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A WORD ABOUT THE GIFT OF PROPHECY

Let me begin by saying that a person who prophesies is not necessarily a prophet. It could be said this way: the **gift** of prophecy listed in 1 Corinthians 12 (also known as a distribution of the Spirit) is not limited to, or manifested through the prophetic ministry only.

The gift of prophecy we're talking about here could be defined simply as a divinely inspired utterance; something spoken, written or played music-ally, while under the inspiration of, or influenced by the Holy Spirit to do so. Peter said that scripture came by this gift: *"knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit"* (2 Peter 1:20-21). I think this verse is pretty self-explanatory. So we see that scripture came as these men of God were "moved by" (or influenced by) the Holy Spirit.

Another way this truth is brought out can be found in 2 Timothy 3 verse 16: *"All Scripture (is) given by inspiration of God..."* It could be said that God used the vehicle of prophecy to get His mind, will and purpose over to His beloved creation: man. He did so through man as they were inspired, or influenced by His Holy Spirit to speak or to write.

We find in the New Testament that this **distribution** or **vehicle** has a much broader scope of use and is available to all who have received the gift of the Holy Spirit as spelled out in the book of Acts: *"..Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit...And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied"* (2:38 and 19:6), and 1 Corinthians 14:1 & 5: *"Pursue love, and desire spiritual (gifts), but especially that you may prophesy...I wish **you all** spoke with tongues, but even more that you prophesied."*

Why would Paul, writing by the influence of the Holy Spirit, say these things about this gift of prophecy? Because *"he who prophesies speaks edification and exhortation and comfort to men"* (verse 3). So we see that this gift will edify, exhort and comfort mankind. This thought is further expounded on in Ephesians chapter five verses eighteen and nineteen: *"And do not be drunk with wine in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord."*

Colossians 3:16 says something similar: *"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to*

the Lord.” Notice that in both accounts the Word of God says to speak to one another -- to the Lord. After all, we are the Body of Christ and He is the Head, so what we do to and for each other we do to and for Him!

A very important point I would like to make here is this gift being connected to the word of Christ (or we could say the Word of God) dwelling in us richly. This agrees with Romans 12:6 which says: *"Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, (let us use them:) if prophecy, (let us prophesy) in proportion to our faith."* For, *"faith (comes) by hearing, and hearing by the word of God"* (Romans 10:17). So then the more of the Word of God that dwells in an individual the greater proportion of faith they'll have to prophecy with. When this gift is influenced by the Holy Spirit, He will always lift up Jesus as Lord. [See 1 Kings 18:29 for the satanic counterfeit of this gift.]

Now let's notice the response of the angel to the apostle John in the book of Revelation when he fell at his feet to worship him for showing him *"the true sayings of God"* (19:9). *"See (that you do) not (do that!) I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren who have the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy"* (19:10).

1 Corinthians 12:3 says that those who are speaking by the Spirit of God will say that Jesus is Lord. In other words, these two scriptures are saying that the person who is operating in the gift of prophecy will magnify the Lordship of Jesus [who is the Word made flesh (John 1:1 & Rev. 19:13)].

Finally I would like to relate to the anointing. Jesus said in John's Gospel account: *"He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water."* Then John expounds on what He was saying in the next verse: *"But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet (given), because Jesus was not yet glorified"* (7:38-39). I believe that these rivers spoken of here are listed in 1 Corinthians 12, which we have come to call the gifts of the Spirit. I further believe that each 'river' (gift) has many rivers (channels or branches) by which they are expressed (manifested).

We've already seen in this teaching that this gift of prophecy is manifested by speaking and/or writing by the influence of the Holy Spirit. We could call this "influence" as being anointed by the Holy Spirit. I also said this gift is also used for playing a musical instrument. 1 Chronicles 25:1 says: *"Moreover David and the captains of the army separated for the service (some) of the sons of Asaph, of Herman, and of Jeduthun, who (should) prophesy with harps, stringed instruments, and Cymbals."* I think this says it pretty plainly.

Let's summarize all of this teaching by saying if somebody is either

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speaking, writing or playing musical instruments by the influence (anointing) of the Holy Spirit, they are operating in this gift of prophecy and Jesus will be exalted as Lord! If you have received Jesus as your Lord and have received the gift of the Holy Spirit, you, too, can (and should) prophecy. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly and go edify somebody (including yourself!). The following writings came by this gift. It's my hope and expectation you'll be blessed and encouraged!!
M L

PROPHECIES AND POEMS

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PROPHECIES AND POEMS

© 2004/06 Michael Leach d/b/a Call of the Spirit Publications (updated and published 2006)

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A WORD BEFORE RHEMA

This Word of the Lord came to me one night in my apartment after I had just registered to attend RHEMA Bible Training Center. Specifically it was 12:19 a.m. on September 12th. 1986 (I knew you'd want to know). I've heard Bro. Kenneth E. Hagin say many times that the Lord will give you these things to help you through the tough times...he was right!

