



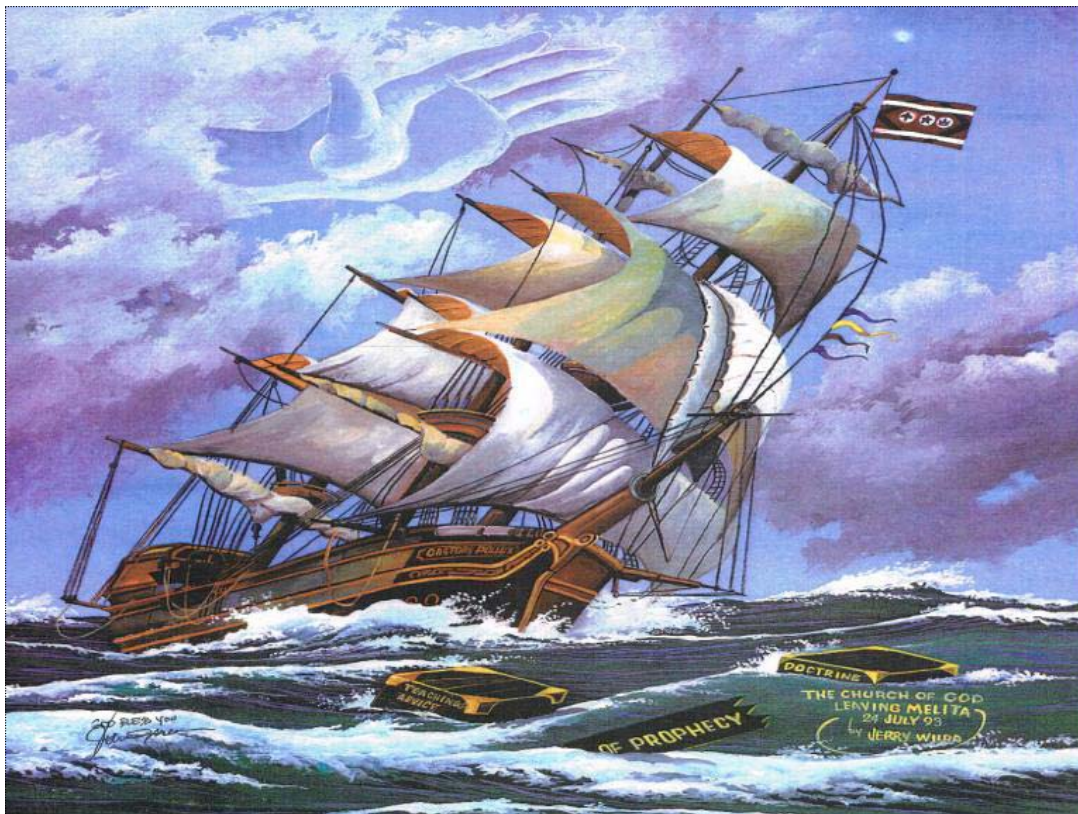
International Voice of The Church Of God Of North Carolina

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"2010 Spiritual Summit" Follow-On Meeting

"THE ANCHOR HOLDS"



LOCATION:

Hamilton City Auditorium, 422 Second Street SW, Hamilton, AL 35570

DATE:

March 18 - 19, 2011

(Get More Information on Page 16)

From the Editor...

John A. Wilkins, Jr.,
International Overseer



"Finding The Church of God by Divine Revelation"

We would like to thank you for your interest in our work of building The Church of God and safeguarding the TRUTH. There is no interest on our part in starting a new church that is why we incorporated the name, THE CHURCH OF GOD of NC. The law required either a prefix or a suffix so we chose (of NC) to reflect where the Church arose on June 13, 1903. The suffix on our name says it all and ties us to our roots where Brother Tomlinson found The Church of God of the Bible that had been covered over by manmade creeds and doctrines until the "ARISE SHINE" on June 13, 1903. The same thing is happening again as men walk away from theocratic government and establish their own in an effort to take untold thousands with them into denominations of their own. We are committed to the same understanding presented there on the "Arise Shine" and the faith as practiced by A. J. Tomlinson and M. A. Tomlinson. The Bible church is the only one we are interested in and it belongs to Jesus through the purchase He made with His blood and no man can hold title to it. We hold to the covenant as the only way to be added to the Church and subscribe to the fact that the Lord adds us to the Body as it pleases Him just as He makes husband and wife one flesh in marriage.



Thanks again, for considering joining with us in the battle against Satan who is determined to destroy the beautiful doctrines of the Bible. There will be no new covenant or renewal of the same unless you have broken it or never taken it in the first place. We accept the responsibility of being THE CHURCH OF GOD and welcome all who have not broken ranks with God's Army and are holding on to your covenant no matter what group you are now with. THE CHURCH OF GOD (of prophecy) must accept all who desire to walk by the TRUE DOCTRINE and remain that same church which Bishop A. J. Tomlinson discovered in the Fields of the Wood on top of Burger Mountain. It was the covenant that they took with God before the witnesses that made it THE CHURCH OF GOD then and it is that same covenant with God that makes it THE CHURCH OF GOD now! This is for those who are serious about being THE CHURCH OF GOD of the Bible. This is the church of prophecy and is open to all who will embrace Her teachings and the covenant. We stand pledged to our church flag of 1933, and to the doctrine for which it stands, ONE GOD, ONE FAITH, ONE MIND and ONE CHURCH FOR ALL.

"Holding up TRUTH that all might see and embrace it!"

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT

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“The Covenant With TRUTH”

~John A. Wilkins Jr~

Dunn, NC

Pilate saith unto him, What is truth?... John 18:38a

What is Truth? This question was asked of Jesus by Pilate as Pilate looked TRUTH in the face and continued to fire questions at Jesus as he listened intently to the answers being given by Jesus on that fateful day. The answers were too hard for Pilate because he was concerned with being politically correct because of the mob. Pilate in the end allowed the mob to dictate his actions and release a robber instead of the blameless Lamb of God. Pilate knew and recognized TRUTH and said, “...***I find in him no fault at all.***” John 18:38b The numbers had won out again over TRUTH because the numbers wanted a robber instead and even though Pilate desired to release Him they wanted to crucify Him. Many know the truth but their leaders are blind leaders who will not follow the TRUTH and they deceive and misguide the “Covenant People” into darkness.

