

Audrey Morrow

Pillars of Fire on the Earth

Whispers of Grace



Contents

INTRODUCTION

Pillars of Fire on The Earth

I will now turn aside to see this great sight

Declaring the end from the beginning

I will be with thy mouth, and teach thee what thou shalt say

What stops the Servant of the Lord in their tracks?

The Rock

Jehovah Nissi – The Lord my Banner

God does everything on purpose and he does everything with purpose

A Peculiar Treasure – A people for God's own possession

Holy Spirit and Fire

The Last days – pillars of fire on the earth

WHAT NEXT

INTRODUCTION

A few years ago my husband and I became friendly with our elderly neighbours. We would visit with them on a Sunday afternoon, and were always warmly welcomed into their home. The man had a reputation in our town as being 'odd' and 'grumpy' but we found him to be a true gentleman, both he and his wife had great love and respect for each other. He often referred to himself as a student of bible prophecy. He had a great sense of humour and had much wisdom to share. I remember one Sunday afternoon, my husband had gone to the kitchen to help the wife with coffee, and I was alone with this gentleman. He got up from his armchair and walked over to his desk and pointed to the shelf on the wall and showed me a row of old notebooks, he explained that each one was full of hand written poems he had written himself over the years. I was intrigued as he lifted one and started to read some of his poems to me. I felt very honoured, that he would share them with me. But what was greater was the sense of his joy that I would be interested and that I would listen. I asked him, had he ever thought of publishing them, but he just answered "I have many times, but who would want to read them?"

This is a simple picture of what I have come to realise and experience in my journey with my Heavenly Father. It brings great joy to the Father when we are willing to be silent and listen to his voice. There is no better place than to be before his throne, and know the beauty and stillness of his presence. Shutting out all the other noise, and focusing on him alone. Like the old time chorus 'Turn your eyes upon Jesus'.

Turn your eyes upon Jesus
And Look on his wonderful face
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim
In the light of his glory and grace

At the beginning of 2019, I began to notice a change to my prayer time. The previous year I had been experiencing many moments of deep healing, just on my own with God in my bedroom. I had been suffering from problems with my inner ear, and doctors couldn't find the problem, and nothing they did helped. It had a negative effect on my life in many ways. My GP who is a beautiful Christian lady suggested that I had some deep rooted pain and hurts, and that if I could hand them over to God he would heal my heart and the peace would heal my physical problems. She was right, I asked the Holy Spirit to help me. One by one, painful memories would come to my mind, many things that I had blocked out and buried so deep, that I had consciously forgotten about them. But instead of reliving the pain, I did what the bible says to do – I took every thought captive. I said Lord, I acknowledge that this happened, I realise that it cannot be undone, but I plead your blood over this pain and I ask you to give me a new vision concerning it. Instead of pain he gave me peace; instead of hurt he gave me love. Where there were horrible words he gave me his words of life. He turned my tears and mourning into joy and dancing. He lifted the burden and gave me a new lightness in my heart.

2 Corinthians 10v 5 (KJV) **“Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ”**

Philippians 4:7 **“And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.”**

My perspective about everything began to change little by little, as I fell so in love with this peace of God. It became so precious to me that I started to pray that the Holy Spirit would put a guard on my mouth and give me wisdom and revelation to be able to please the Lord. I hungered to know more.

That is when I was changed, from the inside out; my mind became clearer, and I was totally healed from the inner ear problem, and all other illnesses and pains. The knowledge of his peace grew stronger and stronger.

I always kept a notebook and pen near when I was praying and studying, so that I could write everything down because I would so easily forget.

In January 2019 I had so many prayer requests and people to pray for, that I sat down feeling overwhelmed and said, “Lord I’m just going to leave these prayer requests at your feet because I don’t know how to pray about them.”

As I prayed in the spirit I felt an overwhelming desire to worship Jesus for all that he has done, there were many people needing healing and all I could do was worship Jesus the Healer, and thank him and rejoice that nothing was impossible.

After a time of worshiping him, I would feel a great wave of peace sweep over me, then I would hear my name being spoken in a soft gentle whisper. Saying nothing I would just listen, picking up my pen and writing down every word I heard. What felt like only 10-20 minutes would actually be 1-2 hours, my husband would often come home and say “Are you still sitting there”.

The Holy Spirit was telling me about a great storm that was coming in the land, and how the tide was turning as everything was going to be shaken, that only what had a foundation in God would stand. He told me that fear was going to rise up, and that I would see that fear grip people and cause much damage and destruction. He commanded me to speak to that spirit of fear and reject it, and look for faith filled and obedient people of God.