Oh in the midst of adversity
when things seemingly aren't going my way.
I can look unto Jesus,
my love,
with His arms open wide
and hearing Him say:
"Michael, My son,
be of good cheer,
you would not have made it this far
had I not brought you here.
When trials and tests
come up against your faith,
take your rest in My arms of love,
I'll always give you what it takes.
So look up,
press forward
and fight the good fight,
despite what the enemy has cried,
for when you look back
to these days in remembrance
you'll know
I was right by your side!"

THE ONE WHO LIVES INSIDE

This is the first lengthy poem given to me. It came during a time of depression. I personally think the devil knows when there's a call on your life and he try's very hard to keep you from walking out the plan of God for your life. After all he cannot steal the anointing from you (he's not the one who gave it) but if he can keep you from walking in the fullness of what God has provided then he has nothing to worry about. Depression is one of his favorite tools to use on us, but thanks be to God who **ALWAYS** causes us to triumph in Christ Jesus! He has provided weapons that are not carnal to cast down reasoning's that are contrary to His plan and purpose. One of these weapons is the gift of prophecy to speak encouragement to yourself. This one came October 27, 1989 at 12:30 - 1:00 a.m.

When it seems so dark and lonely inside -- vacant and hollow, empty and blind. There's no one that's near you, they've all gone to hide.

Yet that soft gentle prompting from the Greater One within, the nudging that tells you to draw closer to Him.

"It's in the word, you know, the grace that'll set you free. That flow of eternal life that only comes from knowing Me."

So I turn to the Holy Scripture to get my fix from God above.

And what happens?

My God, He fills me to overflowing with His love!

It's not fun getting bitten, mauled and scratched at by the snake. At the time your life feels like it's going through a major earth-quake.

You don't want to reach out to others telling them what you're going through. Somehow you convince yourself there's nothing they can do.

I thank my God for the Friend who sticks closer than a brother.

For like Him - there is none else - that's it, there is no other!

So learn a lesson from times of heartache my friend. Jesus is the only One who truly loves you to the end. When you feel bad because you finally broke down and cried. All you have to do is look to the One who lives inside.

Thank you, Jesus!

JUST A WHISPER AWAY

Much of the time, when a poem is given to me, I'll start to get the first line. Then I'll turn on the word processor and begin typing. The rest will just flow out as I type. The following is an example of this, written Sept. 6th. 1994.

I've gone through many friends in my life.
Lord knows, I've seen a lot of strife.
Sometimes I'm not sure what it takes to please us.
But then there came a day,
when salvation came my way
and I found a forever Friend in Jesus.
You see, I knew all along
He was the music to my song,
yet I refused to sing His chorus.
He so patiently endured
the rejections He incurred.
How can one wonder if He's really for us?
Even now I sing off key,
while He teaches patiently
that we don't have to be perfect to serve Him.
So I let His comfort in
and let the healing process begin.
Then together we get back on track to win.
Please meet this Man from Galilee.
You know, He died for you and me.
He's not an ogre as some would have you think.
He gave His life so we could come
to the Father Who gave His only Son.
Now the wells of salvation are open for all to freely drink.
There's so much more I could tell
about the One Who saved my life from hell,
volumes couldn't hold all I would have to say.
One thing I know for sure.
When it comes time to endure,
my Friend is just a whisper away!

WALKING IN THE GARDEN

I heard the words “Walking in the Garden” inside of me and I knew it was time for another poem to be written. This is one of my personal favorites. It came in December of 1994.

Walking in the Garden,
in the cool of the day.
Waiting for Your Voice to come,
to hear what You would say.
This daily task I find myself
anticipating with joy.
Like a father who speaks to his son
while just a little boy.
The time we spend together
is so precious to me.
By quiet streams and green grasses
are the places where You lead.
Sometimes I hear You say things
that I just don't understand.
My flesh rejects the *suggestion*
while my heart accepts the **command**.
It's not always easy to obey You
when I really count the cost.
But then Your Spirit reminds me
where I'd be if I were still lost.
So not knowing what lies ahead
of this next step of faith,
I look to Your Word which says
I can do all things by Your grace.
Please help me in these times of doubt
when fear tries to creep in.
My heart's desire is to serve You, Lord,
and not to give in to sin.
Thank You for the promised victory to those who will obey.
And the chance to talk with You in the Garden yet another day.