All ye beasts of the field, come to devour, yea, all ye beasts in the forest. His watchmen are blind: they are all ignorant, they are all dumb dogs, they cannot bark; sleeping, lying down, loving to slumber. Yea, they are greedy dogs which can never have enough, and they are Shepherds that cannot understand: they all look to their own way, every one for his gain, from his quarter. Isaiah 56:9-11

TRUTH is being forsaken in an attempt to gain mass

numbers and in everything be politically correct that we might not offend people about their lifestyles that are sending them to Hell. The shepherds turn their heads and say everything is alright but everything is not alright. The people’s blood will be on the hands of leaders who do not sound the alarm. While our world is being destroyed right before our eyes by a God who is merciful and will abundantly pardon our people they are being told everything is just fine but it is not fine, look at God’s Word, His Word is TRUTH. Surely the God that destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah will not withhold His judgment from the United States of America or any other nation that continues to abort its children in the womb and practice the same sins of those cities. Just 10 years ago hardly anyone knew what tsunami meant but now most everyone on earth knows what it means and every week we turn on the TV to discover where the earthquake was. Certainly Matthew 24 is on everyone’s mind as the day of the Lord is at hand yet men will not accept His TRUTH. Homosexuality is not only out of the closet but it is in most of the churches today and in many of them it is practiced openly without shame and they are told the Lord understands and He made them that way.

Behold, the LORD’S hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: But your iniquities have separated between you

and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear. For your hands are defiled with blood, and your fingers with iniquity; your lips have spoken lies, your tongue hath muttered perverseness. None calleth for justice, nor any pleadeth for truth: they trust in vanity, and speak lies; they conceive mischief, and bring forth iniquity. They hatch cockatrice’ eggs, and weave the spider’s web: he that eateth of their eggs dieth, and that which is crushed breaketh out into a viper. Their webs shall not become garments, neither shall they cover themselves with their works: their works are works of iniquity, and the act of violence is in their hands. Their feet run to evil, and they make haste to shed innocent blood: their thoughts are thoughts of iniquity; wasting and destruction are in their paths. The way of peace they know not; and there is no judgment in their goings: they have made them crooked paths: whosoever goeth therein shall not know peace. Therefore is judgment far from us, neither doth justice overtake us: we wait for light, but behold obscurity; for brightness, but we walk in darkness. We grope for the wall like the blind, and we grope as if we had no eyes: we stumble at noon-day as in the night; we are in desolate places as dead men. We roar all like bears, and mourn sore like doves: we look for judgment, but there is none; for salvation, but it is far off from us. For our transgressions are multiplied before thee,

and our sins testify against us: for our transgressions are with us; and as for our iniquities, we know them; In transgressing and lying against the LORD, and departing away from our God, speaking oppression and revolt, conceiving and uttering from the heart words of falsehood. And judgment is turned away backward, and justice standeth afar off: for truth is fallen in the street, and equity cannot enter. Yea, truth faileth; and he that departeth from evil maketh himself a prey: and the LORD saw it, and it displeased him that there was no judgment. Isaiah 59:1-15

TRUTH is not contingent on who believes it nor is it based on the number that believes it. Pilate listened to the crowd's cry against TRUTH, he heard TRUTH and believed it yet he did nothing to stand for truth because the numbers were against him. Did it change the truth when the numbers were against Pilate? Many today find the numbers are very important, we get many calls asking about how many churches we have, how many members, how many ministers etc. but not many about TRUTH. Truth needs no supporting documents; it needs no props or a certain man or group to accept it in order to validate it. It is almost never the path of least resistance but rather the path of great resistance. TRUTH never has the biggest crowd but it remains true just the same. It never needs a big celebrity to support it for it to be acceptable, TRUTH stands on its own merit. Do you remember this saying, "God's Word says it, I believe it and that settles it." What a great

deception this is for the fact that **God's Word says it and that settles it** whether or not we believe it makes no difference. It doesn't hinge on our acceptance!

It is commonly said that because most churches today accept divorce and remarriage that we must bring the Church into the 21st Century by permitting it. This is about the same trap set for Pilate. Many are losing out today because they are following the crowd straight into Hell in refusing to accept God's Word regarding this subject just as they are the homosexual issue.

Some are preaching "The Harvest" while the Bible is clear that the masses are going to Hell and that is their choice. TRUTH has come but it must be accepted and not rationalized away by those who chose to walk in darkness and call it light. The Bible tells us of two ways and we must choose which way we'll take:

Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it. Matt 7:13-14

The path of least resistance is the broad way, and it is easy traveling but the destination is not desirable. The narrow way requires a sanctified life and the leading of the Holy Ghost in order to make it on that path. The narrow way causes your family to turn on you and the world to hate you and sometimes your brothers and sisters will hate you however, the destination is filled with eternal bliss and glory beyond the

glitter of this world. God is calling us to TRUTH but many because of family, friends, money, prestige and other gods will not allow them to walk in it. There is a way that seemed right but the end is the ways of death. The broad way says, "Don't say anything about divorce and remarriage because almost everyone is in it or their family is in it and you will offend them." Here is one of my favorite sayings about this subject, "Oh, I know it is in the Bible but don't you know Jesus loves us all and forgives this sin like all others?" Yes, He does forgive this sin but then admonishes us to go and sin no more, in other words fix your problem. Here is another one of my favorites, "Oh, they don't have marital relations, one lives in one end of the house and the other partner lives in the opposite end." TRUTH says it is the "covenant" not the marriage act that makes you one flesh. You are a fornicator committing adultery because of the covenant my friend otherwise you are just an adulterer just as you would be if you were single and committing adultery. It is the covenant that puts you into this sinful state not the sexual relations. Fornication is still being married to another person's companion that cannot lawfully be yours by the Bible; we must forget the government's laws and accept TRUTH. Here is biblical proof of the covenant putting you into adultery and fornication.

