

1st May 2010

Issue No. 25

 (1 Kings 17 : 14) For thus saith the Lord God of Israel,
<u>The barrel of meal shall not waste, neither shall the cruse of oil fail,</u> until the day that the Lord sendeth rain upon the earth.



Miracles Can Happen

by..Sister Deborah Grace

During the month of February, 2010, I had experienced a couple of 'food multiplying miracles'.

One weekend we were having a number of people over to celebrate my husband's birthday. I had chosen a recipe, checked the ingredients, and found that I did not have enough of a certain item. I thought, "Oh, well", and turned away to look for a different recipe. Something told me to go measure that item again. I measured the ingredient again and this time it <u>was</u> enough. This incident slipped my mind until the next Saturday evening when it happened again. This time, we were invited out for Sunday lunch with several other people.

As it was getting late in the day, and wanting to save time, I had two different recipes going simultaneously. These recipes were <u>Graham</u> <u>Cornbread</u> and <u>Boston Brown Bread</u>.

I had measured out some cornmeal for the cornbread and set it aside in a bowl, then went to measure cornmeal for the Boston Brown Bread recipe. I found that I did not have enough meal for the brown bread, so I decided to 'borrow' some from the first amount set aside for the cornbread. The amount borrowed was approximately three quarters of a cup.

After I had finished making my brown bread recipe, I went back to the first recipe for cornbread to measure the cornmeal again that I had previously set aside.

I had planned to make a trip to the store to pick up some items that were needed, and was prepared to add cornmeal to my list. When I went to re-measure the cornmeal, **it was as if I had not taken any out.** There were still two cups as I had set aside in the first place!!

A sense of Peace enveloped me, yet I was also terribly excited! I dropped what I was doing and went to share this with my husband and boys.

Earlier on in the afternoon, I had heard myself speak the words, "*The barrel of meal shall not waste, neither shall the cruse of oil fail*".

(These words did not come by premeditated thought, as I heard myself speak the words, and felt my lips move to say them.) After I said the words, I went straight to the Bible and picked it up to look for this scripture which I **knew** was found in the book of kings. **Another amazing fact** was that I did not even NEED to look for this scripture,

I just opened the Book and began to read the words RIGHT IN FRONT OF ME! I did not realize the impact that these words would have for me later in the evening as I was preparing the food.

I pray this testimony brings a blessing to many hearts, as so many struggle in a failing economy. God Bless You

> Sister Deborah Grace Hildebrandt (Surrey, B.C., Canada)

My faithful Father, my enduring friend, Pour tender mercies like a river – with glory It overwhelms me, Covers my sin. Each time I come into Pour presence, I stand in wonder once again.

Pour Grace still amazes me Pour Love, still a mystery Each day I fall on my knees For Pour Grace still amazes me Pour Grace still amazes me.

Amazing Saviour, You make me whole You are the author and the healer of my soul. What can I give You? Lord, what can I say? I know there's no way to repay You Only to offer my praise.

It's wider, It's stronger, It's higher than anything my eyes can see Your Grace still amazes me, Your Love – still a mystery. Each day I fall on my knees For Your Grace still amazes me Your Grace still amazes me

(by Philips Craig and Dean)

Peace I leave with you, My peace I give unto you: Not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled Neither let it be afraid. John 14:27

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~From Behind the Editor's desk~

Greetings to you all in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Well, this last month has been a real blessing with an influx of E-mails coming in from far and

wide.

It was lovely to receive Bro Henk Dijkstra's e-mail extending his appreciation of the Believers' Newsletter, saying that he was sharing it with his fellowship. Thank you Bro. Henk for your encouraging words. And haven't the two sisters from Cloverdale, Sister Deborah Hildebrandt and Sister Sally Powell, blessed us with their beautiful moving testimonies. We just praise and thank our Lord for them.

We are blessed that some of the Brothers put ALL of our Believers Newsletters on to the Internet. The URL is:- { HYPERLINK "http://www.RapturingGrace.co.nz" } and I'm sure we will all take advantage of having it at times. Thank you, Brothers.

And now that I have started thanking the brethren for their help to us, I may as well continue. I said to my wife, the other day, "We have so many lovely Message Believers around us! They are so lovely!" And my wife nodded her head in total agreement. I don't think it is only what people say – some people don't – it is the heart of love for God's people that makes them so willing to help and encourage. And we thank our Lord Jesus, don't we. Thank you Brother Richard for your kindness and willingness to help when we needed it, even though at times you were so busy in your business. May God bless you in your missionary work also.

We welcome Brother Bruce McCorkindale who has accepted our invitation to help with the running of the



Believers' Newsletter. We look forward to working with Brother Bruce who has recently retired from full-time secular work and has his finger on the latest, especially those events that the Prophet foretold us of.

(Photo of Bro Bruce and Sister Lynley above.)

Brethren, we love you all. Let us know what The Lord hath done, whereby we can be glad.

On behalf of Bros. Adrian, Bruce and myself, may God bless you and make Himself real to you all. Bro Charles - Editor

> The Editor :- Ph 09 403-8885 Mobile : 021-894-014

Sister Lucy Mare - in her 90th year By Sister Peggy Henry

I am happy to speak of my dear mother, Sister Lucy Mare, who, on the 15th April, 2010 went to be with her Lord, whom she dearly loved.