REVELATION

This poem came to me on a Tuesday night in May of 1995. I read it to my friend (who was the Music Ministry leader) on the way to the Wednesday evening service. He said I should read it during the worship portion of the service. I did so, and the Glory fell!

The glowing Light of revelation.
The shining Star of every nation.
The King to come, so bright with power.
Demons tremble with fright this hour.
They know their time is closing fast.
They hoped to make their ruling last.
By blinding minds they took our Light
and turned our love walk into a fight.
So now, instead of calling one "brother"
we're writing books against each other.
"A Kingdom divided, it will not stand"
was the Master's warning, but the devil's plan.
Yet we knew better and would not listen.
And so came the time for God to chasten.
We know it's not easy to be disciplined.
But remember, it comes to turn us from sin.
Be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.
Put back on your armor and return to the fight!
He said He won't leave you, so wipe off that frown.
Lift up your hands, don't let them hang down.
Pray for the sick and watch them recover.
Don't be a gossip, just love one another.
Hope always, love always, believe only the best.
Return to your God and He'll give you His rest.
Diligently seek out the God of creation
and He'll flood your heart with His revelation.

LOVE IS THE KEY

Many of these poems are prophetic in nature. The Lord is wanting to get the word out about His soon return. This poem tells of the key given to the body of Christ that will get the job done, for His glory! It, too, came in the month of May, 1995.

Love is the key that will open all doors.
To the hearts of men, whether stiff as a board.
To open the deaf ear, or the eye that can't see.
Faith brings the power, but love is the key.
Hope that's deferred will make the heart sick.
And words without love are like swallowing a brick.
Even the strong cannot hide from its power.
When love is conveyed, even enemies will cower.
Nothing has lasted through time like this key.
The time that's to come, the rule it shall be.
For our God above will speak the last word.
From His heart of love will the message be heard.
Yes, judgment is coming, to abolish all sin.
So please heed this warning and cling closely to Him.
For He will not leave you without His provision.
But it's only there for those who'll listen.
If you count your neighbor or loved ones more dear,
Then this word won't reach you, because you can't hear.
Don't look to the heavens, apart from Christ Jesus.
God's love had sent Him, that same love that frees us.
There isn't a person that God will not save,
Whatever they look like or how they behave.
He gave all free will to choose His salvation.
It's not just for one, but for every nation.
So, tell all the world -- proclaim liberty!
The way that it's done - God's love is the key.

AN EARNEST PRAYER

I've found that there is no particular pattern as to how or when or where these poems come to me. This one came to me while my wife and I were in Tulsa attending Kenneth Hagins' Camp meeting, July of 1995. I was laying out by the hotel's pool when I heard it "brewing" inside me...so I grabbed my pen and paper, and started writing.

Dear Lord, please help me find my place.
I know it's somewhere inside Your grace.
I've looked and looked and looked all around.
There's nowhere else that it can be found.
I've tried putting my hands to this work or that.
But it was just like a dog who was trying to be a cat.
There's no satisfaction being out of Your will.
I know just how Jack felt before he met Jill.
I see the works done by my family in Christ,
And I know to compare myself with them isn't right.
I'm hurting and aching to know what to do.
So, I'm praying this prayer in earnest to You.
I've found to be anxious won't make my path clear.
For it's only Your voice that I need to hear.
My strength is renewed when upon You I wait,
And whatever You give me to do will be great.
I choose now to serve You -- not to question Your voice.
Your peace will surround me in making that choice.
I worship and praise You, O God of my heart.
And promise to obey You by doing my part.

DON'T GIVE UP!

This poem took about two weeks to complete. Sometimes it works that way with me, I'll get a line or two and then nothing for awhile. But yet you some-how know on the inside of you that you're not quite done with this one, so you wait for the rest to come. This one was that way. Written August of '95.

Don't give up, when the circumstances look like they won't change.

Even when all that's around you is speaking the same.

Don't give up, when the checkbook is lighter than the bills,
and the postman brings more to make that mound into a hill.

Don't give up, when the doctor comes and gives the bad report
and tries to tell you removal is the last resort.

Don't give up, when your boss tells you that someone else has got the job.

Then you go home to tell your family and they begin to sob.

Don't give up, when death comes and it strikes a fatal blow.

It came to take a loved one or someone else you know.

Don't give up, when it seems like you're the only one around,
and comfort from a loved one or a friend cannot be found.