He was instructing me to stay in his presence, and hold fast to His Word. He told me that the more in love with his Word that I would become, the more revelation I would receive. I didn't understand at the time, but I simply followed his instructions.

In early 2020 when the 'Covid 19' situation swept the world, everything that the Lord had been telling me over the last year was beginning to make sense. Instead of being affected by the fear, I felt boldness and strength rise up, and the Word of God seemed to me, more precious and alive than ever before. I knew with confidence that God had a great plan.

This is still the day of Grace and the tide was truly turning, but not on the Christians as the world would want us to believe. Rather it was turning in order to bring many souls into the kingdom of God.

I remember one morning, I was writing as fast as I could, but it seemed there was so much, I could hardly keep up, and I was reminded of sitting with my neighbour, feeling that sense of joy that someone was listening. I heard the Holy Spirit say "I have so much to share but few are listening". I felt such a sense of joy and excitement coming from the heart of God.

You see, it is great to have a God that we can pour our heart out to, but it is even greater when God has a man or woman whom he can pour his heart out to.

I pray as you read through the pages of this book that you will realize and understand what has been happening in your life and your personal walk with God, and be able to find that place of knowing his heart for you.

There has been much teaching in the church to help us feel better about ourselves, when all the time, the Father wants us to lose ourselves in the knowledge of Jesus Christ his Son. We are to die to ourselves and be raised to life in the power of Jesus, having our identity in him. Not so much as to discover who we are and what our dreams and desires are, but to know what his divine purpose is in us. That is true happiness and peace.

Mark 4 v 23-24 (KJV)

“If any man have ears to hear, let him hear. And he said unto them, Take heed what ye hear: with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you: and unto you that hear shall more be given”.

John 16 v 13 (KJV)

“Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.”

Pillars of Fire on The Earth

On the 12th October 2020, I woke up with a heavy sense of God's presence, it felt like a blanket of peace was wrapped around me, and I couldn't move and didn't want to move, I just wanted to worship him and enjoy him, but after a time I heard these words, “get up and get your pen.” At first I hesitated because I just wanted to enjoy his presence, but I felt that urgent pull to obey. This is what he said.

“My grace is flowing now in these days; it is increasing upon those who are willing to yield to it. Most are afraid of my heavy glory, but there are those who hunger and thirst for me and I have prepared them for this day, like Esther. Doors will open wide, not as the masses think - BUT I AM moving my way, through my chosen ones. There is this day a movement in the heavenly realm that will cause much shaking. But STAND FIRM because as evil falls and seems to come into even deeper darkness and confusion, at the same time my chosen ones will rise and shine and their vision will become clearer and clearer.

The divide between the two is growing, the separation is expanding, boldness is increasing, just like Pharaoh hardened his heart BUT my plan was then and is now greater and my plan outlasts it all.

Because I AM in control, the kingdom of darkness is reactive, it is reacting to me and my plans, BUT my people respond to me, so yield to me, stand and see my plan unfold!

The shaking in these last 3 months of 2020 will set the scene for next year, you will see many things, people and systems fall and crumble and great shall be their fall. But my people will stand tall. My people will increase, my people will rise and they will be seen and made known.

Be holy, be clean of all darkness, be set apart, and separate yourself wholly unto me. For my people will be sustained by me and me alone. I equip my people. I AM the church, I AM the head of ALL things to the Church, I AM the body, and you are in me. I AM in you and with you. I AM your health and strength. I AM your source, your breath, your life. Trust in me alone; break every agreement with anything else. I AM restoring to my people what the enemy has stolen. I AM restoring honour to my name. Have I not said "I AM not mocked"?

Whatever things men have sown, that is what they shall reap. Corruption reaps corruption. But those who have sown and been planted into my kingdom, are dead to this world, and are separated unto me, they will reap a mighty harvest! Preach my gospel, live my gospel, breathe my gospel, feed on it and drink from it and be it.

When the day of Pentecost had fully come, tongues of fire fell on each one, but in these days the latter glory shall be greater than the former and pillars of fire shall be set upon the earth. In the first fire, my Holy Spirit came upon their heads, and the fire was in them - in this last move, my Holy Spirit is here to move and my people will be hidden in the FIRE. There is going to be an explosion. Just like a tidal wave covers all, moves things and shifts things, so shall this move of my Holy Spirit be upon the earth, my people will move with and in, and as I have declared through my prophets no man will get the glory, no system will get the glory.

When I met Moses, it was first the flame of fire in the bush but when he came back to that place, just as I told him he would, I came down, a fire that covered the mountain with my glory. Read it, Audrey, I will show you a picture of my plan for these days. I'm telling you now so you will know, I have chosen my people and they will not be deceived or distracted!"