She accepted the Prophet's Message almost fifty years ago when Bro Don and Sister Gladys Wickham witnessed to her. Prior to this, her heart constantly sought the Truth as she attended all the churches in Laodicea, to no avail. From the day that she accepted God's Word for this late hour, she was never heard to teach, but calmly sat and contentedly took in God's Word. She was loving toward everybody – her family, friends and her spiritual brethren.

The Scripture on her wall was:-"AS FOR ME AND MY HOUSE, WE WILL SERVE THE LORD"



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Bro. Tom Rae Cloverdale, Canada





# EARTHSHAKES

The February Chilean earthquake literally shook the world Richard Gross a research scientist at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in California, calculated that the planet's axis would have shifted by eight centimeters (three inches) during the 8.8 magnitude quake. If, indeed, the planet's axis did shift by eight centimeters during the Chilean quake, days would have shortened by 1.26 microseconds. Because of the angle of the fault line, this is more than the effect of the 2004 Sumatra quake even though it was higher, registering 9.1 - it moved the earth 7 centimeters.

The prophet of God to this generation explained that the first time an earthquake shook the whole earth was on the day of the crucifixion. This had a natural and spiritual implication, and this has repeated in our day.

#### **IDENTIFIED CHRIST OF ALL AGES** in BIRMINGHAM AL 04-09-64 (para 57)

They'd had all kinds of messages, and all kinds of things Abraham had seen. But just before the promised son, the last sign before the Gentile world was destroyed, was this God manifested in the flesh that knew the secrets of the heart. Now, that's the last sign that the church in the spiritual church gets. That's the last sign that the natural church gets, and the Gentile world will be destroyed. And she's ready for it right now, the earth shaking all over with earthquakes. Why? The first time the earthquake ever shook the whole earth was on Good Friday. The last time (as of April 9<sup>th</sup> 1964) it shook it was another Good Friday.

(27<sup>th</sup> March 1964) What did it shake for? Because they had rejected their Messiah. Why did it shake again? They've done the same thing. See? Laodicea church age, any scholar knows that He was on the outside knocking, try, "Lo, I stand at the door and knock." The only church age that ever completely put Him out. And the ecumenical council, that's just exactly what you've done to form the mark of the beast, and taking in there... Well, what's... How can two walk together unless they be agreed? And by doing that, they've rejected the Word again. It's on the outside. Can't even get cooperation nowhere. That's exactly right. O God, have mercy, Jesus Christ the same yesterday, today, and forever.



Railway line damage -Alaska

But remember this 1964 Alaskan earthquake was different from all the others, for this followed God Almighty's instruction by His prophet.

IS In the message WHAT THE ATTRACTION ON THE MOUNTAIN. JEFF IN 07-25-65 Evening (para 49) What was it? I went westward. Upon that same mountain, passing up with Banks Wood there, said, "Throw up a rock. Say to Mr. Wood, 'THUS SAITH THE LORD, you'll see the Glory of God." The very next day, standing there, a whirlwind came down and blasted the mountains out. Rocks cut the top of the trees off, about three or four feet above my head. Made three big blasts, and the brethren come running over. There were about fifteen men standing there, preachers and everything else. "What was it?" He said, "What was it?" I said, "Judgment is striking the west coast." About two days after that, the earthquake almost sunk Alaska.

Interestingly Brother Branham's messages preached throughout April 1964 were to do with a pretended Court trial where God was being indicted for breach of promise, while all the time it was the world's prosecutors that



Road subsidence Shopping Centre

Alaska

were in breach of believing His Word and God had declared His judgment outcome already.

*"The whole world in its birth pains, the world is trying; she's travailing,'* Isaiah said. Para 82 (Sixth Seal).

Romans 8:22 'For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain until now.'

Luke 9:5 "And whosoever will not receive you, when you go out of that city, shake off the very dust of your feet for a testimony against them.

In the You Tube still extracted at right clouds of dust rise into the clear blue sky as the mountains shake in the recent Easter Sunday 7.2 magnitude earthquake in California and Mexico.



Taken from the highway 30 kilometres south of Mexicali.

(Sent in by Bruce McCorkindale)



### All meetings will be held at the church - 34a Charles Street, Kaiapoi

The meetings will be Saturday & Sunday 10 a.m and 7 p.m., and on Monday at 10 a.m.

Bro. Aaron McGeary will be ministering at these services. He is an associate minister in Evening Light Fellowship in Phoenix, Arizona U.S.A.

There will be a shared lunch Saturday & Sunday with the local people providing the food. Supper will be served Saturday & Sunday with a finishing up time of 10 p.m.

Those travelling from out of town will be responsible for your own accommodation. A list of places to stay is available. We have a few brethren who have opened their homes for people to stay. If you are requiring help for accommodation, please contact: Bro. Jason Ward Ph. 03-9805797 or email to : itsallgoodnews@free.net.nz

## =Pastoral Boundaries = Pt 2



Smite the Shepherd and the sheep shall be scattered.