Don't give up, when Satan seems to come in like a flood.

For Jesus was given to shed His precious blood.

Don't give up, He didn't die that death for us in vain.

He did it to carry away our sicknesses and pain.

Don't give up, He arose that morning from the grave.

Now mankind can come to God and be saved.

Don't give up, He's seated at the Father's right hand,
and provided a way for us *in Him* to stand.

Don't give up, He's getting ready to come back for His bride.

The Church will then be with Him forever by His side.

Don't give up, if you've not made Jesus Christ your Lord,
His invitation is for you to come on and climb aboard.

THE ONE THAT I LOVE

In the midst of writing all of these poems the Lord allowed me to have one that was personal for my wife Cindy. While it was specifically written to and for her, this poem reflects the true center of both our love. Sometime in the fall of 1995.

This word goes out to the one that I love, who was given to me like a gift from above.

The waters of life have seemed harsh at times, but we stayed in the boat 'cause we made up our minds.

And now you are pregnant with our little one. Our Heavenly Father has granted our son. It seems like we've asked Him for grace in the past, but now by His Spirit the provision is vast.

If it sounds like I've changed the course of this poem, I haven't, for He's the One leading me home.

While here on this earth He's given me you, to love and to care for 'till this life is through. I cherish the time that we have together. He's made us a team from now 'till forever.

I'm grateful I've got you to hold in my arms to love you and keep you from all evil harms.

I know I can do this because of God's Word. Faith comes by hearing, yet not having heard.

A daily decision to seek Him is vital. Together we'll do that by reading the Bible.

The waters ahead may not be like glass. But He'll pull us through, like He has in the past.

As daily our fellowship grows with the Father, we then in turn will grow closer to each other.

I'm committed to you to succeed in this life. I'm glad that I've got you, my friend and my wife.

Let us, together, go all out for Him, by keeping our lives spotless from sin.

We'll train up our children the way they should go. The wisdom for this task by His Word we'll know.

So let's keep on going toward our God above. And I'll keep on cherishing the one that I love.

TIME IS SHORT

These two poems came just about the same time. They're the shortest ones to date. Written in October of 1995.

The time is too short to be playing games
with the Word of the Lord and religious sayings.
For the two of these can't be compared.
Evil is now worse, like our Master had said.
Good deeds and our works of the flesh are dead.
So wake up and stop listening to hot air.
The devil is a liar, God told us that too.
He talks of his power and all he can do.
But his talk in the past got him thrown down.
For God won't be mocked, what *He* says will be.
To stand on His word is like planting a seed.
So trust Him and get rid of that frown.

MY HOLY HELPER

Precious Holy Spirit:
Any work I do apart from Your touch
will be of the flesh that won't amount to much.
So please hear me when I say
I need Your guidance every day,
and Your wisdom to keep me from all vanity.
For the work that I must do
has got to be animated by You,
'else it'll be burned up in eternity.
My heart's quest is to hear Jesus say:
"Well done, faithful servant," that day,
"Now enter into the rest I have provided."
And I know those words will come
from the lips of God's holy Son
when my daily walk, by You, has been guided!

THE WORD OF THE LORD

Thy Word, O God, is my meditation.
Upon the night watches will I keep it before mine eyes.
When the enemy of my soul comes to take from me,
thy Word, O Lord, will be my sword and shield.
With skillful hands and careful speech
will I give thy Word it's due place.
By fellowship and sweet revelation
will I know what is all mine by Your grace.
Not being ignorant of the devil's devices,
his schemings and lies and deceptions toward men.
Thy Word, O God, fully equips us
to stand against him and stay free from sin.
I know that You've called me with Your strong arm of might.
And Your Words I speak now, like a man without fright.
I'll stop running from You, Your patience is so long,
and obey the fire in me, knowing that it's not wrong.
I'll not fear their faces or their snickers and sneers.
I'll serve only You, Lord, as You draw me near.
Your Words will pour from me, and I'll not be ashamed.
As You free the captivity by Your Holy name.
Then when praises come, I'll give You the glory.
That's it - I'll *not* take it!
That's the end of the story.

RISE TO A NEW LIFE

This teaching was first published in the newsletter we had for our church called "Letters of Grace." Pastor Ron had asked me to write something for it and this is what the Lord gave me. Written in July of 1990 for the August edition.

