



# Believers Newsletter

April 2018

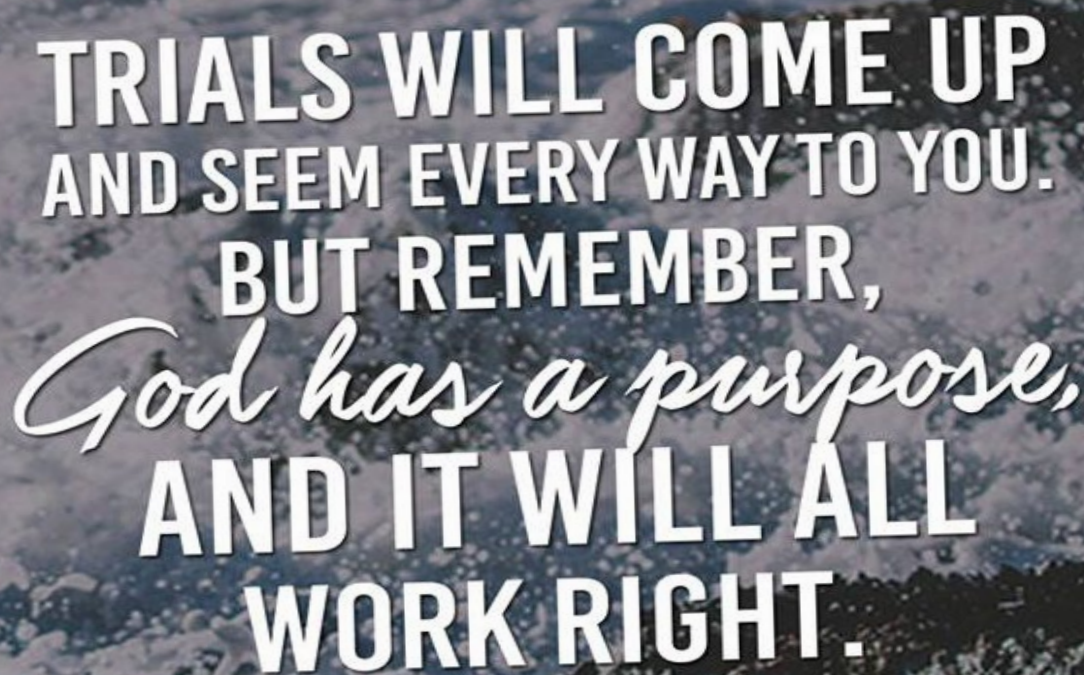
Issue: 113



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- First Tour of Asia Minor - Brother Mark Aho
- Called Out & Special - Part 3 Hard Questions Series
- Israel: Awakening to the Holy Place - Bro Tony

## Quote for the month:



**TRIALS WILL COME UP  
AND SEEM EVERY WAY TO YOU.  
BUT REMEMBER,  
*God has a purpose,*  
AND IT WILL ALL  
WORK RIGHT.**

*Del William Brankin*

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# THY First Love

Rev. 2:4  
A Tour of Turkey and the Seven Churches

"John, to the Seven Churches which are in Asia..."



Bros' Aho & Diaz

For twelve unforgettable days in January, myself and Brother Michael Diaz were privileged to tour the ruins of all the Seven Church locations, which exist today in modern day Turkey. This, the ancient cradle of Christianity is now a Muslim land, ever since conquered by the Turks in the 16th century. But on these very soils are such famous cities as Antioch, where Christianity was named, and where Paul began his missionary efforts. From here the new faith spread "west" into Gentile lands, destined to eventually circle the globe.

Today the landscape is dotted with the tall minarets of Muslim worship, but the ruins of the ancient cities of Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamos, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea can still be visited, and they are striking in innumerable ways. We blogged our journey online, and

were both amazed and surprised by the things we encountered. From our interview with the Catholic Bishop of Smyrna, to the unexcavated mound of Colosse, to the "luke-warm waters" of Heirapolis, in the area of Laodicea, every site was a spiritual adventure. We also visited a small Message church in Laodicea, (now called Denizli)—and there is nothing "lukewarm" about them today!\*

In addition to the Seven Churches, we also visited sites such as Miletus, where Paul said his final goodbye, before taking his final journey to Jerusalem, which would end in chains for him. It was amazing to stand there on a windy Sunday morning, looking back through the centuries from our vantage point in the End Time. It was as though we could link arms with the first Church Age Messenger, who stood peering forward into the dark centuries to come, warning his sheep, even with tears. (Acts 20:17-38) Now we stood in the same place,

Church Age Book in hand, calling as it were back to that great Apostle and seeing the fulfillment of everything he prophesied. Yes, Paul—your prophecy was indeed correct!—and in my hand I hold the record of it all!—in a little blue book.