ZECHARIAH 13:7. Satan knows this scripture only too well. There are many

ways a Shepherd (Pastor) can be smitten; money, women, and popularity to name the three common ones. Another way that Satan will smite a minister is by anointing him with inspiration and teaching - that which is not scriptural.

God in his mercy has an ordained order of protection to help keep ministers from falling into one or more of these vices. Let us look at what the scriptures speak concerning this, as this is our ultimate resource of truth.

I PETER 5:1-4 ¶ The elders which are among you I who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed: 2 Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; 3 Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock. 4 And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

We can see clearly by this scripture that they were the Elders (plural) that were to take the oversight of the church, and certainly not just one man with absolute authority, as this often proves fatal, as we have seen in many cases. This single pastor elder hierarchy idea is probably the number one mistake that is made in the failure of church leadership, as when one falls there is none to lift him up. ECCLESIASTES 4:9-10 Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. 10 For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up. In many cases a whole church of people can fail over a Pastor that has fallen into sin or false doctrine because he is all out and standing on his own which we can see is not God's scriptural order of protection. It is The Word that has absolute authority and not the Man. There is no place in the scriptures that gives the office of a pastor

absolute authority over the people. Some pastors love to use some of Brother Branham's quotes to try to support and teach this idea, yet will not balance these statements with quotes like this:-

FUTURE HOME OF THE HEAVENLY THE BRIDEGROOM AND THE EARTHLY BRIDE JEFF.IN V-3 N-5 SUNDAY 64-0802 36 I'm thankful for this little tabernacle. I'm grateful for its five open doors to the public. Each door... We have four deacons here, Spirit-filled men and four trustees, Spirit-filled men. That's two at each door. And it's got a double door in front, for the two pastors the shepherds. We can see that the Branham tabernacle operated with Elders (plural) as the scriptures teach us in 1<sup>st</sup> Peter 5 and not just Elder (singular) as some of us teach in our local churches.

JEREMIAH 10:21 For the pastors are become brutish, and have not sought the LORD: therefore they shall not prosper, and all their flocks shall be scattered.

I have personally been in churches where the name of Christ is hardly ever mentioned among the people, yet their Pastor's name is so often quoted and praised as if he were the one who was really being worshiped and reverenced. God will not tolerate a church whose god and 'absolute' is the man behind the pulpit. This is idol worship and man leadership pure and simple. If questioned about this they would claim they worship the true God, the Lord Jesus Christ as revealed in The Word of the hour, but when the showdown really comes between their love of the truth or their devotion to their 'Pastor' idol, they will happily follow their human leader regardless of how blatantly he strays off the scriptures, the excuse being the quote that 'your Pastor is ordained to see you through', which he would be if he stays with the Bible as revealed through the seventh angel's message.

It was in Babylon that Nebuchadnezzar, the great gentile king set up the golden image of a Holy man who was in fact Daniel the prophet. This was the same Daniel who had previously revealed the kings dream and thus brought salvation to the noble and wise men whom Nebuchadnezzar had condemned to death. Nebuchadnezzar like so many today couldn't separate the man from God, and he thought that Daniel because of his great gift was the one to be worshiped, so he made a decree that every one should be forced by the threat of death to fall down to the image of a Holy man.

This same spirit and idea is alive and well today and is right amongst us. The scripture warns us to beware of false Christs, or false anointed ones that have the true Holy Ghost anointing but who are scripturally off The Word. Like Jannes and Jambres, they can produce the same works, anointings and manifestation as Moses the true prophet, but their teaching was off the Word, and it is by their fruits (teaching) that you shall know them - not by their anointing, as the rain (Holy Ghost) falls on the just and the unjust.

Let us get back and line ourselves up with the Word of God and the scriptural way of church leadership by The Word, and become the Word Bride that it is prophesied we would become. May we repent of our past mistakes and pattern ourselves with the truth of God's Word. It is only then that we will see the power return to the church, as we put The Word (Christ) first and foremost and the works will surely follow.

> Bro. Dean Gilchrist Wanganui

Notice, Noah in his days... We spoke of it this morning. In his days it was а great intellectual time, and men were smart. And Noah in his great intellectual age, God came down to save the elected people.



Do you believe God has an elected church? Certainly He does. And He comes to save that elected.

The rest of them, it's just common cannon fodder. But He--But He knows that there's going to be so many of them saved because He put their names on the Lamb's Book of Life before the foundation of the world. That's exactly according to the Scripture. And the antichrist in the last days will deceive every one whose names were not written on that book before the foundation of the world. The Bible said so. <u>The antichrist, so close, it'll be</u> <u>Pentecost to the dot.</u> See? But it'll deceive those whose names are not written on the Book of Life from the foundation of the world when the Lamb was slain.

Bro. Branham

GOD HIDING HIMSELF IN SIMPLICITY ALBQ.NM FRIDAY 63-0412E

Another thing Brother Branham said was that God never put signs ahead of the Word. God vindicated the early church by confirming His Word with signs <u>following</u>.

> God bless you Bro Ross D. Lane

~The Way up is Down~

"The man who made an artificial arm, made a reputation for himself; But the Man Who made the real arm, made for Himself no reputation. The way up is down. Always remember that. Be humble; sweet and kind; Be creative. Let Christ live in you."