"...the just shall live by HIS faith." (Habakkuk 2:4b)

God, since the beginning, has always intended for Man to live by every Word of God. It's by the hearing of the Word that faith comes. World-overcoming victories are wrought by this same faith. In recent years we have seen a great revival of teachings about living by faith, yet a short while ago the Lord spoke to my heart that for the most part the Church has allowed these great truths to slip and we've reduced the life of faith to mental-assent of His Word. It's becoming nothing more than another formality and venerated ritual -- which avails nothing in His Kingdom.

We see a principal in 2 Corinthians 4:4 which states that the minds are blinded of those who believe not. *"This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, IN THE VANITY OF THEIR MIND, having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, BECAUSE OF THE BLINDNESS OF THEIR HEART"* (Ephesians 4:17-18). The book of Romans tells us that God's people, the Israelites, were *"given the spirit of slumber, eyes that they should not see and ears that they should not hear"* (Romans 11:8). Did God do that to them? - Definitely NOT! Hebrews 4:2 says, *"For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, NOT BEING MIXED WITH FAITH IN THEM THAT HEARD IT."* Jesus further reveals in Matthew 13 verse 15, *"For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes THEY HAVE CLOSED: lest at any time they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them."*

Now, where we've missed it in reducing the life of faith to mental-assent, is that faith doesn't work from your head. Faith is a spiritual force and only operates by being released from a heart (spirit) filled with revelation knowledge of God's Will (Word).

The Lord showed me the reason so many "Faith People" are living defeated lives is because they've reduced faith to a formula - just push this button and pull that lever (say the right confessions and do the right things).

When they don't see immediately the expected results, the devil jumps on their shoulder and says, "See, this faith stuff doesn't work," and because their physical senses agree, they give up and accept defeat.

FAITH DOESN'T WORK FROM YOUR HEAD! Faith is a confident assurance based on God's Word of what you're believing for is already yours. THEN your mouth will speak in line with your convictions and Jesus has something to be High Priest over (for He watches over His Word to perform it)!

*"Therefore He says: 'Awake, you who sleep, arise from the dead, and Christ will give you light'" (Ephesians 5:14). "Arise [from the depression and prostration in which circumstances have kept you; **RISE TO A NEW LIFE**]! Shine - be radiant with the glory of the Lord; FOR YOUR LIGHT IS COME, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon you" (Isaiah 60:1 [Amplified]). "Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If ANYONE hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me. To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches" (Revelation 3:20-22). I can hear the Word of the Lord yet saying: "Prove Me," saith God, "who says you can't walk on water?"*

WORD OF ENCOURAGEMENT

This is one of the longest prophecies I've ever penned. The words just started coming, so I started writing them. This one is dated January 10, 1990.

"There is coming a darkness on the Church like never before. Deceivers, and those being deceived. Walk in the Light and the darkness will not overtake you as one who was unprepared. The accuser of the brethren is seeking to be called the devourer of the brethren. So encourage one another while it is still called 'Today,' ministering grace that will help in time of need one to another.

"Remain steadfast in the Word of My righteousness, immovable so that the wicked one touches you not. Giving him no place in your life, private or professional. And the Son of righteousness will arise bringing you with Him to the table that is set before Me, cleansed in His blood, whole in His purpose bearing His name in your foreheads that proclaims you as My possessions -- belonging solely to Me.

"So resist all temptation to veer to the right or the left. Keep your eyes fixed on My ways, which will always be in line with My revelation, which is My Word. Don't be afraid of sudden destruction that may appear close to your doorstep, the name of the Lord is a strong tower -- run into it and you'll remain safe from harm. Maintain your *own* relationship with Me and I'll lead you in the paths of righteousness for My name sake.

"Confusion is an enemy that will take the lives of many, but if the Lamp of My Presence is ablaze in your heart you'll walk right through all entrapments meant for destruction, victoriously, unscarred, without even the very smell of smoke alighting your garment.

"Praise will lift you above much of the enemy's workings. Confessing My Word will give it thrust, but heartfelt worship will cause you to soar high above even the highest peaks of the devil's mountainous endeavors.

"Ah, but I seek those who will worship Me in Spirit *and* Truth. Unfortunately there are only a few who make the life commitment to pay that kind of price, though it be not really a price once you taste and see that I am really good!

"The desires of the flesh has nothing on Me, but you've got to come, you've got to come and see!

"Ha, ha, ha says the Spirit of Grace, I'll take you there, into the Most Holy Place. Just touch Me with your faith and by Jesus' blood We'll go to

the Throne of Grace.

“Come on, I’m here to see you through. Just believe My Word and watch what We can do. I formed the Worlds at the Master’s command, surely all you could ever need is held in My hand.

“Call for it, desire it and it’ll be yours. Ask *anything* according to His will and it’ll be yours.

