? Because we are in a fallen state. Therefore because we're in a fallen state, and we cannot do good works, God said man is continually wicked. He is bent on doing everything against what God wants him to all of the time. So if He wants to deal with man, He has to do the same thing that He's done with all of His creation and that is to find a way to renew him. If He can't renew you, you stay polluted and unusable. Therefore, God sent His Son Jesus to die on the cross, to shed His blood for our wickedness, for the sin that we as a human race have done so that we might be regenerated, or renewed. Because of the wicked condition and state that we were in, God set out to renew us.

2 Corinthians 4:16

*For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day.*

Even though we are wicked, and our outward man perishes

because of pollution, God made a way for the inward part of man to be renewed. Every day we can be renewed just like He has renewed all of His creation. Every day we get up and when we fellowship and commune with Him, we become renewed. What does it mean to be renewed? He continues to remove the pollution. He's an expert at it. We need to understand that even though we live in a polluted world, God will renew us daily.

Verse 17:

*For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory;*

The pollution gets in our systems, and gets in our way. When we're polluted, it hurts. But the process makes us strong and teaches us the eternal weight of glory. What is the eternal weight of glory? It's the cost of being renewed every day so that someday we will be able to live in God's glory. The weight; the cost.

Verse 18:

*While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal.*

The things which are not seen are things in us such as life. The Spirit of God breathed life into man, but you rarely hear the doctors talk about it. It's not spoken. The reason is because they can't see it. But it's there and it's God who put it there. When the Spirit of life that God put in the body leaves, the body will decay and be no more. It will go back to the earth where it came from.

Colossians 3:10:

*And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:*

When we're born again, we've put on the new man. That is, the inner parts of us were birthed into the realm of the spirit so that we could have life. And this spirit that is birthed in us is renewed in knowledge. So when we fellowship with God and He releases the knowledge of who He is, and reveals who He is, that renews us.

Romans 12:2

*And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.*

Don't let yourself be formed into the things that the world does. Don't become conformed to the ways of the world. We're not supposed to be that. But it says, "be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind."

Proving what is good is judgment. If your mind is not renewed, if your mind is of the old man, you'll say "What's wrong with me doing this? What's wrong with this? What's wrong if I just do this?" But if your mind has been renewed to the new man that was created in you to fellowship with God, then the knowledge of God would immediately say, "This isn't God. That's not God. This is, and this is." So when you're transformed by the renewing of your mind, you prove what is good, what is not only good, but what is acceptable to God, and what is perfect. The progression

of development in this new man goes from being good, to being acceptable, to being perfect. And it says you're perfect to the will of God. Now, the reason we have to do the will of God is because God says man is bent on doing wickedly all the time, so therefore you're a bad tree unless you're renewed every day in God. Your mind has been renewed. It's not filled with trash. It's not filled with the world. But it is renewed constantly. We have to be renewed because we live in a world of pollution.

We are not saved, nor is God pleased, by our works of righteousness. Our works are wicked. That's why David said, "You love Your works." (that is, God). If you do His works, what happens to you? You're loved by the Lord. You have already found favor with God because you're doing His works that He loves to see. The reason He loves to see it is because it is pure, perfect and righteous.

Titus 3:5

*Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;*

He had mercy upon Noah and used him. So therefore, if God is using you, it's because of His mercy that He saved you by the washing of regeneration. There we are again. We are saved because He has regenerated us into the heavenly realms where we can live with Him. He had a plan and we can live in that plan of regeneration if we do His works and not ours. We are saved...that's why it says that to be born again is to be born again of the water and the Spirit; the spirit of recreation in you, and water, which regenerates you. He also sent the Holy Spirit to

teach us how to stay unpolluted, so that the regeneration process becomes less and less until we become perfect.

I just touched on a few things, just enough to let us know that God is in the renewing, the regeneration process, just like He has all of creation. We need this. This regeneration process started two thousand years ago and it's just as potent today as it was back then. Water is just as much water today as it was, and it's just as clean as it was, because He regenerates it. Now if we use and pollute water faster than it's regenerated, we'll have to wait another day or two or three, but it will be regenerated.

## Cleansing Fire

**W**e're going to continue looking at the regeneration process, but it's going to become stronger.

1 Corinthians 3:11

*For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.*

The only way for regeneration to take place is through Jesus. There isn't any other way.

Verse 12:

*Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.*

Here he is saying, if you're born again and you don't understand all of the ways of God; some of your works are of gold, some of it is silver and precious stones, and then you have some things



made of wood, things made of hay, and things made of stubble. Now, the things that last forever cannot be destroyed. The works of God cannot be destroyed. They are renewed. You could mess it up, but God will renew it.

Not too long ago, they accidentally dumped millions and millions of barrels of oil in the ocean. If the truth was known, they could hardly find the oil. They wouldn't let tourists on the beaches because there wasn't oil there. I have some friends who were in the area and they went down to the beaches and there wasn't any oil there. But they showed pictures in the news of people in white gowns and paper towels wiping up the oil. There were billions and billions of dollars spent to promote a cause that didn't exist. There was someone who said "You don't need to worry about that oil, because the earth will be renewed." He wasn't a man who I would call a godly man, but he recognized that the earth renews itself. And it did. It may have some effect for a year or so, but it will be all gone. It will be renewed.

God will visit all of us before the end of time to try our works. The things you did that are not everlasting, are not the works of God. You did it yourself. Those things are hay, wood and stubble, and they'll just burn up.

Abraham was greatly loved by God. God was trying to work in Abraham certain characteristics He wanted him to have before the promise of Isaac was fulfilled. But Abraham got in a hurry. His wife said, "Take my servant because I can't have children. Take my servant and have a child." So Abraham did and Ishmael was born, but God didn't recognize Ishmael. He said, "That's not your promised son. That's just a child. When I get ready to give you a son, it will come from your wife." And it did. Later, when God spoke about Isaac, He said, "Take your son, your only son, up to Mount Moriah and sacrifice him." Your only son.

Four thousand years ago God said in His heart, “Man is continually wicked and the only thing they do is always act wickedly. They can do nothing.” So your flesh in God’s eyes can do nothing right. Nothing. You need to understand that. Your flesh can do nothing to please God except be obedient and wait upon Him. He loves His works, which are true, right, and perfect. He doesn’t like our works because we are fallen. But we can be regenerated and renewed every day. If we are renewed every day in the knowledge of God then we can be used by Him, if we do His will. If we don’t do His will, when the fire comes our works will all be burned up. If our works are all burned up and we have no works of God in them, our soul is destroyed.

In Hebrews 12:29 it says that God is a consuming fire. Why is it that God is a consuming fire? We must understand that God is Spirit and all energy. Part of energy is fire, and part of the work of fire is to cleanse. What do surgeons do before they start surgery? Sterilize. All of their metal instruments go through the fire, so that all of their instruments are clean. They clean themselves up and they wash with disinfectant soap that will kill germs and bacteria. If you would take their surgery clothes and put them in the fire they would burn up, so those things you put in water and disinfectant soap.

James 3:5-6

*Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth! And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity; so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell.*

## CLEANSING FIRE

Our tongue can release fire, but it's not a contained fire. In the winter we burn wood in our house, and I'm always very alert to make sure that everything is ok so the fire is contained within the stove. What would happen if fire would be outside the stove? The house would burn down. And that which was good becomes evil. Here we see that the world of iniquity is a fire that comes out of people's mouths. What does this fire do? It tries to destroy who you are in God. When someone speaks out of iniquity, it will burn you. In that burning, part of your house is destroyed. You have to put the fire out. You have to get right on it and get rid of it, because it will totally destroy you if you don't. It will destroy all the things God has given you. That's how crucial it is. But people often go around releasing fire of hell and don't care.

Verse 6 again:

*And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity; so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell.*

It sets on fire the course of nature. That fire destroys our ability to even function in a natural setting. And it is set on fire because of hell. You're fellowshiping with hell.

Verse 8:

*But the tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison.*

Not only does it destroy, but it deposits poison, puts it in pockets, and slowly releases to keep you dead. That's the god

of force. When someone shoots a fiery dart at me, I pull the dart or the sword out, and then I look for the deposit of poison so that it doesn't continue to poison me for months and cause spiritual death because of the poison. Now how important is it for me to keep someone from shooting an arrow of poison at me? They're trying to destroy my eternal destiny and they don't care. I'll say, "You're destroying me," but they just keep right on talking. They don't care. Right here is what it says. Full of deadly poison.

Verse 14:

*But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth.*

The reason you have darts, swords, and poison in you and release them on others is because you are bitter from envy. You want to be like someone else. You want to have what they have. But you don't go through the processes that those who have it go through. You try to go in another way. What is envying and strife? That fully describes the United States today. Envy is coveting. When we covet, we have bitter envying and strife in our hearts. That's exactly what most of this nation has, especially those who have never brought discipline to their lives to quit spending money when they can't afford to buy something, so that they can have something. They keep spending and spending and never have anything and then they're angry at those who have money because they were disciplined to save it.

Verse 15:

*This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual,*

*devilish. For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work.*

When envy, or covetousness, takes over a nation, every evil work arises. There is then murder, lying, stealing, and finding a way to get from someone without doing an honest day's work. That's where we're at today.