> Brother Branham Tucson, AZ. 61-0205E



## He who is greatest among you shall be your servant".

Who is greater among us than Jesus Christ in our midst? So it

is our Lord and Master's desire to be the one who serves our every need. He wants to be the master of our lives by serving us in every challenge we face and this is what pleases Him: our submission. He delights in the servant who will yield their will to His, who will present themselves as a living sacrifice which is, after all, only reasonable to expect if He is to be the pilot of our soul.

Now without faith it is impossible to please God. So what pleases God? **Faith!** When God appeared to Abraham His first revelation of Himself was as his shield and exceeding great reward. In other words the first attributes of Himself that God displayed to Abraham was as his protector and rewarder. God delights in supplying all our needs. There is nothing so small that He would not care about it, and no way that we could exhaust or burden Him with their frequency. To think so is to doubt Him that He is a God who cares for us to the utmost. He has no pleasure in seeing us solving our problems in our own strength or in relying on the resources of others in place of His provision.

He that approaches God must believe that He is. (Is what?) He is Love – so all things work together for good to us who He has blessed. When a trial is sent to test our revelation of this we must confess that God is a good God; that His thoughts towards us are good thoughts to give us an expected end. But this is not all. We must also believe that in the light of this He is a rewarder of those who hold fast their confession steadfast to the end.

Now how do we get this faith - this revelation? When we receive the Spirit of God which is sent to us that we might know the things that God has freely given to us, and those things that He has revealed belong to us and our children forever. So when we are born again we have this faith. We cannot therefore ask God to give us faith, because we already possess it. What must we do? Speak the Word and go forward! We need to use it, to exercise our faith by confessing it and moving forth in that confession. Confess what? That God shall supply all needs; that all things are working together for our good; that He loves us and has blessed us. In other words, confess our complete and utter reliance on and confidence in Him as the Master who is servant to all our needs. Scripture references:

Matthew 23:10,11 Romans 12:1Hebrews 11: 6Genesis 15:1Exodus 14:151 John 4:8Jeremiah 9:23-241 Corinthians 2:12Deut. 29:29ByMalcolmFerris,Christchurch



# FORGETTING

Philippians 3:13 "Forgetting those things which are behind."

Forgetting is not a negative, but a positive process. It is the effective

forcing of something destructive from our thoughts.

Needless to say, we are not to imagine forgetting God's past mercies; nor are we to imagine forgetting past lessons.

There is a dwelling upon the past, which clogs the wheels of present endeavour and future progress.

We will be snared neither by satan's taunts about past failures that would lead us to despair, nor by his appealing to our pride, over supposed triumphs and accomplishments. All that is behind, lies forgotten, so should it be for you and me.

No pride in our Christless past, no guilt for our many past failures, which God has forgiven and chooses to never dig up again. Our past is washed clean, in the blood of Jesus Christ, which cleanses from all sin.

#### **QUESTIONS & ANSWERS**

C.O.D. 23.8.1964

"A Christian don't try to be what he used to be; he's not looking where he's been, he's looking where he's going. See, see? Don't pay no attention to what you was then; you've done lived that out. You'll never return to it; that's in the past. And any man that drives life's road looking through a rear view mirror will go to wreck; and so will you on the Christian road. Don't look back to what you was, look what you're going to be. Paul said, "Forgetting those things which are in the past, I press towards the mark of the high calling."

We need to say, - 'there are things in my memory, that are bad company, that I am now forgetting in Jesus' name.'

> God Bless You, Bro. Derrick Donaldson. Auckland

# Middle East Update: "Stranded"

Once again we are finding ourselves in the midst of another test of our faith and in urgent need of your fervent prayers.

Returning late last night to Lebanon from ministry in Turkey, we discovered the devil was obviously not happy by our recent victory in overcoming the opposition to our presence in Lebanon. We were met with yet another new and greater challenge – that of being denied entry into Lebanon.

After 6 ½ hours the police escorted us back onto the plane to Istanbul – at our expense of course. We are now stranded here in a hotel with just the few clothes we have in our suitcase. It is a very strange feeling being set "adrift" like this; unable to return to our "home" in Lebanon (basically the sum total of all our earthly possessions) and with nothing left in Canada...we have no place to go.

We would greatly appreciate your prayers as we wait upon the Lord for His will to unfold and the victory to overcome this test too. In the midst of it all, we rest in the FAITH that the Lord is in absolute control. He has permitted this and we encourage ourselves with these timeless words of the prophet:

"...Now remember...God has counted you worthy when you have a <u>test</u>. Now, <u>don't fail</u> <u>to get this</u>. When you have a trial, or a test, it shows the grace of God... You found favour with God. And God believes that you'll stand the test..." [Victory Day; 63-0421]

May the Lord help us to experience His favour in all this and grant us the faith we need to overcome.