“I’m sent to comfort you, to teach you and to show you things to come. Now rise up and *take* your place in God’s Son.

“He’s called you by His grace and anointed you with power to demonstrate His love to those who live this hour.

“Time will pass and many will fall, but those who triumph will answer His call.

“Be strong and of good courage, I’ll help you in *every way*, to be the man or woman of God you need to be in this day.”

DESPERATION

This poem came one Friday night (actually Saturday morning, April 17, 2004, at 1:00 a.m.) after being at a friend's house. Flipping through the channels on television we came across a preacher talking about a greater intimacy with the Lord. His words went right into me and the glow of the Love of God coming from his face so struck me that I thought about it all night (and still think about it).

Desperation is a state of being
that affects all that is seen.
It stems from your heart and pierces your soul
to the point that everyone around you will know.
Nothing else quenches nor satisfies.
You've got to possess your very heart's cry.
To do without is like ceasing to breathe.
It started way back when you first believed.
And then it grew stronger the closer you got.
You just had to have it –
with your friends, or not!
'Cause, once you have tasted that our God is good,
you desire to do all that you know you should.
His desires grow in you by His word's saturation.
Then you end up in what I've come to call desperation.

* * * *

This next prophecy or WORD from the Lord came to me while I was preparing a message I had been asked to preach while my pastor was going to take a little break one Wednesday evening, January, 2004. I simply asked the Lord if there was a word He had for our local body and the following message just started to flow...

TAKING YOUR PLACE IN THE BODY OF CHRIST

“It’s time to **BOLDLY** take your place in the body of Christ and get on the aggressive! Not shrinking back because of opposition! I said the gates of hell shall not prevail against the church. Yet many of My people are running from their responsibility because of a little heat.

“I’m looking for a people who’ll take their stand – wield My sword and allow their armor to get a little tattered!! I said you were to be led by My Spirit not driven by circumstances! Stop letting the devil call the shots in this hour. He’s the one that’s supposed to flee!

“Rise up – be strong – take your place in My grace! The greatest is yet to come!!

“But I need those who’ll respond to Me. Who’ll allow Me to work through them!

“Don’t be afraid little flock I’ve got your best interest at heart! Trust Me and see – step out of your comfortable boat and look those wind and waves straight on and tell them – prophecy to them My plan and purpose for you and this earth.

“Then break through their threats and watch them crumble at your feet, which are Mine!”

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“America is receiving her last wakeup call! Judgment must first begin in the church, for I cannot judge the world of what My body is guilty of.”

THE HEART OF THE FATHER

This prophecy came one morning as I sat down to eat my breakfast (it was Thursday, March 4th 2004 to be exact...I knew you'd want to know) when these words began to rise up in me.

“The purpose of the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand and the laborers of that Kingdom must be in position to accomplish its work.

“Pray the Lord of the harvest to send forth those laborers. Ask the Lord for the Rain needed in this time of the latter rain. Desire the manifestations of the Spirit. Speak the oracles of the Lord by His unction. Work His works. Speak His name and gather His fruit unto Himself that His crown may be complete.

“There are missing jewels for His crown that must be found and put in place. Ask everyone if they're one of them. Comb the landscape for them. Leave no rock unturned.

“‘Seek the Lord, while He may be found,’ is the message on your lips. ‘Stretch forth Your hand to heal,’ is your prayer. The King is soon to come, is your hope. Your names written in Heaven, is your joy. My Spirit filling you, is your strength to press forward. My love in you is My only commandment to obey.

“Take these instructions -- define your day with them. Run your race -- the goal is nigh at hand! The cheers of the awaiting cloud of witnesses is filling the atmosphere of Heaven!

“Lay aside everything that would hinder you from running this race. Keep your eyes focused on Jesus Who authored and will finish your faith. Receive this call of the Spirit and be blessed -- rising high above the degradation of this darkened world, looking upon the troubles of this life from My perspective!

“Choose you this day which way you will go, for the choice you make what's in your heart will show. Say not with your mouth ‘I love the Lord Christ’ then secretly cling to your own vice. True freedom comes to those who are honest and true. Between you and Me I know which are you.

“Take your place in the Body with authority and resolve. Watch the Devil's trappings and bondages dissolve. My glory will be seen by others on your face. And their desire will come to partake of My grace. My Son will soon gather My family to Me. But for now I need you to go out into the Sea.

“Speak, ‘Peace, be still,’ unto the raging waves. Then from heart to heart speak what I say. Those who will hear -- you'll know to be Mine. Those who will not will be left behind.