Verse 17-18:

*But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy. And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace.*

If you have bitter envying and strife in you, how can you make peace? It's not possible. Only God can remove your wickedness and renew you and regenerate you by ushering you into a new realm where all of that is being washed and cleansed and purified and set away from us so we can be like Jesus. That's what we're called to be. We're made in the likeness and image of God, and if you want to live with Him, that's what He's requiring. He doesn't want you to be full of the world and everything that He hates; the fiery tongue and all of the poison. Who would want you in the house? Who would want to be around you? And you just get more and more bitter. That's what's happening to the world. The world is getting more and more bitter because they can't have their way so they try to force their way on those of us who reject the worldly life. Now, in chapter four, from all of these things that I just said, come wars and fightings among you. You can see why.

James 4:1

*From whence come wars and fightings among you? Come they not hence, even of your lusts that war in your members?*

There is a war in your body to want things. The lusts.

Verse 2

*Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not.*

Kill is from the poison. You begin to kill people. You don't physically destroy them, but the poison starts to kill them spiritually.

You don't have because you've not asked from the Lord who can regenerate you and renew you and give you the things you need. If God would just give you the things you need automatically in your fallen condition, you would continue to destroy His kingdom and to destroy His creation. He almost just gave up. But He decided to work a plan out to regenerate you and me. And if we don't receive His regeneration we'll never be with Him forever; that is, to clean ourselves up and to get rid of all poison, all deadly wickedness out of our mouth.

Verse 4:

*Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? Whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.*

If you love the world, how are you as an enemy of God going to live with Him forever?

Verse 5:

*Do ye think that the Scripture saith in vain, The spirit that dwelleth in us lusteth to envy?*

It wants so much so bad that we become jealous. We want other people's things that are not ours, nor do we have a right to have them.

Verse 6:

*But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.*

God resists the proud, those that are full of envy and strife and bitterness. He resists them. That is, He's not going to give you what you want, not even close.

2 Peter 3:7

*But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.*

Now we said in the last chapter that God said, "I'm going to just wipe off all of the creation. I'm done with it." And then He found someone He could use to bring regeneration back to this wicked world He created that was good. We're the ones who did it. We're the ones who allowed the wickedness.

AND THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD

So in the second destruction, there is a fire that is waiting for the Lord to say, "Go." There's a fire that's waiting. And as soon as God says, "Fire, go," this is what it's going to do. This word is kept in store, reserved unto fire against the Day of Judgment.

Verse 8-9:

*But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.*

He's waiting and working with every person and no one will be without excuse because if you do what He says, He'll receive you. I don't care what you've done, He'll receive you but you must clean yourself up, and if you don't, He can't use you. He doesn't want you around. He'll resist you.

Verse 10:

*But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.*

With a great noise the heavens will disappear and this fire is going to come and it's going to melt the elements from fervent heat. That means that God is going to do surgery on this world and He's going to cleanse it from all wickedness and He's going



to do it with fire. All the works that can be destroyed will be destroyed. The works which God has done cannot be destroyed. Isn't that something?

Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were thrown into the fiery furnace seven times hotter than it ever was before. When they were thrown in, the wicked men who threw them in were instantly killed, but those three men walked around in that fire. The Lord came and walked with them, so there were four people in there and when Nebuchadnezzar saw that, he got up close to them and said, "Come out." And so they came out. They walked out of the furnace, and they didn't even have the smell of fire on them. Is it possible that fire will come on the earth and burn up all of the wicked works? All of the wicked works. Now, it could be that God's people may be out plowing in the field when this fire comes. I don't know. But we won't have to leave this earth when this fire comes with fervent heat and melts the elements and the works of wickedness. They shall be burned up. Now I'm not saying that's the way it's going to be, but it could be, because he demonstrated that with Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. The fire didn't affect them.

But those works that are not of God, that are not eternal, will be destroyed. The only way that you can do an eternal work is to clean yourself up and to have such a love for the Lord that He'll be able to do whatever He wants to do with you in cleaning you up. He is a gentleman. If you become obedient to everything He does it's not a hard thing. It's when you are rebellious that it becomes harder to clean you up. But you must cleanse yourself. You must be regenerated and be placed in heavenly realms. Because on the earth, the fire is going to melt all of the wickedness, so that there's no more pollution.

Where did germs come from? They came from the fall. How

does our stomach work to digest food? We have enzymes in our system that break down food so it can be utilized in the body. When you put something in your mouth He's created it so it goes through our digestive system which separates the bad bacteria and all the things of no value from the good. It's that way in our spiritual life as well. We have to be discerners of what's good and what isn't, and that's judgment.

In feeding livestock, especially those that are ruminants, where they chew their cud and have several different stomachs, we put a little yeast in their food. That yeast is food for the bacteria, so they can live and do their work. Is it possible that after man fell, the fallen bacteria were called germs? Because instead of bringing life, they bring death. So the bacteria that were good, that God made to break up the food, in the fallen state became polluted and are now called germs that bring sickness to your body if it can get into your body. And it does. It causes sickness and disease and all kinds of trouble that wasn't there in the creation because God said everything was good. And bad bacteria (germs) are not good. So even the doctors take their surgical equipment and cleanse themselves before they enter into the body so that they don't pollute. God is the same way. You're not going to come into His presence and pollute His world. His environment. He won't let you be there. And I don't blame Him. Yet we have people who live life thinking that they can be polluted, say a few words, and believe, "Now I'm saved, I can go out and do what I want." I don't think so! Not even close. Now it says,

Verse 11-13:

*Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, looking*

## CLEANSING FIRE

*for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat? Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.*

God is going to renew the earth, and He's going to melt everything so there are no germs or pollution remaining. It is all going to be gone. Every last germ, every last pollution, every last poison, and if that's what you're doing, you're gone too. Period.

Matthew 10:28

*And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.*

If someone would come and shoot me, my body would fall, but he couldn't destroy my works. All he could do is destroy the body. But he would never be able to touch my eternal destiny. So Jesus says, don't fear them. They are not able to kill the soul. The soul is the accumulation of your fruit, your labor, your works. We'll be known by our works, or better yet, by our fruit. Works become complicated. You now see that our works are polluted. Only that which is done under the commandment, instruction and care of God is a good and acceptable work. Those works will be eternal. But anything that isn't under His care and under His guidance by the Holy Spirit He doesn't accept because it's polluted.

When I went to Guatemala years ago, they had a fruit market, not like ours, just little shanties and tents. I'll never forget, there was a mother with two or three children there, and they weren't but just five to ten years old, and they were sitting down by their

mother shelling peas and putting them in a little dish. Their hands were absolutely filthy. Their clothing hadn't been washed for days. And momma looked like she hadn't had a bath for who knows when. And I thought, "Poor people. You're shelling all of those peas and I wouldn't eat one for anything. I don't care if it was cooked to the size of a BB I wouldn't eat it."

Now, we are like those little children. Giving something to God and God says, "You're kidding me. You want me to accept that?" That's the example I can give you of what it's like for God to accept something from you. Even with Cain and Abel. Abel and Cain both brought a sacrifice. Cain brought a sacrifice of putting grain in the ground, he plowed the fields, and he came and brought his labor, and God said, "I don't want your labor. It's all polluted. You have pollution all over the grain and you want Me to eat it? I'm not going to eat it." And it made Cain angry. What did Abel do? He brought a lamb to sacrifice to God. God said, "I'll accept that one because you just took those sheep out to the pasture and they ate My grass that I made and it's purified and cleansed, and you didn't reproduce any of them. I did all the work through My Spirit and it was good. I'll receive that." And today, Cain's testimony of God is nothing, but Abel's still speaks, because God will receive what He has done through you.

Acts 2:1-4

*And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind (God's Spirit), and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the*

*Spirit gave them utterance.*

What took place there? God gave them the power to cleanse them. He gave them His Spirit to recreate who they are and be saved, and be ushered into the realms of the Spirit with the Father and the Son. And He sent a fire that as you spoke in heavenly language it would burn up your earthly lusts. It came like tongues of fire. There was a tongue that came down and it was clothed in fire.

How much more do you need to be regenerated, to be renewed, to be born again? Yet hardly anyone wants it. Even if they know about it they don't care. It's because they are deceived. The lusts in their flesh are so great that they don't want to give up serving the devil to be free from being driven by the lusts that are in them. They want to destroy God's people so their own wickedness is not exposed.

John 15:1-2

*I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit.*

How does He purge it? He cuts off the unfruitful and throws it in the fire. That growth is lost. The same thing as gold, silver, wood and chaff. You're grafted into the vine, you've been given everlasting life, but the Father comes along and says, "There is some good fruit here, and I'm pleased with that, but this part is not acceptable in My kingdom, therefore I'm going to cut it off and now you bear only good fruit because I've cut off the unacceptable." If He comes back and finds you've done better but

there's still unacceptable parts, He'll cut that off and He'll keep pruning back all of the things that do not produce good fruit. If you become angry and quit producing good fruit it says that He'll come back and try to work with you, but if you stay rebellious He'll cut you off.

Verse 3-4:

*Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me.*

Whatever it is that God wants you to do, He's in charge and He's going to help you do it the way He wants it to be done so you don't mess it up. That's no different than what we do with our children. How many of you would say to ten-year-olds, "Ok kids. Prepare me a meal." And they come out and they've just dumped three teaspoons full of salt in your food. Do you just say, "It's fine?" No, you tell them it's not good so the next time they'll do it different.

Verse 5:

*I am the vine, ye are the branches: he that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.*

If you're not in the vine, attached to the Lord, if you're not getting your food and regeneration from Him, you will bear no fruit. Every day those leaves need to be regenerated.

Verse 6:

*If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned.*

If there's no fruit, in this burning you're done. It's over. You are no more. Your labor is all burned up because it wasn't acceptable. We make excuses, "But this and this happened." But He says, "I've given you power to overcome all of the works." God gave Jesus authority over your flesh so that all flesh must obey. You have no excuse because your flesh is not in alignment with God.