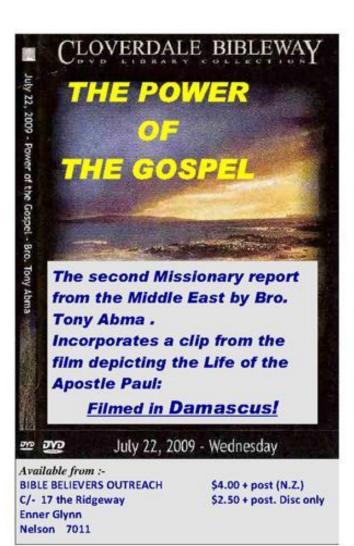


While we endure this trial let us not forget the saints in Iran who are facing great trials at this time. We

recently learned that Brother Berouze had been released – but another Brother, Amin Pishkar in Rasht has just been arrested. He is a minister and was charged with organizing meetings.

> Thanking you for your love and your prayers, Your Brother and Sister in Christ, Brother Tony & Sister Rebekah

(See pages 14-15 for April 24 update)



Let the beauty of Jesus be seen in me!
All His wondrous compassion and purity!
Oh Thou Spirit Divine,
All my nature refine,
Till the beauty of Jesus be seen in me.

"We are already travelling on a thought – we don't have to wait for a new body to travel on a thought. Your thought will take you to a destiny eventually. Thought creates Habit. Habits create Character. Character creates Destiny." In Bro J. Jenkins' sermon.

## ~Staying in the Presence of The Son~



Hallelujah! Brother Jeff prays: Almighty God, I've waited on You. God, I know You desire to have Your

Brother Jeff Jenkins

way with us. You are so gracious to pursue us passionately, every day. We hear Your voice every day - we hear that meek and gentle call, every day! Help us to respond and today is no exception. You are present, both to will and to do after Your good pleasure.

Almighty God, as Your Prophet said, Author of Life and the Giver of every good gift, I pray that You would place in us an earnest expectation to believe, yes, in May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2009, that You are the same, yesterday, today and forever! You said in Your Word "I am God, I change not" and Lord, You are still healing today, You are still filling with the Holy Spirit today, You are still saving sinners, saving those that are lost in the confusion of religion today. There are Nicodemuses here today. There are sinners that need grace and mercy here today. There are backsliders that are here today. There are those like Peter who forsook the Lord, here today and Jesus is here. God, may You have Your way is our prayer. In Jesus Name, Amen.

I'd like to preach on 'Stay in the presence of the Son.' Remember, we preached on manifestation, the three things: Seed, Manifestation, and Unconditional love. All you need is light on the seed, not just once or twice, but every single day you must be exposing that soul to the light of God's Word. The baptism of the Holy Spirit that was a must and a necessity in Christ's day when He walked the road to Emmaus. When He ascended up on High, He gave gifts to men, and He came back in the form of the Holy Spirit. The baptism of the Holy Spirit that He spoke of to Nicodemus, Nicodemus, you must be born again; that same baptism of the Holy Spirit is necessary today. You must be born again!

Jesus said, *Verily, verily I say unto you*, absolutely, absolutely! You can only go so long not telling yourself the truth, philosophizing, coming up with excuses. There'll come a time when you will have to lay it all down in full and

Christ, total commitment to in total abandonment and give your life completely over to The Lord Jesus Christ. Can you say 'Amen'? Every one of us had to come to that place of total abandonment. God is constant, God is faithful. That means that in every single service that we have, God is present. That means the issue isn't 'Is God here?' The issue is, are we prepared to receive from God. Now, we have an enemy of our soul that is this body and this mind. God is pursuing you whether you are born again, whether you are justified and you've given your heart to God, or whether you are coming into sanctification, where He's cleaning up your life and you are getting rid of lust and alcohol and cigarettes and the love of the things of this world. That's sanctification.

Whatever level you are on, if you are on any level at all with God, God is pursuing you. I don't know what level you are on today, but I know this, that just as He is pursuing me passionately, every day I wrestle much more with God than I ever do with the devil. Most of my wrestling matches are with God, as God is asking more of me. He is constantly pursuing me. From even before my conversion, He was over me. He was arranging watching circumstances to bring me to Himself and He was doing the same for you. And He is the same yesterday, today and forever.

I want to bathe your soul; I want to lift your level of faith in God in His Word. I want us to, if we can by the grace of God, be transported from this world. Wouldn't you like to do that for just a little while? From this sick, chaotic, dark, demonic, insane world and be lifted up into His light, His life, His sanity, His Word, and we do that by getting into the Word of God, by opening this Book. We enter in, and our feet step into another Kingdom, another dimension, another world of promises. possibilities and realities.

I'm in The Word all the time. I'm going to be very honest with you this morning. Can I be honest? I'm very aware that while I'm in The Word that some people are not in the Word. They are not seeking God, because I come with a level of faith and a level of expectation. Now some of you are, but not enough of you are and what God wants is such a level of expectation and a level of faith. [To be continued] [An excerpt from Bro. J. Jenkins' message delivered on 31.5.09]

## ~God sent an Angel~

Sent in by Sister Sally Powell, Cloverdale. I had a very unusual experience about two years ago, and this week, I have been feeling very pressed that God would like me to share it with you. I feel it is time, and that I am able now to share a little of my heart. God shows up in the most unusual times, ways, and places in our lives, just to let us know He's there and that He cares. HE knows.