Continued on next page...



Ephesus today

[Click here](#) to see full blog

# THY First Love

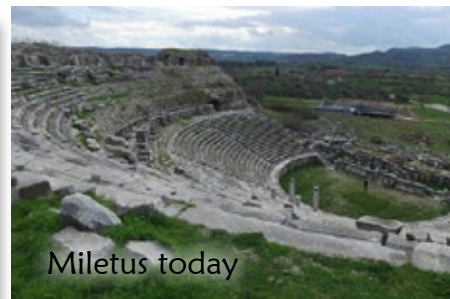
Rev. 2:4  
A Tour of Turkey and the Seven Churches



Laodicea today



Pergamos today



Miletus today

Our trip was occasioned by a contact that Brother Byskal had in Turkey, a tour-guide who is an expert in natural history. Our mission was to look over the sites from a distinctly spiritual perspective, with the idea of designing a tour specifically for Believers of the Message. Many people tour these popular sites, but no one in the world can tour them with the insight that Believers of the Message can. With the Church Ages Book as our textbook, we re-wrote the normal tour map, adding in stops important to Believers that other tours bypass, and eliminating stops with little spiritual value.

After visiting each of the Seven Church sites, we then traveled East by car, enjoying the wild and varied landscape of the interior of Turkey, to arrive at a little town called "Iznik". In this town is an ancient building named "Little Sophia," and it was here that the Nicene creed was signed, under the emperor Constantine. It was amazing to stand in that place, where such a grievous mistake was made, knowing the wreckage that it led to through the dark ages and beyond. We ended our tour in Constantinople, the capital of Byzantine Christianity for over 1000 years, and fascinating historically, culturally, and spiritually.

Twelve days was not enough time to absorb all we saw; we are still pondering it, and will be for years. Still, we were able to record our impressions in a series of videos. We ended

up with over 700 gig of photos and video!

It would take a book to tell all of our amazing experiences, but we did offer a live report at Cloverdale Bibleway, which is archived on the CBW web site, Wed. Feb 14, 2018, and also on our blog. More tours might be coming available, but perhaps not, with the volatile politics of the region. Aware of this, we made every effort to see these places, as it were for "all believers." As Joshua and Caleb spied out the land, we traveled not into the future, but into the past, to a geographic region that was chosen by the Spirit of God to serve as a model and prophecy for the ages to come. The insights we received from visiting these places were many and striking. We were awed and humbled to be able to see all this first hand, and now offer our "fruit of the land" to any who wish to partake.

Brothers Mark Aho and Michael Diaz



Sardis



# Awakening to the Holy Place



Shalom and greetings in Jesus name.

We are certainly living in astounding days as more and more of the Word of God continues to unfold. The responses to my last email featuring the Jewish awakening to deeper spiritual implications of the blood of the **Token**, were sincerely appreciated. Another striking truth that I'd like to share, is that of the Jewish awakening and understanding of the secret to the Holy of Holies.

Israel is considered to be the natural or earthly "wife" of the Lord as recorded in Jeremiah; **"...saith the LORD; for I am married unto you..."**<sup>[1]</sup>. Spiritually, we know our part as the **Lamb's wife**. Of the "three rooms" in which we live, Brother Branham indicates that the greatest intimacy between a husband and wife is found within the "3<sup>rd</sup> room", or bedroom. Within that inner chamber the consummation of the marriage vows takes place. It is the place of **complete** fellowship and **intimacy** **"...where new life begins..."**<sup>[2]</sup>.

This too is foreshadowed in the Jewish Tabernacle and Temple. The High Priest moved through the three "rooms" or courts - until he passed through the veil into the Holy of Holies. Only there could he enter into an intimate experience with the **Shekinah glory** of God Himself, the place where the Lord promised to meet with His people; **"...I will meet with thee, and I will commune with thee from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubims which are upon the ark of the testimony..."**<sup>[3]</sup>

Accordingly, many Jews understand and are longing for this spiritual intimacy of His presence. As one Rabbi stated; **"Our Neshama (Soul) is derived from the Shekinah. G-d Almighty seeks to unite the Shekinah with each and everyone's Soul..."** [Rabbi J.F.]