“Fates will be sealed, judgment will be passed. The Kingdom to come, forever will last. Eternity is calling down the shortened corridor of time, I’m closer than you think, don’t waste what is Mine.

“So, rise up and be strong in the power of My might. Put back on the gloves and return to the fight. Remember: It's not flesh that you're up against – so look to your heart and not to your sense.

“Go on -- get going, why are you still here? To get a degree or to be bound up by fear? True liberty is found only when you obey, so get up and be led by My Spirit today!”

MY HIDING PLACE

This poem started coming to me just as I got into bed one Tuesday night at about 10:30 p.m. (actually three days after “Desperation”, April 20, 2004).

Draw me to Your side, O Lord –
the place where I must hide.
Keep me by your grace as I seek your holy Face.
Never let me doubt You Lord
as I cast my cares on You.
You’re faithful to Your Word, I know,
You’ll always see me through.
My troubled mind when stayed on You
will be kept by Your peace.
As Your Word dawns upon my heart
I gain such sweet release.
This path of life I’m walking on
leads me to Your Throne.
The place I know deep in my heart
I’ve come to call my home.
Please help me share Your love inside
my heart with others, too.
As You lift Jesus in my life
drawing them to You.
Your heart has cried out “Who will go?”
while searching through the land.
My heart has said “I will, my Lord,
send me, stretch forth Your hand.”
I will not fear what man can do
he’s no match for Your power.
Just keep me close, Lord, to Your side
I need You in this hour!

HEAVEN'S CALLING

The title to this poem came while I was flying to meet up with my friend Jon in Denver, Colorado. Yet the content didn't come until after a time of intense prayer with him one week later (9/17/04 [edited and completed 5/13/05]).

Heaven's calling: "Who will go?"
I'm getting ready to put on a show.
Healing the sick and raising the dead
Is only a part of what I've said.
What about the soul that's racked with sin?
What about the unborn dying within?
What about the forgotten saints in the homes?
What about the unlovely that's being left alone?
What about the drug-addict, the cheater and liar?
Is it thought that they cannot be caught on fire?
I've sent My Son to bring life to their need.
I send Him through you now to plant the seed.
Sharpen your sickles, become keen in the Spirit.
For My Voice is speaking to those who will hear it.
But those who will choose to sit idly by,
This move of My Spirit will just go on by.
In death of tradition they'll die on the vine.
In the end they won't even look like they're Mine!
Yet those who are willing to put hands to the plow,
Not looking back or wondering how.
Their lives will be blessed and bright is tomorrow.
Not acquainted with fear, confusion or sorrow.
I've got a job that's got to be done.
When the harvest is reaped I can send back My Son!
So, get busy My children, I'll keep you from falling.
I need you to listen to this Heaven's Calling.

GOD'S WORD TO HIS REMNANT

“The purpose of men’s lives is coming into their hearts and the plans of God is dawning upon their souls. The choice to go on with God is being posed to them and many are choosing to fall away.

“They feel the price is too great and that what they’ve worked so long and hard for is too costly to relinquish. Little do they know that what I desire is to increase them with greater than what they could possibly ‘lose’.

“For I am a giver -- not a taker. The high-life in Me far surpasses *any* quality of life the arm of flesh can provide and sustain!

“But religion and tradition based on the commandments of man has blinded their minds so that they believe not.

“But I have a remnant who are bold enough to believe what I transmit to their hearts. And it is they who I’ll use to alight my glory so that those in darkness will come to the brightness of their shining...as I have said.”

* * * * *

“There’s a supernatural grace available to those who’ll receive it that as the darkness grows even darker and your heart of compassion yearns to reach out to them you’ll be equipped to snatch them from the fires of judgment and of hell.”

TURNING POINT

One Sunday morning after the service had concluded and pastor dismissed everyone I began to pray in the Spirit as my custom is and look to my heart to see if the Lord wanted me to do anything particular, like pray for somebody specific or build up someone with an encouraging word. Sometimes I get nothing and go on with collecting the children and going home. This Sunday (Jan. 19, 2003) I began to hear these words and I wrote them down.

“The turning point of Christianity has arrived. Like a turnstile door, some will remain in the whirlwind of indecision, some will exit in the wrong direction or at the wrong timing. But those who walk in close fellowship with Me will gain greater accuracy in My will and ways, not even considering the natural realm or it’s circumstances which mean nothing to the spiritual man.

“And like ONE we’ll get the job done as though I Myself were personally doing the work or activity. For I will clothe Myself in the one who will -- from their heart -- pay the price, lay down their own ways and strip off carnal thinking and desires, fully purposed to fulfill My will -- plan and purpose. No other agenda but to manifest My glory.