It was at a very low point in my life where I felt I had no where to turn and no one to turn to. I felt desperately alone and very far from God. Anyone ever been there? I won't go into the depths of despair in my life at that time, but God knew. Most everyone else in my life, aside from just a very few, were completely unaware. Tory, youngest daughter, my was in kindergarten. I had dropped my other children off at the school and went to Costco in Bellingham to pick up some things. I was not in a good place in my mind.

I was in the refrigerated section where the produce is, and had asked Tory to put a package of romaine lettuce back on the display for me. I was not paying much attention, but about five seconds later (which seemed like a long time after she had put it up there) the package fell to the floor. I started over to pick it up just as a man stepped in front of me and reached over and picked it up. I said thank you but didn't look at him or pay much attention... I was lost in my own thoughts of despair and loneliness. I stepped over to the strawberries, looking for a decent batch. The man started sorting through the strawberries as well and began talking to me. I had not said a word to him except "Thank You".

He told me I should be thankful for a husband who worked hard to allow me to stay at home with my children (he didn't say child)... that it was a real blessing in today's world. He continued on to say that "The world is going to hell in a hand basket". He talked to me for a bit like that and I started listening and thinking... how could he even know I had a husband? One that worked for that matter? That I didn't work at all? For all he knew, I could have been off for lunch, on my way to daycare, on my day off, etc, etc. He was very matter-of-fact about it - like it wasn't even a question. Then, I realized he was holding a hand basket (the small hard-plastic kind with handles) and it made me think about the words he had just said to me. Have you ever seen a hand basket in Costco? Then, I looked up at him. It was then I felt really strange... and

it crossed my mind that I might not be talking to a "human" stranger, but one who knew me much deeper than that. His eyes seemed to look right into my very soul. Since a child, I have had a fairly good sense about people and can usually read them fairly well. I've always been interested in people - who they are and what has moulded and shaped them through their lives into the person they are now - to really look down into the inside of a person.

This man's eyes were completely unclouded with the baggage of life that resides in most people's eyes. They were clear and bright and immensely joyful. He was dark haired and very clean shaven, wearing a very white T-shirt with clean work pants and suspenders (how's that for the most unobservant person you've ever met?). I hadn't seen anyone wearing suspenders for a long time... except little boys or someone going to a wedding. Certainly not in Costco. My mind was racing as he walked away... could it be? I watched him walk with a purposeful stride, looking neither to the left or right nor stopping to put anything else in his basket, which contained only one item... a bag of romaine lettuce.

I watched him until he disappeared in the crowd. How many times I've wished that I hadn't let him go so quickly. I thought many times about what he said, and I've thought about his basket and his reference to the world going to hell "in a hand basket". I asked an acquaintance in the customer service department who had worked there since the store opened if he'd ever seen a hand basket in Costco. He said he never had.

About a week later, I was again in Costco and had related what happened to Stephanie, my niece, who was working there. Could it be possible, that God would care enough, to send an 'angel' to the refrigerated section of Costco to try and get a person's eyes back on their blessings instead of their failures? My failures in life, which are many, have always been Satan's greatest weapon used against me. I thought about how much I'd like to see him again - this man - to really know if it was an angel. I just wanted a confirmation that God had really known and cared where I was, physically and mentally, the week before.

As I came out of the produce section, searching all the faces I passed, I came across an empty shopping cart sitting alone by the meat section. It was in almost the exact place where the man had disappeared the week prior. It was completely empty - **except for a package of romaine lettuce.** I stood there in shock for quite awhile, watching to see if anyone ever came to claim the cart. No one ever did.

Even when I was so far from where I should be, even after all of God's gracious dealings in my life, I had allowed a mountain to come between us. **Even then**, He knew and cared right where I was. There is not the slightest doubt in my mind today that He sent an angel to me in Costco that day. Otherwise, I could never share it with you.

How many times in our lives do we encounter these angels unawares and not recognize them? I would probably not even have looked him in the face if he hadn't persisted. And, even then, I may not have fully recognized what was happening if His Holy Spirit hadn't caught my attention then and confirmed it a week later. That's when I really knew for sure.

Anyways, I know it was just for me because He knew I needed a more visual confirmation of His love at that time in my life. Maybe this will also be a blessing to someone else. It's not the end or the fullness of the story, but it's enough. It wasn't an angel in a bright shining garment like the one He allowed me to see when I was seven, but an angel no less.

When I hear this song I think of that day in Costco....

I was troubled in my mind and had reached my darkest time when my life and my spirit were low.

I walked out on a span of a bridge made by man

and looked down at the water so cold. I stood shivering there on the edge of despair knowing well I was going to fall.

With the end drawing near I had no mortal fear

For I had never known Him at all.

Oh thank God for the love shown to me.

For the rest of my days, God will show me the way

Since His messenger entered my life.

I'm a part of His plan for salvation of man As I walk in the circle of life.

Never more will I doubt what my life's all about,

and no more will I suffer despair.

I've got proof He's alive, for He let me survive,

And I know He's made a home for me there. Oh thank God for the love shown to me! Have Your way - Have Your way Holy Spirit, fill our hearts and have Your way. And as we pray - As we pray, Speak Your Word into our hearts and have Your way.[Thorus]

Bro. J. Jenkins: I would ask the question:

How many here, in just the last month have had disturbing things in your life?