A deeper study of the construction of the Ark, reveals that the cover or lid, is built separate from the rest. Here is an incredible insight into Jewish understanding of the **Shekinah** presence between the **Cherubs** over the Ark;

**"...the Ark is likened to the bed and the two cherubs of the ark-cover are likened to husband and wife, in whom the fire of holy love manifests, "A man and wife, the Shekinah is between them" – similar to the Shekinah between the cherubs. The cherubs form an awning over the ark-cover with their wings, creating a covered, hidden place suitable for intimacy."** [Rabbi Y.G.]



Another astounding aspect of the complex Hebrew language is the value that each letter has attributed to it. The study of these numerical values is called the **Gematria**. Incredibly, the numerical value of the words **"two cherubs"** שְׁנַיִם כְּרֻבִּים, is the same as **'bedroom'**, חֶדֶר הַמִּטּוֹת - as the Holy of Holies is called. Is there any wonder that now, after 2,000 long years of exile, that there is desperate longing in the hearts of the elect who have returned to Israel - for this intimate relationship with the **Shekinah** presence of God to be restored? And of course for the Jews, that can **only** be found in one place - behind the Veil of the Holy of Holies of the Temple. As the Rabbis teach;

<sup>[1]</sup> Jeremiah 3:14

<sup>[2]</sup> God's Provided Way Of Approach: 60-0709; Par E-57

<sup>[3]</sup> Exodus 25:22



# Awakening to the Holy Place

“The Holy of Holies in the Temple is the place of intimacy between God and the Congregation of Israel. The Ark of the Covenant is the holy bed as in the verse in the Song of Songs, “Behold the bed of Solomon, its interior is inlaid with love.”

The two cherubs are in the image of a male and a female, cognate to the concepts of giver and receiver. In gematria, \*two cherubs” = “giver receiver” All the sacrifices in the Torah are called “rayach nichoach”, a pleasant smell. Our Sages explain that this alludes to “nachat ruach” (“a spirit of pleasantness”) before Me (G-d), for I have said and My will has been done.” “Nachat ruach” is the indwelling of the Shekinah between the two cherubs in the bedroom, as is alluded to in the gematria: (Nachat ruach = two cherubs = giver receiver = bedroom)” Rabbi Y.G.

Brother Branham too alluded to how that the generation that new generation birthed now in Israel that yearns for the presence of God, compares with little Benjamin<sup>[4]</sup>. He said it was Benjamin’s appearing that so stirred the heart of Joseph; “It was little Benjamin, the full brother of Joseph that set his soul on fire...”<sup>[5]</sup>

There is evidence that a great spiritual revolution is taking place in Israel. More and more people in Israel identify with the values and spiritual goals that the Holy Temple represents. New polls in Israel reveal how that a heart change is taking place, with more than half the people expressing a desire to rebuild the Temple.

The Children Are Ready! A video revelation is the title of a four-part series of videos - powerful declarations of this faith and spiritual desire. Below are the links to these short videos, less than 3 minutes each. I am confident that you will be blessed, inspired and perhaps surprised at what you see!



Pt 1:<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LPMViwmJSJE>

Pt 2:<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5bw-IJlyuqA>

Pt 3:[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B6C\\_zfpEwUI](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B6C_zfpEwUI)

Pt 4:<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tAZ8zdMCiuQ>

In Isaiah we read of the immense changes that will take place in Israel and the world when the Lord comes. It will be a reign of peace, no more wars, no more sorrow and hate. He will also “... wipe away tears from off all faces...”<sup>[6]</sup>. A popular Jewish singer captures this in a moving music video entitled Cry No More. He features the long awaited answer to the many prayers for peace when the Shekinah presence of Messiah returns to the Temple. Click on this link to watch; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C7ruAmWfb4A>

I share these precious truths with the earnest desire that it will be much more to you than mere information about the “time-piece”. I pray that the sincerity, the longing, thirst and hunger these precious souls in Israel have for the intimacy of the Shekinah presence of God - will also inspire and set your soul on fire, just as it does the heart of our Joseph - our Bridegroom!

[4] The Fifth Seal: 63-0322; Page 367-5; Par {268}

[5] The Revelation Of Jesus Christ: Church Age Book: Chpt.1; 40-1

[6] Isaiah 25:8,9

# Hard Questions Series Part 3

## Called Out & Special continued from previous issue:

Question: Will the Bride be raptured from all churches or only those who have received the Message of William Branham?

### Exodus

I bring to your remembrance the [Pillar of Fire](#) which is consistently present at the time of Exodus which brings a major drawing out of God's people.