“And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams”
Acts 2v17. (KJV)

I will now turn aside to see this great sight

As instructed I went straight to Exodus 3 and began reading: -

Exodus 3 v 1-4 (KJV)

Now Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro, the priest of Midian, and he led his flock to the west side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. 2 And the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush. He looked, and behold, the bush was burning, yet it was not consumed. 3 And Moses said, “I will turn aside to see this great sight, why the bush is not burned.” 4 When the Lord saw that he turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, “Moses, Moses!” And he said, “Here I am.”

Immediately I was struck with amazement with these words.

The first thing that seemed to jump off the page was the words, "**A FLAME OF FIRE**" and my understanding seemed to be set on fire. And a picture and plan began to open up before me.

But then I seemed to get lifted and carried away with the words "**Moses said I will now turn aside and see this great sight**" and "**When the Lord saw that he turned aside to see**".

I remembered the words that the Holy Spirit had spoken to me "Be Holy, be clean of all darkness, be set apart - separate yourself - wholly unto me"

So here we see that Moses, this man that we now know was called and chosen by God, had a choice to make. We see here a glimpse into a great mystery that has been lost amongst generational teaching of doctrines and of man's own understanding. We see an example for us to take very careful note of. Moses was chosen and called by God to be the deliverer in his generation. God had made a way for him to survive being killed as a baby. God had kept him alive until this day.

Yet we see a wonderful thing, Moses said "I will now turn aside to see this great sight." He stopped what he was doing, he turned from his own plan, he left his flock and he turned aside to see. Immediately without hesitation as if the Lord had been waiting patiently for him, it says "When the Lord saw that he turned aside to see, **THEN** God called his name".

Could it be that the Lord had been there all along in the life of Moses? Could it be that the Lord was waiting on Moses? That is a very sobering thought to me.

Have you ever wondered why some people 'seem' to be 'set apart' or 'chosen' more than others? Do you think that God is sitting in heaven - just randomly choosing people to flow through? That just doesn't match the character of God at all.

I do believe that God has a great plan for each of his children, but many are just waiting on the Lord to do something. And so many have failed to ever discover their God-given destiny because they have thought "If God wants to do something through me he will just do it".

But I challenge you today as I have been challenged.

What if the Lord is waiting for you and I to say "I will now turn aside to see this great sight".

I asked the Holy Spirit to show me scriptures to confirm this, here are just a few: -

"Then shall ye call upon me and ye shall go and pray unto me and I will hearken unto you. And ye shall seek me and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart." Jeremiah 29 vs 12-13 (KJV)

"Call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me" Psalm 50v15 (NKJV)

"Then I will give them a heart to know me, that I AM the Lord, and they shall be my people, and I will be their God, for They shall return to me with their whole heart". Jeremiah 24v7(NKJV)

"The Lord is nigh unto all them that call upon him, to all that call upon him in truth" Psalms 145v18 (KJV)

"It is good for me to draw near to God, I have put my trust in the Lord God, that I may declare all thy works." Psalms 73v28 (KJV)

"Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water." Hebrews 10v22 (KJV)

"Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not."

Jeremiah 33v3 (KJV)

In times of trouble, or I should say every day – no matter what the calling and purpose God has for us personally, He requires us to cooperate and participate with His Word and His Holy Spirit. I believe we fall short many times because we don't draw aside; we either run on ahead in our own strength and knowledge or just continue blindly and proudly in our own ways.

Many Christians ask "How can I hear from God"?

The answer is to draw aside, acknowledge him, leave the cares of this world down at his feet, be still and allow God to speak, and you will hear.

Many will say but how do I do that? Or maybe you are saying I have tried that, but it doesn't seem to work for me.

James 4 – tells us about the struggle between the fleshly desires and the problems they cause. It begins with this question "What leads to endless quarrels and conflicts among you? And goes on to explain the answer. I ask you to take the time to read the whole chapter for yourself.

In verse 4 James asks this key question "Know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God."

Being a friend is spending time with and listening to their counsel, and their words. Many of the stresses and trials of life come from spending time in the wrong company and hearing words and counsel from worldly wisdom which is contrary and the enemy to God's presence, and the Counsel of his Word.

So we see if we are trying to make sense of things with the world's counsel, it is only going to lead us into the world's pain and torment. But God's Word reveals his counsel which leads us into peace, joy, hope and faith to know his will and to experience his will.

Being a friend of the world is not so much individual people but the worldly systems and the mindsets and influences that are at work in the world in and through people. Does this mean that we can't have friends? NO!