For the woman which hath an husband is bound by the law to her husband so long as he liveth; but if the husband be dead, she is loosed from the law of her husband. So then if, while

her husband liveth, she be married to another man, she shall be called an adulteress: but if her husband be dead, she is free from that law; so that she is no adulteress, though she be married to another man. Rom 7:2-3

The Bible tells us to buy the TRUTH and sell it not. Here is another statement from the broad way crowd, "He/she has been unfaithful and therefore I have a right to marry another." The only thing that will break a legitimate marriage covenant according to the Bible is death of a spouse. The Bible says:

Know ye not that your bodies are the members of Christ? shall I then take the members of Christ, and make them the members of an harlot? God forbid. What? know ye not that he which is joined to an harlot is one body? for two, saith he, shall be one flesh. 1 Cor 6:14-16

TRUTH says this about fornication: *But I say unto you, That whosoever shall put away his wife, saving for the cause of fornication, causeth her to commit adultery: and whosoever shall marry her that is divorced committeth adultery.* Matt 5:32

It is reported commonly that there is fornication among you, and such fornication as is not so much as named among the Gentiles, that one should have his father's wife. 1 Cor 5:1

Nevertheless, to avoid fornication, let every man have his own wife, and let every woman have her own husband. 1 Cor. 7:2

Men years ago studied the scriptures to find TRUTH but now many do it to find ways around truth and excuses for not following it. They look to blind

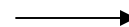
leaders to inform them in TRUTH while the leaders do not walk in TRUTH themselves. The show down came between Jesus and Peter when Jesus asked him some very pointed questions about TRUTH. Jesus didn't just want to know how everyone else felt about Him but how do you see it, Peter? Many say, "Well I just don't see it that way but I don't fault you for the way you believe it." I really think the Lord is asking us, "**How do you see it now?**" You can't see TRUTH for me and I can't see it for you, we must have divine revelation in order to see His Church. Many are asking each other about His Church when they need to be asking Him.

When Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, Whom do men say that I the Son of man am? And they said, Some say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets. He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven. And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. Matt 16:13-18

But, who do YOU say is His Church? We simply must have divine revelation as to who His Church is and what it takes to be His Church. His Church is not some particular group led by

some special person but His Church is the one who is it because they take the whole Bible rightly divided and walk in the light of His Word to the best of their knowledge and ability. Bishop A. J. Tomlinson said to the Holiness Church at Camp Creek, "**Well if you take the whole Bible rightly divided, that makes it the Church of God. Why do you want to call it the Holiness Church at Camp Creek?**" That is still what it takes to be the Church of God and if that is true no man can stop me from being a part of His Church because I have taken the covenant to be it and so have many of you. His Church is the one from the Bible not the one in someone's mind who have their own rules of belonging; it is the covenant that makes us one in Him not the group or the preacher. That covenant was with God not the preacher or the witnesses! Did you enter the covenant with your companion through the preacher or was it with God in front of these witnesses? John one time had questions about Jesus and sent his disciples out to check on the situation but when they returned they had a report that left him doubtless. He was okay after that.

And John calling unto him two of his disciples sent them to Jesus, saying, Art thou he that should come? or look we for another? When the men were come unto him, they said, John Baptist hath sent us unto thee, saying, Art thou he that should come? or look we for another? And in that same hour he cured many of their infirmities and plagues, and of evil spirits; and unto many that were blind



*he gave sight. Then Jesus answering said unto them, **Go your way, and tell John what things ye have seen and heard; how that the blind see, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, to the poor the gospel is preached.***

Luke 7:19-22

TRUTH had spoken again and it is the facts of our history that make us understand that our church leaders of the past had found the Church in the Bible not the court house or the patient office and if we want to walk in this TRUTH no one can stop us. It is a matter of **HOW DO YOU SEE IT NOW?** If the covenant doesn't make it the Church then Bishop A. J. Tomlinson never found it. He did not make it the Church; it was already THE CHURCH OF GOD although they did not call it officially by that name until the assembly of 1907 on January 11, 1907. It was indeed THE CHURCH OF GOD without the name for four years; no it was for all eternity, it just needed to be uncovered. It did not become the Church on June 13th 1903! While the name is important it isn't the name that makes it the Church. If you have taken that covenant then keep this in mind:

What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder. Matthew 19:6

The marriage covenant is binding until death but the Church Covenant is perpetual (without end). It shall never be forgotten and even death does not separate us from it, yet men think they can put us in and out at will while we are doing all we know to walk in His righteousness and please Him. There is no Bible for any minister adding someone to the

Church nor is there a single verse for taking them out. We have the obligation to break fellowship with those who walk unruly and do evil but it is the Lord who adds and subtracts from His Church. This covenant thing is with God, not the preacher or the witnesses. In one case a backslidden pastor held conferences and supposedly turned people out of the Church and I was told by those over me in the Lord that it was valid if the local church went along with it. While we must deal with sin and break our fellowship I cannot accept that the local church has that authority even with a saved pastor. We must always remind our people of this and how serious this covenant really is.

God's Word is truth, not man's word. Who has the right understanding on the subject of the Church of prophecy, the Church of the Bible? There are so many different views on this subject that it will make you dizzy. One will say, "I am of this one and we're it." Another will say, "I am following Bishop Know It All and we're the only true church." Then another will say, "We have the leader whom the Holy Ghost has selected so we know that we are it and everyone else is not." There are presently 7 different groups claiming to have the leader that God has chosen to lead the TRUE CHURCH, so which one is correct? The Holy Ghost is not confused and he is not going around appointing several different General Overseers. Peter's revelation came from God and ours must come from Him if we are to survive men's deception. These manmade churches or denominations are no different than the ones they condemn which are

too numerous to mention here. Your covenant is with God not man. Those who were present when you did it are the witnesses to what you did with God just as in marriage. TRUTH says we are bound by a covenant to one wife or husband until death but the Church Covenant is forever. He has placed us in the Body, His Body, as it hath pleased Him. Do we want to follow TRUTH or men's fables? No one can find a single verse in the Bible that says the Apostles added members or pastors and bishops added members. Here is what TRUTH says:

And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers. And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles. And all that believed were together, and had all things common; And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all men, as every man had need. And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart, Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved. Acts 2:42 - 47

This is what made them His Church!

We have tried to build His Church when He said, "**I will build my church.**" He told Peter the gates of Hell would not prevail against it but yet we worry and fret over Her condition today. It is time to preach the TRUTH and let the chips fall where they may and trust Him to build it His way because that is the only way

it will happen. TRUTH says He will build it, do you believe it? Our job is to preach His Word, believe and practice it and obey the TRUTH and the job will be done. He has finished the work on the cross and He said, "It is finished". How many times does our way have to fail before we will accept His way and preach if from the Bible?