Matthew 13:37-38

*He answered and said unto them, He that soweth the good seed is the Son of man; the field is the world; the good seed are the children of the kingdom; but the tares are the children of the wicked one;*

Tares are seeds that look like the real thing but aren't. They are chaff. There are wild oats, and they look a little like true oats, but if you aren't educated it's hard to tell the difference.

Verse 39-40

*The enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; and the reapers are the angels. As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world.*

Those who act like they are righteous but aren't are the tares in the church. They act like they are saved, but God knows who they truly are.

Verse 41:

*The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity;*

If you offend God, you're not going to be in His kingdom. How do you offend God? By the iniquity in you that does war against God. How many of you like to have somebody in your home who's trying to kill you, trying to destroy you, trying to steal from you? Nobody does. Neither does God.

Iniquity is works of self-centeredness, building your own kingdom, not His. You're not called to build your own kingdom, you're called to build His kingdom.

Verse 42-43:

*And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth. Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.*

When all of the wicked are burned and destroyed then those who are God's children will not have poison coming at them anymore. They won't have fire coming to try to destroy them and burn them down. They won't have any of that anymore, because the wicked will be all gone. There will be quietness and peace.

I hope this will open your eyes to the areas that still are not cleansed, that are offensive to God. He's going to remove the things that are offensive. The people who offend Him and who have fiery tongues that only destroy will not be in His kingdom.



## The Lord is my Shepherd

**W**e want to look at Psalm 23. *The Lord is my shepherd.* I don't know how many times I've gone back to that. The Lord is my shepherd. To worship the Lord is to do His will. What is it that you do in worshipping God? When we worship the Lord, we hallow His name. To hallow His name is to do His will. When we worship we say how awesome He is, but then we go off and we do what we want, and that's the end of it until we worship again. But to truly worship somebody is a lifestyle.

Years ago, people would do everything they could to be like Elvis Presley. They wore haircuts like Elvis did. It was combed back and cool. People would faint. They would scream and they would pass out, all because they were so in love with Elvis Presley. In fact, today there are still groups of people who worship Elvis Presley. He was just a man. He ushered in a lot of hell in this nation. He started out singing in church but he ended up ushering hell into this nation, and dying of drugs. I saw him just days before he died, and his whole body was puffed up. He was just full of water. His cells were literally being drowned in water. He didn't last long, but he wanted one last concert. He sang a few songs and he said farewell. He walked off the stage and a few days later

he died. He didn't look like Elvis Presley used to, and his life was short. He didn't keep the Lord as his shepherd. It was sad. Elvis Presley was an extremely talented man.

The Lord is my shepherd, and because He's my shepherd I hallow Him. I honor Him. In this day and age, it's going to take the supernatural to save anyone because everyone is rebellious. You do not prosper when you're rebellious. We as a nation are becoming so rebellious towards God that the prosperity is now coming to a head, where the prosperity that we have experienced as a nation is really going to plummet, because the Lord is not the United States' shepherd. We are a spoiled people, because God has so blessed us. Now it's come to a point where there are many who are not blessed any more. There are many who are financially broke, and they're deprived of their lifestyle because of rebellion.

So, the Lord is my shepherd, and I shall not want. When you become quiet, your flesh doesn't want. I remember when, for a season, I lived in a little room, and everything I needed and everything I did cost me less than \$300 per month, because I didn't want anything. I just wanted to hide and be with God.

*The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures...* What does it mean to lie down in green pastures? When an animal lies down in green pastures, they chew their cud. It's a place of digesting their food. Spiritually it's referring to having everything I need and sitting down and looking at my life. It's examining what I'm doing, who I am, and who God is, and meditating in this place of quietness.

I go over to my farm, and I do some work, but I meditate for hours. I think about things of the Lord for hours. How good He is. When we're not content, and we're not satisfied, we're always looking for something and we don't have time to reflect upon our

lives, where we're headed, what is happening to our lives, what's happening around us. So you may have a lot of food in your first stomach, but if you don't sit down and chew your cud, you're not going to have any energy.

He makes me to lie down in green pastures. If you want a cow to produce milk, you want to get them full in the shortest time you can. Instead of putting them out on pasture, what they do now is they have a feed buggy they mix the feed in. Then they go along side of the barn and they dump the feed. It's a complete feed, so all the cow has to do is stick her head out and just chomp it down, and when she's full, she goes and gets a little water and then she goes and lies down. And she'll chew her cud for hours. She'll meditate. She's just quiet, because she has all she needs. When you have a cow who eats quickly, chews her cud long, and then just rests, when she goes to the milking parlor, she'll pour out the milk. If they don't do that, the farmer takes them to the sale barn.

*He leadeth me beside the still waters.* You take a sheep or goat to still waters so the water won't get up their nose. Their nose is close to their mouth, so if they go to the river and it's flowing, and they put their nose down there, the water will crawl up their nose. Even when you just put water in a bucket and you're carrying it and they're thirsty, you set it down and the water is still moving but they don't want to wait, so they gulp a little bit but the water gets in their nose. But when the water is quiet they can drink as much as they want.

Verse three says, *He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.* I've run over that many times. He restoreth my soul, He leads me in the paths of righteousness. What is there to restore in your soul if you're saved? What about all the pain?

It's amazing, when I began to pray and to do things God's way, I said, "Why didn't someone tell me that when you serve the Lord everything is easier?" The deeper you get into God, the easier life is. It isn't that you won't have problems in life, but the problems aren't as difficult because of two things. One is when I'm serving the Lord, God blesses me, and eliminates a lot of the problems, and secondly, when I do have them, it doesn't affect me very much because my focus is God, and not the physical world. So everything becomes easier. The physical things are not as precious as my walk with the Lord. I could spend hours telling you of all the things in my soul that were of great pain. I said, "Lord, I know that whatever you do is for my good and for my increase, because you can't bring death to me." He only brings life and increase. So I said, "My soul needs to be healed." I said, "Lord, would you heal my soul? David said that You restore souls. So Lord, I'm asking you to heal my soul." When I quit praying, I looked in the Spirit and I was on fire. I was burning. What was burning was the ache and the pain that was in my soul. I can still talk about it, I still know what has taken place, but He burned up the pain of my soul. By doing that, He's restored my soul.

We need to remember where we came from, and where we're going so that we don't make the mistakes again, but God has restored my soul.

He leads me, with the reins of my heart, down the path of righteousness, which is being obedient to His will.

The Lord is my shepherd, and I meditate upon Him, because I have time. He gives me the blessing of good pasture and quiet water so that I have time to sit down and meditate.

I used to fast every January and take the whole month off of work. I just went before the Lord, and I never missed the income. Kind of like when I was building a house, and quit my job and

went on vacation for a couple weeks. One of the Sunday School friends came and said, "How can you do this?" At first I didn't know what he was talking about. I said, "What do you mean?" He said, "You quit your job, you're building a house, and you went on vacation. How did you do it?" I said, "Because I had the money." "Well, where did you get the money?" The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. So if you make good money and you don't want anything, it just kind of stacks up. Now, if you've been slothful, and have bills because you wanted everything, and take a week off, you're going to miss it. But the Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. And because that's the case, I don't need much.

So He leads you in paths of righteousness, if you have given the reins of your heart to Him. But if you're in charge, and you want, you're going to wander. See, the whole things that kind of makes me chuckle inside is that nobody knew that we didn't want, because we had everything that everybody else had. We bought a brand new car, and paid cash. We didn't have to discipline ourselves to make payments. I can't tell you the thousands of dollars I save because I don't pay interest.

Righteousness is not earned, it is credited to us because we're obedient. We still haven't got to the most important thing in this verse. He leads me in paths of righteous for *His* name's sake. Now, what does that mean? We walk in paths of righteousness that honor Him. In that walk, we honor Him. It's not about us, we don't need anything. So in our walk of obedience He is honored.

Now verse four: *Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death...* What is the valley of the shadow of death? I used to think, "I'm glad I didn't live back then. We don't have the valley of the shadow of death today." But we do. Everywhere we go there is death. David said, "When I go down through that valley of the shadow of death, I won't fear any evil, because the Lord,

my shepherd, is with me.” Now wait a minute! Let’s just stop and think a little bit here. I walk through the valley of the shadow of death because You’re with me. So, if I go my own way, the Lord is with me? Wrong. I am the sheep and the Lord is the shepherd, so I follow Him. Does that change things? That’s where we mess up. When I go down through the valley of the shadow of death I’ll fear no evil, because right there’s the Lord right behind me, an angel following me...Wrong. The Lord is my shepherd. I’ll follow Him to green pastures and quiet waters and then I can sit down, rest, and meditate on Him. When He takes me through the valley of the shadow of death I don’t have to fear because He has a rod and staff and He’ll protect me.

How many feel pretty independent? We’re so independent that we think everywhere we go the Lord will follow us. Do you know what happens when a shepherd has a sheep that goes astray? He breaks its leg. Then he carries it on his shoulder because it can’t walk, and so in the process of that little lamb being carried on his shoulders, they develop a relationship and the little lamb loves his shepherd. It’s kind of like bottle feeding. When you feed a little goat or a lamb, they’re so friendly to you, you almost trip over them because they just want to be with you when you come.

So let’s go over verse four again. Yea, I get to walk through the valley of the shadow of death with my shepherd, and I will fear no evil, because my shepherd has a staff and a rod and when I see them, they comfort me.