How many here have had questions rise in your heart? Fears?

How many are human? How many have had doubts and struggles? How many have almost given up sometime?

And I'll tell you that every hand would go up. But you know what? You can try and let go a hand,

#### But He won't let go of you!!

I want to take us back to simpler days when we weren't bombarded with so much information – the internet, television – and so much theology. I want to take us back to faith101.

See, the interesting thing is:- with all the revelation we possess, yet during the struggle and the heat of emotion, my revelation vanishes. Amen?

And do you know what you'll end up doing? If you follow your path, the path of reason, you doubt everything. You even doubt your own experience. The devil is there to anoint you, frustrate you, anger you, cause fear and doubt and worry.

But do you know what you'll do? Something on the inside of you will start to raise up, if that Seed of Faith...and, do you know where that faith will lead you? It will lead you back to the Cross – the Cross of surrender, of childlike obedience.

How many remember the day you gave your heart to God?

How many remember the joy of your salvation?

How many remember the peace – when you felt that you were walking on air?

And how many remember that every single believer in your brand new church was an angel?

Can we go back to simpler days ??

The more mature your faith – the more childlike your faith.

## SOULS THAT ARE IN PRISON NOW God's prophet: Brother WILLIAM BRANHAM

The people and the Word has got to be one. See? Jesus and the Word was the same; He was the Word. And when Jesus lives in the human being, that makes him and the Word the same. No, your life tells what you are. Now, just look at yourself in God's looking glass, say, "How do I look this morning?" While we pray.

[Tongues and prophecy go forth as follows--Ed.]

My children, today I say unto thee, yea even I the Almighty God hath looked upon the earth today. I have seen the evil that this creation has been brought to. Yea, I see the sin that man this day is plotting with men. Yea, dost thou not know that I have done a great thing for thee? Yea, I have sent forth a man in this last day, yea that he might be a mouthpiece unto this generation. But I say unto thee this day my people many have scoffed at his name, yea they have turned their backs upon the things that he hath spoke. But I say unto thee, those that shall hear these words I shall prostrate blessings upon them, for I am the Almighty God. I shall reward these days for those that shall sincerely receive the Word, saith the Lord.

... wandered far away from God, Now, I'm coming (Pray if you ever did pray) Open wide Thine arms of love, Lord, I'm coming home. Coming home,...

<sup>52-4</sup> While you continue singing, I want to ask you something. Is there a spot in your heart that seems to be darkened by sin? If it is, now is the time to get rid of it, right now, if there is mercy left. This, I hope, isn't so. I hope it isn't there. But doesn't it look like it could be?

Listen what the Holy Spirit said in the midst of the people, after I got through. It's a voice unto you. And if there's... If you've got any darkness on your life, won't you come right here around the altar now, while we continue to sing. Right now, if there's a weary, if there's a spot, don't put it off any longer. Hoping and trusting that this is not so, but it will be one of these days, and it might be today.



## picks up **God's Binoculars**,

both of them, both sides, the New and Old Testaments and sees every promise that He made, and faith sees it out yonder. And faith chooses that, regardless of what the present tense says here.

He looks at the end. He don't drop his sights down to look this way; he looks out yonder. <u>He keeps the</u> <u>crosshair dead centre on the</u> <u>Word</u>. That's what faith does. That's the faith that's in a man that does those things.

WHY.CRY.SPEAK\_ JEFF.IN V-2 N-26 SUNDAY 63-0714M

> Your mind needs faith — you have to feed your mind.

The Believers' Newsletter is published by Christian Publicity and Promotions (NZ). We invite testimonies,<br/>comments, news, interesting anecdotes. Anything that would glorify God and could encourage your fellow<br/>pilgrim and suggest that any doctrinal questions be directed to your Pastor.The Editor :- Ph 09 403-8885Mobile : 021-894-014E-mail:{ HYPERLINK

### Middle East: The Latest News from our Brother Anthony



**24 April 2010** Greetings in Jesus name. We know that many of you have been fervently praying for us

and patiently waiting for an answer regarding our visa situation and return to Lebanon. Rather than to have reported with frequent updates – only to be revised again, I deferred sending anything until we knew more precisely the status of our situation. Other reasons for delays included poor internet access - and as you will read, we have also been on the move ministering in various locations.

You'll never know how incredibly comforting it is that while we are in the midst of a great trial – that we are not forgotten, but experience the brotherly love and compassion this Message promises to produce. We could never thank you all for your fervent prayers as the numerous offers well as for accommodation (in no less than 6 countries) and to those who entered into our plight with your gifts and support, that too is an overwhelming display of love and encouragement for us in a difficult time. Though we've tried to reply to each one, (and still intend to) until then, please forgive us for the delay in personally thanking you as we would like.

During the days stranded in Istanbul, we awaited news from Lebanon. It was a day by day situation which required us to be in constant contact with Brother XXXXX as he needed information, documents faxed, etc. While there we met with one family with whom we have been sharing the Message. Given that this is a new, "fledgling" work, with no one as yet fully embracing the Message, there was really no one to call upon who could help.