... if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me. John 12:32b

It is time to be collectively, The Church of God (of prophecy), the one found in the Bible. The one that is made it by covenant, nothing more and nothing less with its foundation built on the Apostles and Prophets with Jesus Christ as the chief cornerstone. We spend too much time wondering who will be greatest in His kingdom and attempting to discover who the real General Overseer is and who the real Church is. It is time to go to work in being His Church guided and directed by the Holy Ghost and not some man. No man can stop us from being His Church if we want to follow TRUTH but we must be obedient to our heavenly vision and keep our covenant with Him.

In that day shall this song be sung in the land of Judah; We have a strong city; salvation will God appoint for walls and bulwarks. Open ye the gates, that the righteous nation which keepeth the truth may enter in. Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee. Trust ye in the LORD for ever: for in the LORD JEHOVAH is everlasting strength: Is. 26:1-4

For Zion's sake will I not

hold my peace, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until the righteousness thereof go forth as brightness, and the salvation thereof as a lamp that burneth. And the Gentiles shall see thy righteousness, and all kings thy glory: and thou shalt be called by a new name, which the mouth of the LORD shall name. Thou shalt also be a crown of glory in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of thy God. Thou shalt no more be termed Forsaken; neither shall thy land any more be termed Desolate: but thou shalt be called Hephzibah, and thy land Beulah: for the LORD delighteth in thee, and thy land shall be married. For as a young man marrieth a virgin, so shall thy sons marry thee: and as the bridegroom rejoiceth over the bride, so shall thy God rejoice over thee. I have set watchmen upon thy walls, O Jerusalem, which shall never hold their peace day nor night: ye that make mention of the LORD, keep not silence, And give him no rest, till he establish, and till he make Jerusalem a praise in the earth. The LORD hath sworn by his right hand, and by the arm of his strength, Surely I will no more give thy corn to be meat for thine enemies; and the sons of the stranger shall not drink thy wine, for the which thou hast laboured: But they that have gathered it shall eat it, and praise the LORD; and they that have brought it together shall drink it in the courts of my holiness. Go through, go through the gates; prepare ye the way of the people; cast up, cast up the highway; gather out the stones; lift up a standard for the people. Behold,

the LORD hath proclaimed unto the end of the world, Say ye to the daughter of Zion, Behold, thy salvation cometh; behold, his reward is with him, and his work before him. And they shall call them, The holy people, The redeemed of the LORD: and thou shalt be called, Sought out, A city not forsaken. Isaiah 62:1-12

The pastor who administered the covenant to you might be dead; all the witnesses are possibly dead but you are still a member by covenant if you have not departed from it once you took it, administered by the proper authority, just as in marriage. In some cases the minister and most or all of the witnesses have walked away from their covenant but yours is still valid and you are still in His hand. Just because they have spiritually died will have no effect on your covenant which is still valid with TRUTH and you don't need to keep renewing it each time you change groups since it is with Him.

It is time for us to UNITE around Christ, the Head of the Church as His "Covenant People" and quit playing games about CHURCH! This is THE CHURCH OF GOD of prophecy found in the Bible and I am proud to be a part of Her.

Are you holding to your COVENANT WITH TRUTH? □



“Let Your Light So Shine Before Men”

~John A. Pultz~
Roanoke, VA



Jesus said *"...Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you..."* Matt. 5:44.

How contrary to the natural, unregenerated man, to love even his enemies! But, as born again believers, we have something that the world does not possess, the Spirit of Christ. If He has given us the ability to love our enemies, then how much more should we love our brothers and sisters in the Lord?

"By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another" John 13:35.

The way some professing Christians behave, no one would suspect them of being His disciples. Jesus illustrated this point, in the parable of the lost sheep:

"What man of you, having an hundred sheep. if he lose one of them, doth not leave the ninety and nine in the wilderness, and go after that which is lost, until he find it? And when he hath found it, he layeth it on his shoulders, rejoicing....I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance." Luke 15: 4, 5 & 7.

In our day, many have been misled, deceived and led astray, by those who were supposed to be their shepherds. Many others have taken the same path

of destruction as in the days when there was no king in Israel:

"In those days there was no king in Israel, but every man did that which was right in his own eyes." Judges 17:6

Now we know that we can't do that which we ourselves decide is right, because we have the Word of God, from the Lord, written in our hearts by the Holy Ghost, which proves that we are His disciples:

"...If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him and make our abode with him." John 14:23

How will the Father and the Son make their abode with us?

"But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you..." John 14:26

...for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will show you things to come...All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that he shall take of mine, and shall shew it unto you." John 16:13b & 15

The Holy Ghost does not speak of Himself, only that which He hears.

Hebrews 1:2 We find that the Father speaks through the Son: "God (the Father) *Hath in*

these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;"

The Son then reveals it to us through the Holy Ghost: *"...he shall take of mine, and shall shew it unto you."* John 16:15

A simple way to understand God's plan of communicating with His people, in these last days, is this: The Father **WILLS** it, the Son **SPEAKS** it and then the Holy Ghost **REVEALS** it, to us.

In Luke 15:11-32 we find **Jesus telling the parable of the prodigal son**. A man had two sons, but the younger son decided that he wanted his inheritance now. So, the Father gave him his portion. Being foolish, he squandered all of this inheritance living it up and having a good time (so he thought) living in sin. The writer of Hebrews spoke of Moses rejecting the *"...pleasures of sin for a season"*. Oh, if God's people could only learn that the pleasures of sin are but for a fleeting moment. Sin will take you further than you want to go, keep you there longer, than you want to stay and cost you more than you want to pay. It wasn't long before this son had spent all of his money on *"riotous living"*.

Knowing that pork was an abominable thing to Jews, we realize how far this boy had sunk into sin, when we find him feeding swine, just to be able to survive. Don't we all know someone like this boy, who once walked with the Father and the Son, but something or someone influenced them and they took their portion and went away from the truth, into the far land of sin and deceit?

Even though this son had sunk to the bottom of the mirey pit, he finally came to his senses and said, to himself:

"...How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough to spare, and I perish with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, And am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants". (Luke 15: V.17,19).