My shepherd prepares a table before me in the presence of my enemies. In this world we have enemies all around us. But in the midst of all of this, the Lord prepares a table. What’s He going to use a table for? To eat. When I like to talk to somebody, like my wife, we go out for breakfast, or once in a while dinner, and when we’re eating everything is just geared down. It’s quiet. We’re not

going anywhere, we're just sitting there. There's no pressure to get up and go, there's no pressure that we have to go do this or do that. We sit down and while we're eating, our flesh is quiet because it's being taken care of, and that's when I can get caught up the best with what's going on. Here he's saying that the Lord will prepare a table in front of me in the presence of my enemies. Now, what he's saying is, the enemies are going to stand there and watch you have relationship with your shepherd. They're going to watch you have intimate fellowship with the shepherd. They will see that.

So he prepares a table in front of my presence and in the presence of my enemies. And while they're watching, He anoints my head with oil. The power to succeed. While the enemy is watching me, my Lord and my shepherd pours oil. The healing power of my shepherd flows over me. They have nothing, and here my shepherd pours oil on me and it's so much that my cup runs over.

I'll never forget, when I was a little boy, we'd go to the restaurant and we would hang around the pinball machine hoping that somebody would walk away and still have games left. And then we would hurry up and go over there and play those games. Once in a while we had a nickel to put in it and we would see how long we could go with a nickel and keep winning games. I didn't do that very often, but I did do it. And at the restaurant I remember this boy who had a paper route. Hamburgers cost a quarter, and they had a thick, soft bun with some onion, ketchup, and mustard. That boy would open wide his mouth and enjoy that hamburger. And sometimes he would eat some chips with that hamburger with a bun. If I ever did have a hamburger, it was at home between two pieces of bread. I don't ever remember having a bun at home. It was too expensive. A bun and a hamburger.

And I often wondered, “What does that taste like?”

I never had one until we went to Oklahoma, and we got hamburgers. Six hamburgers for a dollar. There were buns, but they weren't like the buns that guy had. They were little buns. You didn't have to open your mouth too wide for six for a dollar. It was in St. Louis somewhere on Route 66 that we would stop every time. Dad knew where the place was that he could buy six hamburgers for a dollar, and sometimes we got two of them. And then we had our own water. We didn't buy drinks or pop. We just got a hamburger, and we were tickled pink with that hamburger. I'll never forget, we stopped there and got our hamburgers, and mom took over the driving. We started to go out on 66 and she didn't see a car coming. The car swirled way around us going fast, and we almost had a wreck. I'll never forget that. I was just a little kid. We came that close to being hit, a whole car full of kids. We came out of there eating our hamburgers and never thought until it was all over. But we didn't get hurt, so we went back to eating our hamburgers.

So all of this happens in the presence of our enemies. And they're going to look at us and say, “I wonder what that would be like, to have your cup full and running over? Here I'm in great want and great pain and anguish because I don't walk in the paths of righteousness.”

And then David says, *Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me...* What is goodness? Good things are going to happen, and when they don't, God's going to show mercy. Goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life. All the days of my life. I know that when I'm in this place and the Lord is my shepherd and He leads me in green pastures and still waters, and then He makes me lie down and take it easy.

Last night, Charlie (the dog) was captivated by his tail, and he



was determined to catch it. That little guy went round and round and I thought he would turn into butter pretty quick, he was going so fast. But he could never catch it. You know, when you're wanting stuff, you're just never quite satisfied. He probably had an itch he was trying to scratch, or maybe he was just playing. I didn't really know for sure what it was, but I know a lot of people who are just like that.

*Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.* This is going to continue the rest of my physical days, and then I will dwell in the house of the Lord for all eternity. Why would somebody want something else? Why?! It's because you're deceived. It's because you think you can do better. It's because you think if you're in charge you'll have more fun.

Now let's look at Psalm 24. *The earth is the Lord's.* Earlier in the book we talked about the first chapter of Genesis where it says I'm going to give all this for food. And the reason that He gives you food is because you're the caretaker of the cosmos. You are important to Him, but He loves His animals. He loves His birds. He loves His fish of the sea. You're not the only one in His world. But we have become so self-centered that we think Jesus came to die just for me. I heard someone say that Jesus would come and die if I was the only person on earth. He would come and die just for me. That just isn't true. The Word doesn't say that.

*The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof.* Get that. It's not yours. I went to an estate sale last week and I left shortly after it started. They had three or four acres of machinery. I've never seen anything like it in my life. The guy that started the auction said "Once in ten years I'll come across a sale like this." He said, "You know, the machinery gets so big anymore that it's hard to hook up a tool, and so because it would take a skid loader, or

a forklift, to help hook the tools up to the tractor, he decided that the best thing to do is to just buy a new John Deere for each implement. Then he wouldn't have to switch. That's why all these tractors have low hours." So he bought a hundred thousand dollar tractor to hook on to his forty thousand dollar tool and left it hooked up so he wouldn't have to unhook it and hook another one on.

So, *the earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.* They...everything. You, the animals, the birds, the fish. Everything that dwells in the earth, His created world, is His. You are His. You are not mine. I am not yours. I am His. It took me a long time to figure that out. I thought I was somebody else's. They told me what to do all the time. When I finally started to discover I'm His, then I asked, "Why are you always telling me what to do?"

Verse two, *For he hath founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the floods.* See, the earth was full of water. Water covered everything. He established the world upon the seas and on the floods.

Verse three, *Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? Or who shall stand in his holy place? Who's going to stand before the Lord in the Holy of Holies? He that hath clean hands and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity.* Lifted up his soul and wanted something that was God's. Just being there at that sale almost made me sick, because that man lifted up his soul to vanity, and he died. I was talking with one of the men that were in charge of the sale. I said, "So this man died and now the family is selling everything, even the screwdrivers that are in the barn?" He said, "Yep." I said, "How much of it did he take with him? Because there's a lot of stuff here." He looked at me and he said, "Nothing." Then it's all vanity. What you can't take with you is vanity. At

some point in time, it's not going to be worth anything. He had twelve tractors in a row, and big machinery, all that stuff folded up fourteen or fifteen feet high. You would have to watch going down the road that you wouldn't hit the top of a tree. What you can't take with you at some point in life will be vanity. So if you put your trust in that, you're putting your trust in vanity.

So those that are going to enter into the Holy Place are those that have clean hands. Now what are clean hands? Don't touch something you don't own. To have clean hands you have to keep your hands away from somebody else's things. And what do we have today? A society of unclean hands. They want things that aren't theirs. They are demanding things that are not theirs. They will never enter into the Holy Place

*Who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully.* That can mean a whole gamut of things. "I'm going to do this." "I'm going to do that." And then we got to the place, "If the Lord wills, I'm going to do this." Well, how do they know if the Lord's willing? "Well, we'll try it and if it doesn't work out then the Lord wasn't wanting us to do it."

*He shall receive the blessing from the Lord, and righteousness from the God of his salvation.* He's going to receive the blessings from the Lord. The blessings that have blessed you will now consume you. If you're receiving the blessings from the Lord and God begins to consume you, can you imagine what you're going to be like? Wow!

*This is the generation of them that seek him, that seek thy face, O Jacob. Selah. Lift up your heads, O ye gates; Your heads are gates. Do you know that when you walk in the blessings of God, you have the power to open the floodgates of heaven? Open the floodgates of heaven. And be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in.*

Do you know what a Kentucky screen door is? It's a screen door that doesn't have a screen. So the flies can come in and they can go out. Now, if you like flies, then you need a Kentucky screen door. But if you don't want flies in your house, you put a screen on your screen door. And then the flies will stay out. If you're an everlasting door, then you can close the door against the enemy and open when the Lord comes. You are in charge of what comes in just like the Lord does, because the Lord has doors and gates too.

The everlasting doors also have to do with the places we go in God. Whenever we go to a new place, a new room, God has a door He opens. You enter those doors and you're everlasting. You're an everlasting door. And the King of glory shall come in. *Who is this King of glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle. Lift up your heads, O ye gates; even lift them up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in. Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.*

Psalm twenty-five starts out, *Unto thee, O Lord, do I lift up my soul.* So he lifts his soul up to the one who can save it. *O my God, I trust in thee:* And then he says, I trust in you, God, and when I put my trust in you, I'm vulnerable. Don't let me be ashamed. Let not my enemies triumph over me. When you're making a table before me, and everybody is watching, don't forget me, because I put my trust in you.

Ask the Lord to heal your soul. If He's saved your soul, let Him heal your soul so that the enemy can't come back, remind you of your past, and heap guilt and shame upon you.

## Salvation

**W**hat I want to do in this chapter is to help clarify what happens in the process of being saved. There are a lot of people who believe that once you're saved, that's it, but that's not what the Bible says at all. I would be very cautious about anything when it comes to dealing with your eternal destiny. You're responsible. Every person is responsible. It doesn't matter what the pastor says, it doesn't matter what I say as a pastor, you are personally responsible for your eternal destiny. With that in mind, Matthew 22:37 says,

*Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.*

This is a progressive place. First of all, the heart. God comes and places within the heart the new covenant. Then secondly, after the covenant is in the heart, then with all of your soul. Then within the soul, all of your mind. The covenant of the heart is required to do what the soul asks. So if your soul is not in agreement with the covenant of the heart, the heart will change its labor from laboring for God to laboring for your flesh.