“I have a remnant that’s about to be manifested in their place and I’ll do a quick work THROUGH them like a mighty force that CANNOT BE STOPPED!”

MY CRAVING

This poem started on Sunday October 31, 2004 at 12:00 am. I wasn't able to finish it for some time. Seven months to be exact.

You are what I crave, O Lord
and not the world around me.
Pursuing You is what I do
the end of all my longing.
All else is fake and it will shake,
but You're the everlasting.
That's why this joy that's in my heart
arises like a well-spring.
I can't contain the fire of Your Spirit
that consumes me.
I must let out the holy shout
proclaiming that You've saved me.
Please listen all, and hear the call
that Christ is soon returning.
Get in the ark not made with bark,
escape this judgments' burning.
He shed His blood to quench the flood
that wipes out all against Him.
Though you've been good please know you should
repent -- be born again!
This open door shall be no more.
Withdrawn; this invitation.
Don't hesitate, run through the gate
His life is your salvation.
Thank You Father for Your Son,
You deemed my life worth saving.
I've tasted, seen that You are good
and now You are my craving!

I SEE HEAVEN

One Friday morning (June 24, 2005 to be exact) I started hearing these words:
“I See Heaven.” So I began typing and the rest came out.

I see Heaven, reality is near.
What once was a mystery
has now become clear.
The Table is ready all things are now set.
Preparation is finished;
“My Bride, I must get.”
The stirring in hearts preparing the way
is subtly whispering: “Perhaps today.”
Excitement is brewing erupting with joy.
“My glory is spreading
through each girl and boy.”
I can see heaven, it’s coming into view.
Look, there’s Jesus!
He’s calling me and you.
He’s smiling and glowing with fire in His eyes.
KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS
is written on His thigh.
I love You, my Savior.
Thank You for Your life!
I’m looking forward to being Your wife.
For now I see Heaven with my eye of faith.
But one day I’ll live there beholding Your face.

FROM COMFORT TO HARVEST

During a time of ministering to the Lord along with my friend Joe, these words started to flow. Written Friday, April 21, 2006.

There You are standing there, eyes full of love
and white-snowy hair, having come from above.
Without a word spoken I clearly hear You say
I'm forgiven anew every day.
Then You reach out Your hand to take hold of mine
So gently, yet strongly You lift me one more time.

I'm not perfect. I know. I usually get it wrong.
Yet somehow, looking into Your gentle eyes of love
I find strength to keep pressing on.

Wrapped in Your loving arms, the world passes away.
I lose sight of all troubles and gain hope another day.
Together we can do it all,
beyond myself --- in the midst of Your call.

So gently You remind me of a world that is lost,
and just how much their redemption did cost.
I notice the expression on Your face turn to sorrow
Knowing You're thinking of their fate tomorrow.

As I gaze intently at You, Your heart of compassion is conveyed.
Grace is imparted that helps me to do Your will unto them every day.

Not my will but Yours is the cry of my heart.
I smell the fragrance of Heaven.
Empowered to go, right from the start,
Together we'll gather them in.

FIRST MORNING IN HEAVEN

This poem came the same afternoon “From Comfort To Harvest” did.

When morning comes
and the night is far gone.
We’ll realize time has ceased
and we’ve been called home.

Sorrow has passed,
all tears wiped away.
Revelation has dawned
It’s now a new day.

It’s almost overwhelming
The splendor of it all.
There’s Moses and Noah,
Peter, James and Paul.

The air is full of singing
His melody we breathe.
The last Amen has been.
We no longer grieve.

This Place is far better
than words could ever tell.
There’s hope here and joy,
This sure isn’t hell.

There’s Jesus, He’s smiling.
My crown I must cast.
In thunderous tones He yells:
“I’m the First and the Last!”

BE NOT WEIGHED DOWN

This is the third poem written that blessed afternoon (4/21/06).

The time has come for us to be at our best
Not weighed down with sin, gossip or jest.

“Turn outward toward the hurting the poor and the proud.
They don’t know I love them, they must hear it loud.

I’m not judging their actions
Their sin or their shame.
I’m sending you to them
To bring them My name.

Please stop your fighting,
Dividing My crown.
I need you to be freed up,
So be not weighed down!

The blessing for mankind
I’m longing to bring
Is found in the song
I need you to sing.

Be not weighed down
But flow in My peace.
My Spirit from your heart
I need to release.

Miracles will happen
The blind eyes will see.
The deaf they shall hear
And shout: ‘Victory!’”