Something, that seems strange to the world, happened next. The father looked up one day and saw his prodigal son, off in the distance, coming toward home. The father could have thought to himself "well, here comes that good for nothing son of mine, I guess he wants another hand out!". But, we find the father running out to meet him and he embraced this dirty, smelly, pig feeding son, who was probably wearing filthy, worn clothes and no shoes. Then the father did the unspeakable! He kissed his filthy face! The son started telling his father how he had sinned before God and in his father's sight and he was no longer worthy to be called his son. The boy never got to finish his repentant apology,

because his father cried out to the servants: **"Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet: And bring forth the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry: For this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry."** (Luke 15: V.22 - 24)

There was a problem, however. The oldest son heard all the merry making and asked one of the servants what was going on. **"And he said unto him, thy brother is come; and thy father hath killed the fatted calf, because he hath received him safe and sound".** (V.27)

This elder son became very angry. When his father heard about it, he went to him, but the oldest son thought that it wasn't fair, that they should be rejoicing over this wayward son, who had been living in sin and had now returned home. Much like the shepherd, who rejoices over the one lost sheep that he has found, more than over the ninety nine who were not lost, this father was rejoicing over his lost son who had repented and come back home. But, the elder son thought that he should get special treatment, because he had been doing his father's will the whole time that the younger brother was living in sin. He thought that his brother should receive some sort of punishment and be counted as a servant, rather than his father's son and his brother. We have to be very careful, so that we don't get an attitude like this older brother. He thought more highly of himself, than he did of his brother who had been snatched

out of the jaws of death and hell.

The Lord has told us, through the Holy Ghost, at the 2010 National Convention (USA):

"...Watch what I will do among your enemies. Watch how I will disburse them before you. I will cause your enemies to become those who love you and protect you. Yea, I shall bring them back unto you. They shall come with heads hung low. They shall know that I have protected you and that I am with you..."

Most of us have been hurt and mistreated by many that once worshipped with us. When the Lord causes many of them to see the error of their ways and brings them back to the fold, how will we respond? Will we be like the elder brother and think that we should be treated better than them? Or will we have the attitude of the loving father, who ran to meet the son that was covered in the filth of sin, but now wanted forgiveness and cleansing? If the Lord has shed His love abroad, in our hearts, by the Holy Ghost (Rom. 5:5) so that we can even love our enemies, then how can we do anything other than run to meet these who are returning from a wayward path and fall on their necks embracing them and rejoicing with the Father, the Son, the Holy Ghost and the angels in heaven, for their safe return?

We have to remember this: God never tells us to reject any who come to Him through His Son, Jesus Christ. God never

tells us to think more highly of ourselves, than of our brothers and sisters, no matter what was in their past, if it is now under the Blood of the Lamb.

"But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses." Matthew 6:15.

"For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think..." Romans 12:3a.

"For there is no respect of persons with God." Romans 2:11

"Let nothing be done through strife or vain glory but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves." Philippians. 2:3.

Jesus summed up the whole matter, in the following verses: ***"Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid...Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."***

Matthew 5:14 & 16.

If this is our mindset, then one day we will hear Him say: ***"Well done, thou good and faithful servant...enter thou into the***

joy of thy Lord." Matthew 25:21

Let's all ask ourselves: Does His light so shine through me, that men glorify my Father, which is in heaven? □



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Baby Dedication Maci Lucas



Joy, Joy, Joy

On Sunday January 23, 2011 Seven Month old Maci Lucas was dedicated to the Lord. Maci's Daddy and Mother, Matt U India with many of their family members were there.

Oh what a joy little children bring to their family and to all. Mark 10:14 Jesus said, ***Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God.***

The pastor mad this statement, "this little child has brought these two families together today."

One of Maci's Great Grandparent are Lebert and Glenda Lucas, joy, joy, joy.

Shirley Michael
Church Reporter
Vina, AL



Destined For Greatness

~Dolores Yost~

New Ellenton, SC

If we believe God's Word to be absolute, un-

changeable truth, then we must continue forward in that truth with great faith and steadfastness. We must believe His promises to us concerning the future of His Church, but first let us consider Her past and present state.

Haggai 2:3 *Who is left among you that saw this house in Her first glory and how do you see it now? Is it not in your eyes in comparison of it as nothing?*

How often we have heard and also spoken these words. "Oh, that The Church was as it used to be!" Many of you recall the glory that was present in our assemblies, and how we long to witness once again the Shekinah glory of God. To all that hunger, I tell you to hold on! God has a plan and He's not finished yet! While all this may be true, Children, we also must remember at the same time, God was calling The Church to repentance. It was when His people refused to heed the call to repent that His glory began to depart the House. Many became painfully aware of a departure of true holiness and began witnessing the affects of the collision course upon which The Church was on. Yes as the prophet said, there is no comparison to how it used to be, but do we really want to go back to the way that it was? I don't honestly believe that we do and neither does God. Why would He want us to go back to what He has called us out of? Amen? His Spirit is still very great among His obedient and many are still praising Him and enjoying His great blessings.

Being called of God to stand in His Word and in holiness, It became necessary to totally abort the course destruction and follow the leading and guidance of The Holy Ghost. I use the word destruction because it became evident to many, that Man had decided to take it upon himself to lead The Church. Ministers and laity alike saw the drifting away from holiness and refused to be a part of it. Praise God for stirring up the Spirit in each one opposed to continuing on the path that

would lead us to ruin!

Haggai 1: 9,10,11 *"Ye looked for much, but it came to little, and when ye brought it home, I did blow upon it. Why? Because of mine house that is waste, and ye run every man to his own house."*

There is only one who is head of the Church, one authority! Amen! Yet there are several fragmentations who have surfaced, along with their particular followers, saying that they are the Church. The actions of these only confirm the fact that man is so pitifully divided, but glory to God, He is not divided! His Word is eternal and settled in Heaven forever! Let's not every man run to his own house, rather, let's all fall in line behind Jesus' leadership and build again the house of the Lord! Whether the number is small or great, God will have His way and the gates of Hell will not prevail against Her! Glory to God forever!