You can start out like the four different soils. God releases the

word, and that word begins to work in you. But if there's not any preparation of the soil, for instance, if the seed falls on the rocks, the birds come along and eat it up. The devil takes the word from you and your desire for salvation is gone. Then the second one is that you have a little interest so you listen and try a little bit but when it gets tough it just dries up and it's gone. Then the third one is, "Yes, I would like to do it," but the weeds come along. And what are the weeds? Your sin that's in you, your desire of the flesh that's in you. That sin stops you from bearing fruit, and if you bear no fruit, you're not saved. That's all there is to it.

So the fourth soil is where you don't let any weed seed grow. If it starts to sprout, you pull it out, and you keep it clean so that the next year it will only be old seed, not new seed. Then you have only old weed seed in your garden with God. So you have to come to a place that your soul is always being cultivated to remove the seeds that show up. You know, you can have a field that looks real clean. But when you plow it for the first time in years, you'll plow up all the seed that's six to eight inches deep. And what you thought was all cleaned up, all of a sudden has thousands of weeds again, and you have to work at it again. Each time, that field gets cleaner. It gets cleaner and cleaner and cleaner until finally there are hardly ever any seeds, and when there are, you go out quick and pluck them up. And that's the way it is with the soul. We must have a clean soul for God to deal with us.

We want to look at I Corinthians 15:44. This chapter talks about spiritual bodies and physical bodies. Paul comes to the conclusion,

*It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body.*

When we are born into this world, we have a physical body. Because this physical body has fallen, every person who is born into this world must be born again; each individual, because we're in a fallen state. The spiritual body we have been talking about is our body that God has quickened, and then in verse 45 it says it again:

*And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit.*

All of a sudden, something hit me. The first Adam was made a living soul, because we had a clay body and He breathed into it the breath of God, which was spirit, and so the Spirit of God and this clay body came together and it made a soul; that is, what the spirit and the body do is what the soul becomes. If you die, then your soul quits growing. It stays just exactly the way it was. We have a carnal body that is fallen and this soul that has a problem. We can't depend on our soul anymore because the flesh wants things. As it's introduced to things, it takes a miracle from God to cause your flesh to not want those things. The Father promised Jesus that He had power over all of the flesh. So therefore if Jesus comes in and begins to live in you, you have power over all the flesh. You have no excuse. So this flesh needs to be saved.

Let's look at Psalm 63, and then I'm going to really start talking about what salvation means.

Psalm 63:1

*O God, thou art my God; early will I seek thee: my soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh longeth for thee in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is;*

I thought, "Now wait a minute. The flesh longs for God?" I got to thinking, "You know, my flesh does long for God." In this world, my flesh is in great pain. It's vexed every day I see the wickedness of this land. So I long for a place to just be able to get away from the vexations of this wicked world that satan has corrupted and caused what was good to be very evil. So David says to God, "My soul thirsts for Thee." Now, that's the first sign for the Father to know that you want Him; your soul begins to thirst for Him. If you're not wanting to know Him, if you're not wanting to have your soul saved by the Lord, any other reason doesn't matter. I've seen people who feel sorry for themselves and spend hours on their face crying out for deliverance of their flesh to not have the hurt. They just want to be relieved from the hurt. We've talked about it, that the will doesn't change, therefore nothing happens. We were made first a soul but now the soul can't be trusted. So David is coming to God and his soul and his flesh are bowing down to Him and saying, "Save me." That's what it's saying. "Save me." So, unless this takes place, what is God going to save?

Now, Jesus is that quickening spirit. When Jesus comes and He shines His light on our lives, we see the wickedness, but first of all you have to be crying out that God would save your soul. When He sees you're serious, He will come and fill you. I cried out for over a year before He finally came, but He was wanting me to empty out before He filled me. We see that David often cried for salvation of his soul. The soul must bow down to Jesus, the quickening Spirit. The reason it has to be that way is because you can't trust your soul. You can't trust your flesh. So therefore, to get out of the mess you're in, your soul and your flesh must submit to the living God. What happens if you're just wanting to have your flesh comforted to get out of the pain of your flesh, and



you don't truly want Him? When He relieves you of that pain, you end up going back to the way you were and nothing happened. A lot of people think they were saved in that period of time, but they didn't bow their soul and their flesh to the quickening spirit to get them out of that place. So when pain leaves, and everything goes back to normal again, they get up and go about and do what they were going to do and they leave Jesus sit.

Then the third thing is that in their soul is the will, the mind, and then emotion. So the mind looks at the scripture, it studies the scripture, it knows about God, but the mind cannot bring salvation. The flesh cannot birth spiritual things. Therefore, the flesh has to be bowed before the quickening spirit to help get your mind out of the filth and the junk that's in you, into the realm of the Spirit where Jesus and the Father and the Holy Spirit live, to be born again. And if that doesn't take place, you're a Pharisee.

Remember in John 16 where the Holy Spirit convicts the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment? The Holy Spirit comes and convicts you, "You need God to lead you out of this mess," and to show you that you have sin in you. God does not allow sin in heaven. You won't get there with sin. But He's made a way for us to escape. We must have sin removed, walk in righteousness, and know correct judgment so we can make decisions that are right, and that are pleasing to God. When we do those things, then our soul (our mind, will, and emotions), is bowing down to Jesus, worshipping Him, and He quickens us because we repent. We repent of what the soul did, what the will did, and what the mind and emotions have done. We acknowledge we're corrupt and we're nothing but filthy rags. We know if He doesn't reach down and quicken us out of that place, we're done. We have to leave all of the old world behind. When we do it with our mind, there's no salvation in it. That's what it means by law bringing

death. Because our mind can't do anything. Our emotions don't do any good.

Let's go on with Psalm 63. In verse two David said,

*To see thy power and thy glory, so as I have seen thee in the sanctuary.*

David wants to see the power and glory of God in him. His soul is crying out, his mind is crying out for the living God to come with His power and His glory in him. Isn't that something? In the Old Testament David saw that and cried out for it.

Verse 3-5:

*Because thy lovingkindness is better than life, my lips shall praise thee. Thus will I bless thee while I live: I will lift up my hands in thy name. My soul shall be satisfied as with marrow and fatness; and my mouth shall praise thee with joyful lips:*

Marrow is where the red and white corpuscles are made in the center of the bone. And fatness...when you have fat on you what is that a sign of? It's a sign that you have more than what you need. It used to be that when they saw someone fat they thought, "Wow, they must really be rich that they have enough food to get fat." Now it's the opposite. But if we see and let God quicken us, we can live in a realm where there is great prosperity and fatness of life. What has happened in this world today is that people want the fatness of life without God. They say they want God, but they're after the fatness of God's way of life. Jesus says, "There are wolves who will try to get in some other way and not through the door, that is, through Me." Jesus won't let a wolf in

His shelter. But if the wolf can get in another way, he'll try to get what he wants.

Genesis 1:26

*And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.*

God has given us dominion. That is, power and authority. He's given us power and authority on this earth. We are responsible in that dominion to replenish the earth. It says in verse 27-28,

*So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.*

I used to think this replenishing meant there was another creation or people on the earth before we came here. But now I understand more of the replenishing. God replenishes, or renews, the earth all of the time. So therefore because we are made in the likeness and image of God we are to replenish. If a tree dies, plant another one. That's replenishing the earth. We are caretakers of God's creation. In the very beginning of this creation God expected His creatures, the human race, to be fruitful and multiply. All God does is increase, expand, and multiply. Nothing dies in God. That's the way He made the

creation. So He told us before the fall of man that we are to increase and multiply and expand. That's all God thinks of. He doesn't think of things dying. His realm is everything continues to get bigger and expand and because of that, He needs a people He can trust to do some new things. He has so many things that He needs someone who will be faithful to Him and love Him like a wife to His Son, so they can go and venture out and do a new thing. That's right up my alley. I love adventures. I love doing new things. I love the idea of sitting down and God telling us how to do these things, and looking at it and saying, "Wow. Isn't that awesome?"

Now, it says to be fruitful and multiply and replenish, and to subdue it. Subdue it. Subdue the earth. To subdue means to tread down and to conquer. The dominion it talked about is that we are to be caretakers of all of this.

I thought about David. When David was just a boy out in the shepherd field, a lion came. I thought, "A lion." A lion represents wanting to be king. David was anointed to be a king, but this lion wanted to take him over. David just grabbed him by the beard, (only mature male lions have a beard), smacked him over the head with his stick and killed the lion. Now, you wouldn't do that unless you knew that you were a subduer of the earth and had dominion. You wouldn't do that. And little David out there, he wasn't polluted with the internet. He wasn't polluted with all of the webs of the world. And then the megabytes. You know, you get trapped in a web, and then you're measured by how many megabytes bite you. Something like that. And you can go on. The whole battle is all about the kingdom of satan trapping you and keeping you from God.

Matthew 7:13-14

*Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.*

There will only be a few. Now, they also used the word few in Noah's day. There were only eight that made it into the ark. That would be discouraging if we thought there would be only eight that make it. But in Noah's day, Noah's father died five years before the flood. Noah's grandpa died the year of the flood. And it says that his grandpa had a lot of children, his father had a lot of children, and it was prophesied that Noah would lead them out of the troubles they were in. Yet it was only Noah, his wife, his three sons, and their wives. That's all that made it in. He was the only one in his generations that trusted God. The rest were too busy doing their own thing. God will bless Noah forever because of his labor. The rest of them, many of them will not even be remembered ever again. So we know that in comparison to the numbers of people upon the earth there won't be many who enter His kingdom.

Isaiah 9:7 – Isaiah is prophesying about Jesus coming.

*Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even forever.*

Jesus is coming with government and peace. If you have no peace in you, and you're not increasing in the government of God, something is wrong. Something is wrong. If you're going

out and doing the same things you did before you were “saved,” then something is not right, because the characteristic of God is to be fruitful and multiply and increase. Now, if you can only multiply and increase in the spirit of life that’s in God, but life isn’t increasing in you, you’re not doing anything. There’s no fruit. Because the fruit is life. And if there’s not fruit of that, you’re not saved. You’ve only used your mind, the law, to try to get what you wanted instead of your soul, your mind, will and emotion, bowing down before Jesus the quickening spirit and saying, “I submit to You. Help me get out of this pit and I will serve You and You will be my God.” If that happens then you’ll see life begin to spring forth. The new creation will start to come because you’re birthed into something new, a realm of the spirit. You’re not paying attention to the soul any more.

That is the beginning of sojourning and when that takes place then the four kingdoms of Daniel chapter two begin to be destroyed because Jesus is the rock that was thrown against that statue that tore it to pieces and the wind blew it away and it was no more. So if you’re still loving the world, then you still have that statue in you. Those different kingdoms are still in you. You were birthed into another place but you didn’t leave this world. So you didn’t sojourn. You’re not journeying with God. You’re still doing what you want. You said you were going to bow down and your soul would obey, but you didn’t. And so you break covenant. And at some point God says, “You’re not bearing heavenly fruit, therefore, I’m going to cut you off.” No fruit. He will know you by your fruit.

So, back in Isaiah 9:7,

*Upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even*

*forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.*

God is going to establish His government and peace. There will be no end to it. It's from the throne of David. Just like Abraham birthed faith, David birthed kingship, the throne, and it was ordered, and established with judgment and with justice from henceforth even forever. Now, the zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this. The zeal of the Lord will perform this, and if it's not being performed in you, you're probably not saved. If you still blow up, if you still are worldly...Jesus says in the scripture, in Matthew 15:8,

*This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoreth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me.*

That's all law. You can say all the right things and do all the right things, but if your heart is not in it, you're not saved. You're called a Pharisee. There are a lot of people who do lip service. They say what people want them to say but it doesn't fool God.

Isaiah 9:8

*The Lord sent a word into Jacob, and it hath lighted upon Israel.*

Now, that doesn't seem very big, but it's huge. We know Jacob was a man who did his own thing, yet God spoke to him several times. He went to look for a wife and he ended up with two of them. And on the way back home, after twenty years, he was going to meet his brother who had four hundred warriors riding horses. Word was brought to him that they were all coming to

meet him, and he was scared. So he wrestled with God, and he got right with God. If he were in the New Testament we would say, "Jacob got saved," because he began at that point to sojourn. When he began to sojourn, the four kingdoms that want to destroy the soul began to be lifted off of Jacob. And as he marched that next day, he marched with a limp because God wounded his hip so that he could no longer depend on the physical but he had to depend spiritually upon God. That's how God made sure Jacob would sojourn from that point on. He walked with a limp that just about anyone could overcome him. He couldn't run, he could only hobble along, and it caused him to trust in God. The infirmity that was placed on him kept him in line so that he sojourned the rest of his days. That wasn't his attitude before that.

So, the word was sent Jacob, but it didn't rest on Jacob, did it? It was sent to Jacob when Jacob was still Jacob, but the word had no place to rest until he wrestled with God and got saved. Then it says that it lighted upon Israel. Why? Because when God wrestled with Jacob, He said, "I'm going to change your name from Jacob to Israel." That's the refined. The one who has the living God in him. So, that word rested upon Israel, and government and peace came on Israel. Because he couldn't do anything except, "If I get killed, I get killed, if God wants me to stay alive, He'll protect me." And he lived to be an old man.

Ephesians 6:12

*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.*

Paul experienced a battle that flesh and blood cannot fight. But it took the quickening spirit, which is throwing that rock against the four kingdoms satan made to fight against your soul; against principalities, powers in the air, and rulers of darkness in this world, and spiritual wickedness in high places.

He experienced a different kind of a battle when he became quickened. When we are quickened into a different realm of the spirit we can see Jesus, who is spirit and cannot be seen by the world. Now, if we can see Jesus, we can see the spiritual world. And we can see the kingdoms of this world and how they operate. Those are the ones who learn how to do spiritual warfare. Those are the ones who are going to be Joel's army, who will cause the kingdoms of this world to become the kingdoms of our Lord and Savior. You know, there are a lot of people who don't want to serve God because they think it's boring. But this spiritual warfare is extremely exciting.

We see all the different video games and movies that are out in the world, even the little cartoons. Most of those things were not dreamed up by a person. Someone was stoned with some kind of drug and they saw the characters in the spirit and they saw how they act. For instance, batman was not dreamed up by somebody, they saw it in the spirit and they created batman to be like what was actually in the realm of the spirit. He's in charge of certain things and he works for the devil. Those who think that going into all of these different fantasy games is just having fun, they're wrong. They're being trained to do battle against God's kingdom. That's why today the power has left the church. The church has left the spiritual realms of God and they've been caught in the internet. They've been caught in the webs. Whatever it is that

you've been caught into, you've been numbed just like a spider traps his prey in the web. He comes and numbs it, and then he wraps his web around it, and puts his eggs inside and when the spiders hatch, they eat up the live paralyzed prey. That's exactly what the devil does to us. We see it on halloween. They have webs with a spider, and they think it's funny. I guess if you think being eaten up by little devils is funny, then it's funny. But to me, it's a warfare. It's a battle. We don't just beat the air, but we see these things. You say, "Well that can't be." But yes, it is. You not only can, if you don't see it, you can't do anything.

We're called to subdue the earth. A lot of people think, "If I just get saved I'll make it to heaven." But God said, "I've put you here, now you be fruitful." The first thing He said, "I've given you dominion over the earth, now you be fruitful." And then God says, "If you're not fruitful, I'll cut you off. And you won't be part of who I am." If you're not bearing the kind of fruit the scripture says we are to have, then you're not a part of Him. It doesn't matter whether you started out; it matters how you finish. Because Jesus is the vine and the branch is you, if you don't bear fruit the Father comes along and cuts you off, puts you in the fire, and you're gone.

Spiritual warfare is part of who you are in God. That's what we've been called to do. We're not called to sit around and wait for Jesus to come and do everything. He's done His part. It's up to those who are born again. Those who have been quickened into the realm of the spirit, who are not holy bums, but are laborers for Him will destroy wickedness and be a furnace, a burning up. You know, we used to call it the revival fire. We're a furnace that burns up wickedness. But if you're carnal you won't burn anything up. So man makes ways to get people saved and they aren't saved at all, because there is no fire. We were made in the

likeness and image of God and we are supposed to be a ball of fire in a furnace. Full of God, full of His presence. That's gone. But we can get it back.

I would just like to say it's very hard to be saved. I'll tell you why it's hard. It's hard to give up your will. But that's all that's hard. It's very easy to be saved because God will save every one that wants Him, that wants to live with Him. But the hard thing is giving up what you want to do for someone else. In the fallen state we're like satan, and he wants to do what he wants to do. That's why he was kicked out of heaven. Therefore the character of mankind upon the earth is, "I'm going to be rebellious and do what I want." But in God's kingdom, it's obedience, obedience, obedience. And if the obedience is not there, and the willingness to serve Him so that he can take you out of that place of captivity, to life everlasting, if you're not willing to do that, then there's nothing he can do, because you can't do it on your own. Flesh does not give birth to spirit, but spirit gives birth to spirit. Therefore if the Spirit of God would come on you and you would begin to repent and cry out, "God, forgive me, I give you my soul, I give you my will, I give you my mind, and I give you my emotions for you to take over and to get me out of where I'm at to live with you forever." That's what I want, and if that is what you want, and that's what you literally do, then salvation will come to your soul, and your soul will be saved and full of joy and hope of eternal life, and at that point he will give you everlasting life as long as you stay faithful to the end. He doesn't want anyone to be lost. He has so much. God is so wealthy. He's willing to share that wealth with anyone who loves Him.

Why would anyone exchange this world for their soul? Isn't that what it says in the scripture? Why would anybody exchange a little pleasure of your flesh for an eternity to be with God? And

even if you come to God in a wrong attitude; remember the word went to Jacob, but it didn't rest on Jacob. And if you will look in the scripture it says that all of Israel will be saved. You know what people think? That means everybody that's a Jew is going to be saved. No, it's all Israel, that is, those who wrestled with God and received Jesus into their heart; they all will be saved. But not all Jews will be saved. All those who have been refined, have started sojourning, and are destroying the four kingdoms, are the ones who will be with God forever and ever into eternal life.

May God make your place right now a decisive moment that you will say yes to the living God and let Him remove you from this wicked world into the everlasting life forever with Him.

## The Heavenly Economy

**I**t is important to remove all unauthorized authority in our lives. The reason is so God would place *His* authority in our lives. There won't be a monetary economy in heaven. Instead, there will be authority. Jesus didn't say, "I'm going to lay hands on you for the anointing." He said, "I give you authority to cast out, to drive out, to heal, and to raise the dead." It was authority. When He comes back He will have a work for every person, what they will be and do for all eternity, which is authority. That's the economy. If you have no authority, you won't have any work to do. Authority is an extremely serious matter and the only way you can get authority from God is to get rid of other authorities that rule your life, that in God are unauthorized authorities.