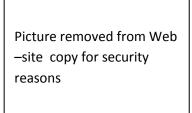
As events unfolded, and with no "quick fix" forthcoming, we then travelled to Cyprus, an island nation in the Mediterranean not far from Lebanon, Syria and Turkey. Barnabas was from here [Acts 4:36]. Both he and the Apostle Paul ministered there as well. [Acts 13:6] We felt led to Cyprus as it is another mission field in which the Message must be preached.

When we finally learned that re-entry to Lebanon was not possible, (over a week since we were refused entry) we then travelled to Jordan to meet Brother XXXX who was bringing some of our clothes and other important personal items from Lebanon. This was a challenge in itself, trying to describe over the phone and have him understand what clothes and things to bring.

When we met in Jordan, Brother XXXX shared an amazing saga of events how that efforts to obtain our clearance would get so close - only to be set back by "higher officials". The gravity of our situation was finally realized when Brother XXXX was called in by the Police who demanded to know our location - they had been searching for us and were going to seize our passports and detain us. Only by God's grace and an apparent "error" of files and information not being relayed to airport officials, were we turned away April 5<sup>th</sup> and spared a very serious situation if we had entered the country! By this it became evident that it was in fact God's grace to us that we were NOT permitted reentry into Lebanon.

As Brother XXXX needed to return to Lebanon for the weekend services, it was a

perfect opportunity to follow up on an invitation to visit some Believers in Israel. At a Convention last November in Europe, we met a Brother from



Vilnuis who invited us to join him in Israel in April. He was going to minister to Russian speaking Message believers of Jewish ancestry that he knew had immigrated. It was very special to be with these believers – so close to Jerusalem where the Church was born 2000 years ago. These believers pictured here have also been actively sharing the Message which has resulted in several more who have believed and were baptized by our Brother.

After the weekend we returned to Jordan to meet Brother XXXX who was bringing more of our belongings and coming to sign papers for him to conduct our affairs on our behalf. Efforts will be made to clear our files - but it may be a long process and as we have already experienced, nothing is guaranteed in Lebanon. The prospects being that we may never get back into Lebanon... though we know our God is a miracle working God – and nothing is impossible for him. So we will be praying and looking humbly to the Lord as to where we should relocate in the Middle East in order to continue ministry where other "works" have begun in Turkey, Syria, Jordan, Egypt and also to preach where the Word still needs to be heard in other Arabic speaking countries.

Though these events certainly complicate matters as we have no "home" to return to or work out from, we are not deterred.



Our resolve, like that of the believers in Lebanon remains strong. I attach a shoremail received from a 16 year old Brother as an indication of the maturity and

understanding and how the Believers in Lebanon are reacting to this drastic change of events; "Bro, I'm XXX. Today I knew the problem caused by Satan, but maybe this is the will of GOD to open to you the gate of faith and mission work in other countries and cities. I wish that you can return to us physically. Pray for us to continue the big work...The LORD makes my personality more strong and now He is giving me more people to talk them about His LOVE and His holy name: JESUS. We will always LOVE those who make trouble for us and we wish that they knew the true GRACE OF JESUS. Pray for my friend G.S. I never saw one like him; he is very, very hungry to know and accept the Word and to be born again. Read the book of Acts 20:37,38. I was sad and cried, but the Lord Jesus Christ will take us to see you very soon. This is our hope and reality. We will continue the work of the Word...and may the God of Hope bless you and your wife in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen. I will see you in the air when the Rapture comes. Hallelujah! Say "hi" to sister Rebeka."

We had been planning a trip in May to Canada, and now being unable to return "home" to Lebanon, to avoid the much higher costs of accommodations, it is clear to us that we should return to Canada for a season. Brother XXXX is going to need time to work on clearing our files. We'll take time to be with family and believers, and also to wait on the Lord as to how best to re-launch the ministry in the Middle East. Our return to Canada has also been severely complicated as we were not able to re-enter Lebanon where our return ticket is valid from. So even in this we look to the Lord to see His mighty hand of deliverance.



While we certainly find ourselves in a difficult situation, we are also very cognizant of the fact that precious Brothers and Sisters are

also suffering in other parts of the world like Haiti or those imprisoned in Iran - who, as you will read, also need our fervent prayers.

We rejoiced with those who have been released, but let us not forget the Brother who is entering his <u>sixth month of imprisonment</u> and another Brother who was recently arrested in Rasht - and now another Brother who was just arrested last week. It was reported that ten secret police stormed the secret house meeting

that Brother was preaching in. They knocked him off his feet, assaulted him, then handcuffed him and took him away. The police collected all the bibles



and had those present to fill out forms with their name, address, phone number and answers to questions like; "When did you accept Jesus? Who told you about Jesus? Why did you accept Jesus?" They were also threatened with the possibility of future arrest.

In spite of these severe conditions, the believers in Iran want us to know that they are not living in fear. As dangerous as it is, they are continuing to meet in secret – howbeit much more carefully as they exercise their trust in the Lord. The Brother too stated that; "...he has complete peace from the Lord because he is not his own – and is ready for whatever the Lord brings his way."

Thank you once again for your expression of love, your support and your prayers,

Your Brother and Sister in Christ, Brother Tony & Sister Rebekah