Verse 10 goes on to say, *"Therefore the heaven over you is stayed from dew, and the earth is stayed from her fruit. Verse 11, And I called for a drought upon the land, and upon the mountains, and upon the corn, and upon the new wine, and upon the oil, and upon that which the ground bringeth forth, and upon men, and upon cattle, and upon all the labour of the hands."*

It looks as though man and all that pertains to him will be brought to nothing, destroyed by God Himself! Children, God brought all these things against the people in the days of Zerubbabel for their disobedience and their rebellion against Him. Have we become greater and wiser than The God of the whole universe? All rebellion will bring wrath on those children of disobedience! Be warned, God is not mocked! Beware, lest we fall into the hands of the living God!

God admonishes those whom He has stirred up, to push forward and be strong.

Haggai 2: 4,5 *"Yet now be strong, O Zerubbabel, saith the LORD; and be strong, O Joshua, son of Josedech, the high priest; and be strong, all ye people of the land, saith the LORD, and work: for I am with you, saith the LORD of hosts:*

According to the word that I covenanted with you when ye came out of Egypt, so my spirit remaineth among you: fear ye not."

In order for the people of God to be strong and to stay strong, is to heed His words and do exactly what He says to do. We need not be fearful when His Spirit is with us because He will never lead us where He cannot keep us safe.

Haggai 1:14 ***"And the LORD stirred up the spirit of Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and the spirit of Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest, and the spirit of all the remnant of the people; and they came and did work in the house of the LORD of hosts, their God."***

Still, not everyone in the Church was willing to leave their places of comfort even though many knew that things were dramatically shifting from theocratic government. They were fearful to step up and speak against the wrong that was being done. God has always had a remnant, and they certainly were not willing to stand by and watch the Devil attempt to derail God's Church!

Haggai 1:2 ***Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, saying, This people say, The time IS NOT COME, the time that the LORD'S house should be built.***

Even though the majority wanted things to remain as they were, Haggai tells them what the Lord had to say.

Haggai 1: 3,4,5-7 ***"Then came the word of the LORD by Haggai the prophet, saying, IS IT TIME for you, O ye, to dwell in your ceiled houses, and this house lie waste? Now therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts; CONSIDER YOUR WAYS"***. In verse 6, the Lord through Haggai, says that all that they do is coming to nothing. Still they remain disobedient and refuse to listen, so again in verse 7, God reminds them to consider their ways!

For years, the Holy Ghost gave us message after message, calling for the Church to consider Her ways, to repent. A remnant did repent but the masses continued doing exactly what they wanted to do. Soon, as in the days of Haggai, instead of repentance, came rebellion. We all know what happens when one rebels against God. In His great mercy, we see Him still trying to get the people to do what He asks.

Haggai 1;8 ***Go up to the mountain, and***

bring wood, and build the house; and I will take pleasure in it, and I will be glorified, saith the LORD.

Many seek their own glory and put themselves above the Lord, but their end will not be what they expected. Still, they continue on the destructive path of rebellion. One may go just so far, but when God has had enough, it is enough! And secure! Children of God, return to Him while His hand of mercy is still out-stretched to us. It is now that the window of opportunity is open. Please don't wait until it is too late!

Haggai 2; 6,7 ***"For thus saith the Lord of hosts; yet once, it is a little while, and I will shake the heavens, and the earth, and the sea, and the dry land. And I will shake all nations, and the desire of all nations shall come and I will fill this house with glory, saith the Lord of hosts."***

We can certainly agree that God has indeed been shaking and sifting for a long time now. But how long O God, will you bear with us? How long do we think that God will endure this foolish behavior of His people? How many precious souls are being lost to this carrying on? We should be doing what the Lord told us to do and that was to be His witnesses and to seek lost souls. Are we busy doing that, or other things that don't amount to much? God help us, your people, to get about doing the bidding of the Lord! We Cannot say that He has not provided the means for us to carry on the work. We may not have the tremendous amounts of funds as we once did many years ago, but just hold on and He will bring all these things to pass.

Haggai 2: 8,9 ***"The silver is mine and the gold is mine saith the Lord of hosts. THE GLORY OF THIS LATTER HOUSE SHALL BE GREATER THAN THAT OF THE FORMER, saith the Lord of hosts: and in this place, will I give peace, saith the Lord of hosts"***

This is God's pure word. As surely as He has spoken it, so will He perform it! The Church of God is destined to be great! Make no mistake! Those who scoff and complain and continually ridicule the Church for not having great numbers as before, will surely be put to shame Little is much when God is in it! He is all we need as we watch the latter house become that glorious, beautiful and holy Church without spot or wrinkle, or any such thing Glory to God forevermore! □

Born Out of Adversity

~Eunice Foster~

International W.M.B. Director

When we go back in Jewish history and study the customs of marriage, the father of the groom gives the father of the bride a gift called Mohar. This was a expensive gift, the price of the bride was high, and expensive.

There was other gifts given. Gifts given to the bride, from the groom these were called Matton given at the betrothal or engagement.

John 3:16 *For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.*

The Father (God) paid the Mohar

Romans 8:3 *For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh:*

The son grows and at the age of twelve he tells his earthly parents, *"I must be about my father's business."* At the age of thirty he begins his public ministry, and organized his church.

Mark 3: 13-15 *And he goeth up into a mountain, and calleth unto him whom he would: and they came unto him. And he ordained twelve, that they should be with him, and that he might send them forth to preach, And to have power to heal sicknesses, and to cast out devils:*

He has his Bride, now he must pay the Matton. He has spent three years working on the Matton. He has taught Her many things. Now its time for him to complete his gift. He has given his life.

John 19: 28-30 *After this, Jesus knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the scripture might be fulfilled, saith, I thirst. Now there was set a vessel full of vinegar: and they filled a sponge with vinegar, and put it upon hyssop, and put it to his mouth. When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost.*

He paid in full Matton for His Bride.

Acts 20:28 *Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own*

blood.

Mark 16:15 *And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.*

Christ has given His Church, (The Church of God) a command "go ye", preach the gospel. It's time for birthing children. Birthing is not an easy thing to do, comparing to the natural birth. There is what is called false labor. Sometimes its thought to be the real thing. But it don't get hard enough, its not regular, it stops. It don't bring forth the child. Sometimes we in the church are like that. We have false spiritual labor. We pray for a while. We're stirred for a while then the labor stops. Children are not brought forth. Our compassion, our concern is like false labor, it stops.