How can God trust you in authority? What one thing would there be that you could do that God could trust you with authority? The key is that God has placed the covenant in your heart. It's the heart which does the labor, whatever the will decides. If the will says this is what we're going to do, the heart will labor to do the will that's set. If the mind sets the will, when the going gets rough the mind says, "I see a way out." And then you're gone. But God set the covenant in the heart so that if you

set your will to obey the covenant then the covenant takes over the mind, the will, and the emotion; the soul. Then you love from that covenant. When you love from that covenant there is a hope that is everlasting because the covenant is everlasting. But if it's out of the mind and even out of the will of the soul, it's not everlasting, so it can't endure.

There are very few people who love anything out of their heart. In Isaiah God told the children of Israel their love for Him was like the love of harvest, or the love of bounty when you win a war. There is joy for a season. When the harvest comes there is celebration, but you don't celebrate it all year long. You celebrate it for a day or so and it's done. If I give my wife some flowers, it will last a week or two and then it's over, unless that joy is put in her heart and it will last forever. So what isn't placed in the heart, in the covenant, is not everlasting. We try to serve the Lord out of law which brings death. Law is trying to read the scripture and follow it according to our mind's understanding, but we cannot do that because our mind cannot perceive the things of the Spirit. So we have to be spoken to from the covenant of the heart. But the covenant can't speak to you when your mind is loud, trying to figure everything out, so you have to silence the mind. Spiritual forces of the mind try to come on us and make our flesh busy. We have to be in quietness of the heart so we can hear and He can speak to us. If quietness doesn't take place, you will never hear God. If you haven't set your will to follow the covenant there's no reason for Him to speak to you.

If you make up your mind to do something, and you set it in your will, it's carnal. It's not everlasting. But if you hear through the covenant of your heart, and you set your will to do that thing that was spoken through the covenant, then it becomes everlasting. The everlasting God begins to shape you and equip you to do an

everlasting work. Otherwise it's not worth anything.

We need to understand authority so we can increase our capacity to function in the hereafter. We learn to do that here on this earth. Not in the afterlife, because He's going to come and give us the work that we're going to do before we get there. Revelation 22:12-16 says:

*And, Behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last. Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city. For without are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie. I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star.*

It's very similar to a man who God gives the opportunity to run a city. If you do a good job, He'll give you ten cities. What does that mean? It means that He's looking for someone to give authority to, which is wealth. You don't own anything. Everything is God's. The only thing that you will have is the level of authority God releases upon you now that is eternal. Anything God gives you that is eternal can't be removed from you. The only way it can be removed from you is if the covenant is broken. If you're obedient to the covenant to the end, then at the end God will give you everything He promised He'd give you. But if you break covenant at any point, scripture says that even the things you did that were everlasting will be removed from you because you broke covenant and therefore God can part from all of the promises that He promised you, and rightfully so. If that wouldn't be the

case, then God would be raising up a whole bunch of satans again. Do you think God would do that?

Let's just stop and think about this. If authority is the money for our next economy, what would that entail? The first thing that comes to my mind is that God is wanting to expand His kingdom. He's made some things that have not entered into the mind of man or anyone else what He's preparing because He's expanding something like this earth that has never been. He's using this earth as a testing ground to see who He can release authority upon that will increase what has been in His heart for a long, long time. He's acting in response to what He has in His heart, some of the mysteries of God. He wants a people who He can release authority upon to implement and to bring about what it is that is in His heart to do. I have no idea what that is, except that I know that the economy that's coming is authority. There isn't anything else for us. If everything is His, and everything is done His way, the only people who He can trust are those who have kept the covenant of the heart and were obedient to walk in the level of authority He gave them. When we are obedient to that level of authority, He says, "Ok, I'll give you ten times more authority." You know, the first authority might be, "I've given you the covenant in your heart. Will you be obedient just to Me? Just you and Me?" Until one day He'll say, "I'm going to give you authority over this little thing and see how you do." And then if you're obedient to that He'll give you a little more, and a little more. That is going from glory to glory, from authority to authority.

With all of this in mind, if you want to be valuable in the kingdom of God, then we need to know what authority is. In Matthew 7:28-29 it says,



*And it came to pass, when Jesus had ended these sayings, the people were astonished at his doctrine: for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.*

The difference between book learning and knowing in your heart is huge. Book learning is of the mind but Jesus was of the heart. He was the covenant of the heart. So when Jesus spoke they said, "Wow! He isn't even close to the scribes." The scribes were the ones who were supposed to be godly and interpret what the scriptures meant. But the people said, "He isn't like the scribes. He speaks like He has authority. Where did He get this? How did He acquire it?"

John 10:17-18: (Jesus is speaking out of authority.)

*Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again. No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father.*

The Father gave Him a commandment: "Lay Your life down and You can pick it back up." So Jesus walked in that covenant, and it gave Him great authority. That's how He received authority. He walked in a commandment that He was going to serve the Lord with His heart and He became absolute. "No man can take this from Me. I willfully lay it down and then when I lay it down and die for you, I then will pick it back up three days later, and I will be changed forever. The reason that's going to happen is because My Father gave Me that commandment." The commandment was for Him to lay down His life and then pick it back up. But the commandment also was to the Spirit of life

in God, in Jesus, so that when He let them kill Him, the Spirit of life would raise Him back up. That is a twofold thing in any commandment. He says, "If you obey my commandment, then the commandment will bring you to the place that I've called you." So when a commandment comes, if you don't lay down your life for that commandment, it can't resurrect you into the new place, which is a covenant. You can't do it out of the mind. You can't do it out of the will, you can't do it out of the emotion. You can't do it out of anything other than the covenant that's in your heart. So how important is it to love God from the heart? Without it, you're done. Without it you can't make it to the end, because out of the great tribulation many souls are going to be saved. Some of you, many of you are going to have to change the way you love God. You won't make it. You may love God in some ways, but in some ways you are still under the will of your soul and your flesh. He says, "Love Me with *ALL* of your heart."

I went before the Lord, and I said, "Lord, You made a covenant with me. I'm going to lay everything down so that you can reshape me into the vessel that is required to accomplish the commandment You gave me." And I began to see what it was to be reshaped. I saw a cross where the perfection of that call needs to be, but I saw a whole bunch of strings, I saw a lot of hindrances that had to be removed for me to get from here to there. There are things that we are taught that were misunderstood and that aren't necessarily the way it is. There are things we are doing that hinder us from being allowed to have authority because of things we are taught in just daily life. Not necessarily something that would keep us from eternity, but something that would keep us from the call. I realized that I had to go to a different level of death and quietness to allow those things to be removed that are hindering me from the high call.

We need to be crying out for God to show us and to make a way so that the covenant of our heart has a road to go down that will get us to our destination, and to remove all of the things we've done that will hinder it. I often pray, "Lord, remove the hindrances." When we push away the cleansing process, we push away our wealth for all eternity.

Jesus could say, "No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again." Now, He had never tried it. It was never tried until He went on the cross, but the commandment He received of His Father was set.

Matthew 8:5-9:

*And when Jesus was entered into Capernaum, there came unto him a centurion, beseeching him, and saying Lord, my servant lieth at home sick of the palsy, grievously tormented. And Jesus saith unto him, I will come and heal him. The centurion answered and said, Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldest come under my roof: but speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed. For I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me: and I say to this man, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it.*

The centurion didn't know that the word is energy; he just knew Jesus walked in authority. So he describes to Jesus his authority. "When I speak to this person, go there, or to this person, come here, they do it because I have authority. So if You just speak the word, it will be done, because You're like me. I'm an earthly authority, and You're a spiritual heavenly authority. I can't do the spiritual healing, but You can, because you have spiritual

authority. I just have this man come and this man do that, but You have the authority of heaven to change my servant.” And Jesus said, “Wow! I haven’t found any person that has such great faith and understands authority like you do.” How did this centurion get that much faith? He got it because he walked in authority and knew what authority was. Because he walked in authority, he could also recognize authority, and he said to that authority (Jesus), “You just speak the word and it will be done, because I understand authority.” So if you don’t have authority, you don’t have any faith, because authority has never worked in your life.

It’s just like having a child obey. If you don’t have authority in it, it won’t do you any good. Authority comes from obedience. It’s given to you very similar to the way righteousness is given. Righteousness is credited to those who are obedient. Righteousness is a level of authority, but when God says, “I give you authority,” then it’s set. When God says, “Take it,” then it’s set, if it’s set in your heart. When it’s put in the mind, it’s quickly gone. But when it’s put in the heart it lasts. Then when the time comes for the covenant to be fulfilled, it will begin to stir and come forth.

Matthew 20:25

*But Jesus called them unto him, and said, Ye know that the princes of the Gentiles exercise dominion over them, and they that are great exercise authority upon them. But it shall not be so among you: but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister; And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant: Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.*

That’s what authority will bring you into. Not dominion over

people, but over the kingdom of satan to loosen and set others free so they can go to the same throne of grace that you do. That's what authority is for. And Isaiah says it very well, to loosen the captives, those that are in prisons. That's what the authority is given for now. But when the Lord comes back, you'll be given a new authority because that work will be done. You'll be ushered into a new work according to the faith and authority and righteousness in which you walked upon the earth. Matthew 20:16 says,

*So the last shall be first, and the first last: for many be called, but few chosen.*

We won't be chosen until we get into this place that I'm talking about. We can't be trusted with all authority.