Moses had the Pillar of Fire; Paul encountered the Pillar of Fire; and William Branham had the Pillar of Fire present from his birth and throughout his life and even [proven to be true](#). The common ground they had is that they were all used by God to bring an Exodus.

1. Under Moses: the Church (Israel) was taken out of the nation Egypt
2. Under Paul, the Church was taken from out of Judaism
3. Under William Branham, the Bride of Jesus is taken out of 'church natural'



### The Type in Esther

Finally I want to answer this question using the illustration from the [Book of Esther](#): This type is specifically revealed to explain the answer in a diplomatic way so it doesn't sound arrogant or elitist.

In this type the characters are as follows:

1. King Ahasuerus = King Jesus, the Bridegroom looking for a faithful feminine queen
2. Hegai the Chamberlain = William Branham the messenger who clothes and reveals the Kings character and nature to the Bride
3. Esther = The Bride & Queen being called to the Palace who heeds the words of the messenger and is united to the King by those words.
4. The Many Virgins = The entire body of [sincere](#) Christians living clean and separated from the world.
5. Vashti = the Denominational World who refuses to hear the Kings initial call to repentance'

The king calls Vashti into his meeting and Vashti refuses completely so she is banished from her position and can no longer come into the presence of the king but can stay doing her own parties and gatherings with her own people.

The king then calls for all the virgins of the land and gives them access to everything they need from his treasures, they have access to all the kings money, power, resources, clothing, wisdom... everything the King has they are free to use to prepare themselves, all according to their own conceptions of the king and what they presume he likes. Just like the entire church world today has [everything in the Kings Bible](#) available but they don't really know for sure what the King wants in detail with His Word because they have not heard from the messenger of the age (Hegai; Brother Branham) who has [revealed the mind](#) of the King. Yet they clothe themselves the way they want and do what they want according to their Bible schools and seminaries' education.



# Hard Questions Series Part 3

But there is only one Lady, one Bride who catches the revelation to [listen to the human messenger](#) Hegai. Just to dramatize it for the sake of this thought, she asks: What does the King like me to wear? What does the king like me to say? How does the king like me to carry myself?



ISAIAH 4:1

But when Esther walked before the King... I can see him gasp in elation and love as he saw the feminine reflection of himself expressed in his chosen queen. Just as Adam must have leaped in his heart when the woman was brought to him in Eden; our

What does the king want me to wash in? How does the king want me to approach him? I want to know all about my King's way of thinking! The following passage is the Lord speaking of His Bride: *"There are threescore queens, and fourscore concubines, and virgins without number. My dove, my undefiled is but one; she is the only one of her mother, she is the choice one of her that bare her."* SONG OF SOLOMON 6:8-9A

Because of Hegai's calling, position, and office in the kingdom, the king had revealed to his chamberlain Hegai all the characteristics he loves in a good wife. Hegai had been granted access to see the king and he knew the king's tastes and preferences on all these natural things that (we now know) make a huge difference to the king. So unlike all the other sincere 'Christian' virgins, there was only one who was hearing and receiving the pure word of the king through the messenger Hegai. Esther became the very reflection of the king in word and deed through of the Message of Hegai.

So when the king saw all the other virgins... they were not a complete feminine reflection – he was not seeing himself in those virgins, [they had used his resource](#) and tried their very best to please the king but that complete characteristic of royalty was missing in them, they were placed back in the harem to wait. Please remember, they were not lost, but they were not brought into the palace either, they had to wait until the king wanted them after the wedding and the honeymoon. Isaiah touched on this self-focused worship of the "one Man" Jesus here *"And in that day seven women shall take hold of one man, saying, We will eat our own bread, and wear our own apparel: only let us be called by thy name, to take away our reproach."*

precious and beloved King Jesus will declare: "She is bone of My bone, and flesh of My flesh." What an honour! What a great role the messenger plays in the plan of God! Shifting the focus to the union between bride and groom, King and queen – not queen and messenger but Bride and Bridegroom.

Conclusion:

He is the Great Composer and the Word is His great symphony being played out, be sure to be playing out the very present beat and not become out of rhythm in the past or play ahead of tempo into the future – come into harmony with the conductor and walk in the actual live timing of the Word in harmony and unity with the present program.

The program of God is such that we actually need to hear His prophets and take heed to His current messenger that we may reflect the King. I want to be an Esther in this story and not just a virgin who stays in the harem waiting while the King and Queen have the wedding.

*"Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years."* REVELATION 20:6

*"Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that receives whomsoever I send receives me; and he that receives me receives him that sent me."* JOHN 13:20

Bro Andy Clifford

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