Isaiah 37:3 *And they said unto him, Thus saith Hezekiah, This day is a day of trouble, and of rebuke, and of blasphemy: for the children are come to the birth, and there is not strength to bring forth.*

This is a good description of our day. There is a great shaking in the religious world today false prophets, false teachings, rumors, half truths and doubts are at an all time high. Souls are crying out for Truth. Oh, Church where is our strength to bring forth children? Jesus said, *"lift up your eyes look on the fields they are ripe."*

Hebrews 12:1 *Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,*

We don't outright sin but these weights cloud up our minds. Our spiritual eye sight becomes weak, Unconcern creeps in, no compassion, self satisfied, at lose in Zion are just some of the weights that hinder us.

Ephesians 6:11-12 *Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.*

We are no match for these powers, what do

we do?

Matthew 17:21 *Howbeit this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting.*

This is our answer, and I would like to say, stay in the Word.

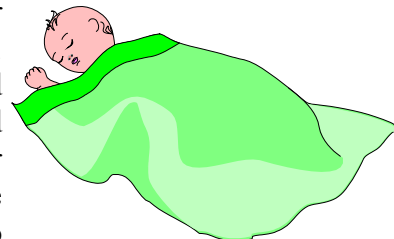
Genesis 30:1 *And when Rachel saw that she bare Jacob no children, Rachel envied her sister; and said unto Jacob, Give me children, or else I die.*

Jacob had paid the Matron for Rachel seven (7) years of work. He was given the wrong woman, Lea the brides sister. Lea was not the bride paid for yet she bore children. The world is full of Lea's today, bringing forth partial birth. Many are not teaching these children the full gospel or the Word rightly divided. Jacob loved his chosen bride but her womb was closed she bore him no children. Rachel came to the place where nothing else mattered. Her cry was "give me children else I die". Zion's cry must be "give me children else I die". Around the world, His cry to Zion needs to be heard, children are

conceived and they must come to full birth.

Isaiah 66:7-8 *Before she travailed, she brought forth; before her pain came, she was delivered of a man child. Who hath heard such a thing? who hath seen such things? Shall the earth be made to bring forth in one day? or shall a nation be born at once? for as soon as Zion travailed, she brought forth her children.*

Its time to travail in final labor. In the final minutes of natural birth, there is no stopping the labor, it comes hard and steady. The woman's mind is on one thing, giving birth. Her time for birthing is at this time. Our labor for God must become hard and steady. Our time for birthing is now. We must bring children to full birth. □



March Mission Drive

U.S.A. National W.M.B. Director

Dolores Yost

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THEME: "THE ANCHOR HOLDS"

MEETING:

"2010 Spiritual Summit" Follow-On

LOCATION:

Hamilton City Auditorium, 422 Second Street SW,
Hamilton, AL 35570

DATE:

March 18 - 19, 2011
(Friday Evening & all day Saturday)



TIMES: Friday, March 18 6:00 PM (1800 hours) until close (Singing, preaching, testimonies, healings)
Saturday, March 19, 9:00 AM (0900 hours) until close (Business, questions and answers)

SPONSOR: The Church of God of NC and others from various groups.

PROGRAM: Holy Ghost in charge (Let us submit to Him?)

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBER: 205-921-2121

HELPFUL INFORMATION:

AIR TRAVEL IS LIMITED TO DELTA AIRLINES: You will want to fly into Tupelo, MS (Pickup will be arranged but you will need to call this number to arrange pickup 910-891-5010 as soon as you have tickets) Tupelo, MS to Hamilton, AL approximately 40 miles.

LODGING: Listed on a separate sheet and you will need to get your own for this meeting (No specials)

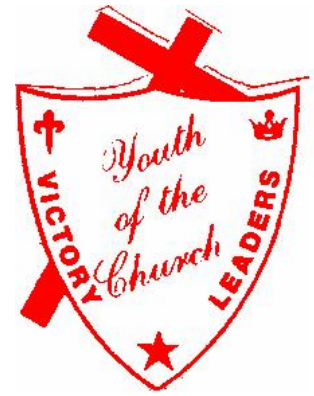
FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Call 910-891-5010 during office hours 9:00 AM-5:00 PM
Monday - Friday

INVITE A FRIEND, GO TO THE PHONE AND CALL SOMEONE AND GIVE THEM YOUR PERSONAL INVITATION TO THIS MEETING. IT COULD BE THE MOST IMPORTANT CALL YOU WILL EVER MAKE!

NOTE: FEEL FREE TO COPY AND PRINT THIS PAGE, THEN MAIL THEM TO LEADERS, FRIENDS AND FAMILY, TIME IS RUNNING OUT!

“Giving It Over”

~Jona Nelson~
International VLB Director
Falkville, AL



Sometimes life is so busy that some areas get neglected, then a new year comes and we tend to review the year to find our faults. What do we do? We make New Year's resolutions. So What makes us decide what comes first? What we see is our biggest neglect that we have fallen short, some say their weight, while others say finances and still others say time management. These same resolutions follow us around year to year and improvements on these things are ongoing. Yet we see a crisis going on, lack of a real relationship with God. We have lacked the trust in our Father, who truly loves us, for all things. I have failed to ask God to come to my aid this year. I have become so overwhelmed by a new job, new training, and several circumstances that I should have asked God to send me help. I tend to think I can do it all and I fail to ask for help.

1 Peter 5:7...*Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.*

He loves you so much that He wants your cares, He desires you to trust Him with ALL THINGS. He wants you to TRUST that he cares about you, when you are stressed, when you're tired, and when you're overwhelmed. Just like the relationship between a husband and wife is based on trust, so is our relationship with God. A husband

sees his wife needs caring for and without asking does so. Just as a wife sees her husband's stress and that he needs some comfort. Would either the husband or wife refuse the caring and comfort? God has that same relationship with us. He cares about us, yet he needs to know you need Him.

Abraham's relationship with God was perfect. He trusted God and he showed that trust when God instructed him to sacrifice his only son, Isaac. Abraham had such great trust that God loved him so, that he obeyed the command of God.

Genesis 22:1-13 *And it came to pass after these things, that God did tempt Abraham, and said unto him, Abraham: and he said, Behold, here I am. And he said, Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of. And they came to the place which God had told him of; and Abraham built an altar there, and laid the wood in order, and bound Isaac his son, and laid him on the altar upon the wood. And Abraham stretched forth his hand, and took the knife to slay his son. And the angel of the LORD called unto him out of heaven, and said, Abraham, Abraham: and he said, Here am I. And he said, Lay not*

thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me. And Abraham lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold behind him a ram caught in a thicket by his horns: and Abraham went and took the ram, and offered him up for a burnt offering in the stead of his son.