Matthew 21:18-22:

*Now in the morning as he returned into the city, he hungered. And when he saw a fig tree in the way, he came to it, and found nothing thereon, but leaves only, and said unto it, Let no fruit grow on thee henceforward forever. And presently the fig tree withered away. And when the disciples saw it, they marveled, saying, How soon is the fig tree withered away! Jesus answered and said unto them, Verily I say unto you, If ye have faith, and doubt not, ye shall not only do this which is done to the fig tree, but also if ye shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; it shall be done. And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive.*

Many in the church today are doing this to acquire wealth for themselves, which is not increasing His kingdom. Therefore they

are stealing the power of God to get wealth.

Verse 23-27:

*And when he was come into the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came unto him as he was teaching, and said, By what authority doest thou these things? And who gave thee this authority? And Jesus answered and said unto them, I also will ask you one thing, which if ye tell me, I in likewise will tell you by what authority I do these things. The baptism of John, whence was it? From heaven, or of men? And they reasoned with themselves, saying, If we shall say, From heaven; he will say unto us, Why did ye not then believe him? But if we shall say, Of men; we fear the people; for all hold John as a prophet. And they answered Jesus, and said, We cannot tell. And he said unto them, neither tell I you by what authority I do these things.*

Why didn't Jesus tell them where the authority came from? Because they had no authority to ask Him. If He would have answered them, He would have submitted to them. I read this same passage in Mark's gospel (Mark 11), and in that God just opened it up where I saw the absolute of Mark saying this, and it was a rock. "If you have faith." And that faith was just like a rock. I said, "Lord, that's what I need." What he said was absolute. There wasn't any doubt. When you speak out of the heart, there is authority.

Luke 9:1-5:

*Then he called his twelve disciples together, and gave them power and authority over all devils, and to cure diseases. And he sent them to preach the kingdom of God, and to heal the sick. And he said unto them, Take nothing for your journey, neither staves, nor scrip, neither*

*bread, neither money; neither have two coats apiece. And whatsoever house ye enter into, there abide, and thence depart. And whosoever will not receive you, when ye go out of that city, shake off the very dust from your feet for a testimony against them.*

He gave them power. If you don't have power in your authority, there's no strength. But He gave them power and authority. When God sends us, we will walk in power and authority. Scripture says, "How can we go if we haven't been sent?" We could go somewhere, but we wouldn't have any power or authority. But if we're sent, if we are commissioned and commanded to do something, we will have the power and authority to fulfill it.

Luke 19:12-13:

*He said therefore, A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom, and to return. And he called his ten servants, and delivered them ten pounds, and said unto them, Occupy till I come.*

He took ten servants and gave them each a pound of money. And he took off and went on a journey to acquire another kingdom. And he said to his servants, "Now you occupy." To occupy means to prosper in what you've been given.

Verse 14-26:

*But his citizens hated him, and sent a message after him, saying, We will not have this man to reign over us. And it came to pass, that when he was returned, having received the kingdom, then he commanded these servants to be called unto him, to whom he had given the money,*

*that he might know how much every man had gained by trading. Then came the first, saying, Lord, thy pound hath gained ten pounds. And he said unto him, Well, thou good servant: because thou hast been faithful in a very little, have thou authority over ten cities. And the second came, saying, Lord, thy pound hath gained five pounds. And he said likewise to him, Be thou also over five cities. And another came, saying, Lord, behold, here is thy pound, which I have kept laid up in a napkin: For I feared thee, because thou art an austere man: thou takest up that thou laidst not down, and reapest that thou didst not sow. And he saith unto him, Out of thine own mouth will I judge thee, thou wicked servant. Thou knewest that I was an austere man, taking up that I laid not down, and reaping that I did not sow: Wherefore then gavest not thou my money into the bank, that at my coming I might have required mine own with usury? And he said unto them that stood by, Take from him the pound, and give it to him that hath ten pounds. (And they said unto him, Lord, he hath ten pounds.) For I say unto you, That unto every one which hath shall be given; and from him that hath not, even that he hath shall be taken away from him.*

If you stay in complacency, and decide you are going to camp from now on and take it easy, God will remove from you the talents that He gave you and give them to someone else and you will be lacking authority. You see, it says in Isaiah 9:7 that the government on Jesus' shoulders is constantly on the increase. That means no complacency in your love affair with God. No time to mess around. It's always increasing. Verse 27 of Luke 19 finalizes it:

*But those mine enemies, which would not that I should reign over them, bring hither, and slay them before me.*



His enemies were the seven who were left, who took the money and spent it on themselves. They didn't have any money. It was all gone. At least the third one saved his life. He lost his authority, but he wasn't destroyed. Jesus gave them everlasting life, but they just spent it on themselves. They didn't increase His kingdom. They spent the anointing, the blessings that they had in His kingdom on themselves. So He destroyed them. He gave them everlasting life, and they took that everlasting life to increase themselves and to build their own kingdom because they weren't going to let God reign over them. Think of all the churches who are building their own kingdom, who are using the money God gave them for their own gain. Not only did they lose their authority, they lost their everlasting life.

John 5:24:

*Verily, verily, I say unto you, he that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.*

The word is a seed. When you believe on Him, the word enters in you and begins to grow. But if your believing isn't transferred from the mind to the heart, even though you got the seed, you could lose the seed of salvation depending on the condition of your soil. In the parable of the four soils, the first one doesn't even sprout. The birds come along and eat it from the wayside. The second one is stony, shallow soil. The third one is full of weeds, not prepared. The fourth one is prepared and precious and taken care of, keeping the world out so that it doesn't choke out the seed of God until it can get big enough to become mighty.

Verse 25-27:

AND THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD

*Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live. For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself; And hath given him authority to execute judgment also, because he is the Son of man.*

In Christ Jesus we then also have the authority to release judgment. If we're following the covenant of the heart and we are obedient so that He can trust us, He will give us also authority to establish judgment upon the earth. We'll not steal, like the seven men did. Three were faithful, at least not to spend it on themselves. But the two that really did a good job were the ones who increased it five and ten times. They received their new authority according to their fruit.

I Corinthians 15:19:

*If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable.*

If we just have hope that someday we'll walk in authority when Christ comes back, we're going to be the most miserable people in the world. We don't hope for authority when He comes back, we hope for authority while we're alive here to learn authority and to walk in it and to develop authority so we will have wealth in eternity according to the authority that God establishes in us and our faithfulness to walk in it. Verse 20 says:

*But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept.*

Jesus is the first fruit of those that die to themselves and are quickened into the heavenlies. He's the first fruit, but we will follow Him and also bear fruit like He is.

Verse 21-23:

*For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. But everyman in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward, they that are Christ's at his coming.*

When Christ comes to you, and bids you to do His will, and brings commandments and covenants with Him to give to you, and you take them lightly, that's a sad thing. But every one of you are still alive, and God says, "If you will repent, I will come and remove those things that hinder you." You can start by being obedient and then at some point God will begin to give you authority, even though it may be small and build, like everyone else has to do.

Verse 24:

*Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power.*

It doesn't mean that He will put down all of our authority and power, because that is authorized. He's going to remove all unauthorized rule, authority, and power, because God has set up His courthouse and He's going to start opening the books and judging the earth. He's going to need those who are under His

authority to release the judgments so that it can bring separation to those who are under the authority of God versus the authority of the world. But when it's all done, verse 25 says:

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

The businessman who had ten servants, and gave a pound to each one, only had two who were really faithful that he could put his trust in. He had a third one who he didn't kill, but he didn't give him any cities. He didn't give him any authority, but his life was saved. I don't want to go that way. There are victories that can only be won here in this life, and not in eternity. I often think of that. There are victories that are waiting for me to take them and they won't be available after we're on the other side.

Titus 2:12-15:

*Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Savior Jesus Christ; Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works. These things speak, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no man despise thee.*

If God has put us in a place of authority, we are to encourage and rebuke with all authority. That is, don't tiptoe around it, speak it as it is because you have authority, and don't let anyone that you exhort or rebuke intimidate you, because He's given you authority over this matter. Proper authority brings order, and peace and quietness to the soul.

I've given you an introduction to the new monetary system that will be in eternity. It's up to you if you want to keep your authority in a napkin and when the Lord comes, say "Look, here's the authority you gave me, the power to increase. I was afraid. I didn't step out and start to use it, so therefore, here it is." The other two were given greater authority, and the other seven, not so good. The choice is yours. What do you want? Jesus said, "Buy of Me gold and silver." How are you going to buy gold and silver? By walking in a realm where He can release His authority upon you. That's gold and silver, the economy of the future.

# Prophetic Word Given to Believers

July 22, 2012

For I call you says the Lord, into the reverence and fear of My Holiness. For I call you to walk in a way that is unknown to the ways of man, unknown to the ways of the earth. I call you upon a path that is precious and holy unto Me says God. Come and I'll teach you the fear of the Lord, I'll teach you My ways that are higher than your ways. Surely as you set your foot upon the path, the healing oil will flow into the depths of your heart, to the depths of your soul, that you might be fully Mine and that I might fully restore that which the enemy has stolen. That which the enemy has destroyed and that which you know not, you shall surely know, that which you see not, you shall surely see. For I see from the foundations of the earth and the beginnings of creation what I've called you to. Even the depths that you have not known shall I restore unto you says God. For I've issued a decree and a call and a cry and a commandment that sin shall not prevail against Me and sin shall not have dominion over My people says God. Such is My word that goeth forth from My mouth, it shall not return unto Me void and empty. Surely does My word move and flow upon the path. And surely your salvation is to pursue the word and overtake it, consume it within your being. Consume it not in your flesh but consume it in your heart that it will bring forth fruit. For that which is consumed in the flesh shall fall by the wayside. That which is given of the heart shall have eternal everlasting joy. Apply thine ears and heart to understanding.