Abraham showed such trust in God, to trust that God knew what he was doing, so he had no doubt that God would provide for him. We can get to that point in our lives to trust God fully without any doubt to His ability to care for us. We can be obedient to His commands because we truly love Him, as He does us. So as you ponder your shortcomings of last year, remember God loves us and wants us to rely on Him. It is not burdening to the Lord thy God to take your cares. He wants them because He cares and deeply loves us. God doesn't test us to see how strong we are, it is to see how long it takes for us to give that burden over to Him, to trust Him with it to take care of it. That sounds a lot easier than it actually is. It's not giving up, it's giving over. My number one New Years resolution is to trust God. □

A VOICE FROM THE PAST

LET US ARISE AND BUILD

~Edelta Webbe~

Sunday School Secretary, Virgin Islands

This message was taken from the "White Wing Messenger October 19, 1985"



What a challenge—Let us arise and build! However challenging this topic may seem or in spite of the glamorous effects of our physical surroundings, it is a very serious call. Why? It is serious because we have allowed ourselves to fall into a deep spiritual sleep. As a result of this, our spiritual walls have fallen into a state of disrepair. The Apostle Paul "Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead..." (Ephesians 5:14). Additionally, Paul admonished us that "it is high time to awake out of sleep" (Romans 13:11).

I am reminded of the ten virgins who were so eager and zealous to meet the bridegroom. The Bible says they "took their lamps, and went forth ..." (Matthew 25:1). It is interesting to note that five virgins were wise and five were foolish. The wise took oil in their lamps, but the foolish did not. And "while the bridegroom tarried," the virgins all lumbered and slept. Lo and behold, "at midnight ...a cry was made, Behold the bridegroom, cometh; go ye out to meet him." Upon rising, the foolish virgins discovered that they had no oil in {their lamps; while the wise had only enough for themselves. Consequently, those poor virgins had to go and buy oil for themselves. While they were gone, the bridegroom came. To the dismay of the foolish virgins, they found the door locked, and were told by the bridegroom, "I know you not." This was sad, indeed.

Many have failed to seriously consider the parable of the foolish virgins. Our spiritual eyes have remained closed, and the call now is: "LET US ARISE AND BUILD!" This call should arouse us and make us constantly aware that the Son of Man is soon to come. If we are to avoid falling into the category of the five foolish virgins, we must *check our lamps*, and we must check the condition of our *spiritual house*.

For years, we have given special attention to the physical buildings, and we have constructed beautiful and luxurious structures with every modern convenience; but have we given too little time to the building up of our *spiritual house*? Because of our laxity, our *walls* have fallen into a state of disrepair.

We need no prophet to tell us that time is winding up and that we are living in austere and difficult times. Irrespective of these conditions, our *spiritual house* should be bright and shining light to this dark

world. We have allowed the times to slow us down, and many of us have made ourselves comfortable in this world. It is imperative that we possess an attitude like that of Nehemiah when he looked at the condition of the physical walls of Jerusalem—WE ARE IN DISTRESS!

Nehemiah said to his brethren, "Ye see the distress that we are in, how Jerusalem lieth waste, and the gates thereof are burned with fire: come, and let us build up the walls of Jerusalem, that we be no more a reproach ... And they said, Let us rise up and build. So they strengthened their hands for this good work" (Nehemiah 2:17, 18).

Nehemiah felt despair when he saw the disaster that had befallen his homeland; however, he took courage and restored the walls. The restoration process took place through troubled times, for the enemies of Israel were a constant threat, but the God of Israel was on their side and the work was completed.

Oh yes, we talk about the good-old-times, and we ask ourselves where is the God of the Church of God? But I ask, where is the driving desire to have our *spiritual walls* restored? And where is the stir-ring in our souls to have heaven open unto us? Where is the spiritual stamina and where is the spiritual fortitude to stem the tides of this world? For years, we have been hammering and plastering, but the cracks in our walls are still showing. They have gotten larger with the years and we can no longer use mortar to close the cracks.

Our careless disregard for the sacredness of the laid foundation, have gotten us into trouble with the Lord. We need to *ask for the old paths* and when we have found them, we must walk in them. Paul the great Apostle said, "I have laid the foundation...let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon. For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ" (1 Corinthians 3:10, 11). Since the foundation has already been laid by Jesus, then we are certain that it is secured. And if we are to survive this spiritual crisis, we must begin at the beginning, i.e., MAKE A THOROUGH INSPECTION OF THE BUILDING. If we do this, we will clearly see what we have placed into the walls and how those things have caused the walls to decay and rot. We must be

honest with ourselves and come face to face with the eyes of God. If we are, we will recognize that we have strayed from the paths of righteousness, and we have neglected to stay within the guidelines that God has laid out in the Scriptures.

Human as we are, we have used *scapegoats* to compensate for our willful neglect of God's Word, i.e., we have been afflicting our souls with fasting and prayer and we have seen no definite results.

The scripture says, "God has no delight in fools." Has he chosen the paths that we have made for ourselves?

Isn't this the path that He has chosen: "to loose the bands of wickedness; to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free ... [to] break every yoke . . . to deal thy bread to the hungry ... [to] bring the poor that are cast out of thy house? [to cover the naked, and to] hide not thyself from thine own flesh" (Isaiah 58:6, 7)? Now when we meet these simple requirements, the Lord will help us to break the yoke of bondage and "the old waste places [shall be built] ...and [we shall] be called, The repairer of the breach, The restorer of paths to dwell in" (v. 12).

Oh yes, our spiritual walls are in desperate need of repair, but who will accept the challenge to inspect the walls? And who will take on the spirit of Nehemiah? Will we sit here and die or will we arise and build? Remember, ten virgins went out, but only five were ready to meet the bridegroom. □

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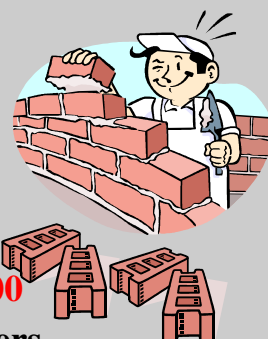
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"The 50's Plan"

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