It is talking about the trust and agreement that we put in things and people.

We can be friendly with others regardless of who they are or what they believe. But we must remember that God comes first in everything we do and say. Our trust is in God alone and his Word remains our Counsel. To experience God's best in our lives we cannot be influenced by the counsel of the world, but completely in love with our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, and totally yielded to his Word.

Years ago, in homes, you would have seen a plaque hanging on the kitchen wall that said, "Christ is the head of this house; the unseen guest at every meal; the silent listener to every conversation".

Somewhere and somehow this, 'Reverent Fear' or acknowledgment of God has been lost. But now is the time to return.

James continues to explain - in verse 6 - he says "**God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble**".

The counsel of this world is very proud, it says we know better, it says God's Word is outdated; it's no longer relevant and that the Preaching of the Gospel is only foolishness.

But I love verse 7 "**Submit yourselves THEREFORE to God, resist the devil, and he will flee from you**"

As the old-time preachers would say when you see the word '**THEREFORE**' look to see what it's there for. In this place 'therefore' refers to the previous verses that say the world's counsel and friendship is an enemy to God and God resists (which means he withstands the action or effect of), the proud - but he gives grace to the humble, so BE humble and submit!

This means to accept or yield to a superior force or authority. We submit ourselves unto God. By doing so, we are acknowledging God as the highest wisdom and authority. We are being a friend with God, standing in agreement and unity with him. We come under his wing of divine protection and blessing.

THEN we will resist, that is withstanding the action and effects of the devil, because we will see the authority of our God, and we will know the devil has been judged and condemned already. Therefore, he has no other option than to flee from us!

As Jesus told us in John 16 vs 8-11 speaking about the Holy Spirit **“And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: Of sin, because they believe not on me; Of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more; Of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged.”**

But James continues to say in verse 8. **“Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded”.**

This is New Testament teaching, this is not as many would preach, no longer necessary because we are under grace.

We **ARE** under Grace which is the unmerited love of God which creates in us the desire to live and to please the Lord.

We are still personally responsible to draw nigh to God. As a child of God, we are responsible for who and what we listen to. We are responsible to choose God's way in every situation.

Psalm 1 vs 1-3 tells us that **"Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper."**

Psalm 25 says **"The secret (of the wise counsel) of the Lord is for those who fear Him, And He will let them know His covenant and reveal to them (through His word) its (deep, inner) meaning." (AMP)**

"I will now turn aside to see this great sight", is such an important key to being a partaker of God's great plan. As we go further into this study we will see this "draw aside" principle again and again.

We must take it as serious as we take the plan of God.

In Exodus 19 vs 10-11 before God appears again by fire
The Lord also said to Moses, “Go to the people and consecrate them today and tomorrow [that is, prepare them for My sacred purpose], and have them wash their clothes and be ready by the third day, because on the third day the Lord will come down on Mount Sinai [in the cloud] in the sight of all the people” (AMP)

And in Acts 1 v 4 -5 - **before the Holy Ghost came as fire Jesus, “being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me. For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.” (KJV)**

So I finish this chapter by saying, God is looking for those who will love him with all their heart, and will seek him and be a friend of God, separated unto him, turning aside to him, laying every weight aside - to honour his Word in their own hearts and lives, to be ready, set apart and fully equipped to be used in this great move of God!

Declaring the end from the beginning

Exodus 3 v 10 - 12 (KJV)

Come now therefore, and I will send thee unto Pharaoh, that thou mayest bring forth my people the children of Israel out of Egypt. And Moses said unto God, Who am I, that I should go unto Pharaoh, and that I should bring forth the children of Israel out of Egypt? And he said, Certainly I will be with thee; and this shall be a token unto thee, that I have sent thee: When thou hast brought forth the people out of Egypt, ye shall serve God upon this mountain.

(Token definition :- a thing serving as a visible or tangible representation of a fact, quality, feeling)

I am sure we can all identify and understand Moses' response in verse 11, "Who am I, that I should go unto Pharaoh, and that I should bring forth the children of Israel out of Egypt?" I can certainly understand how he must have felt.

When the Lord begins to reveal his plan for our lives to us, we can feel unqualified and overwhelmed. But He never asks us to do something or go anywhere that He hasn't already provided everything that we will need.

Through His Word, he is building us up and equipping us for his purpose.

But it is how God answers Moses in verse 12 that really gripped me.

“And he said, Certainly I will be with thee; and this shall be a token unto thee, that I have sent thee: When thou hast brought forth the people out of Egypt, ye shall serve God upon this mountain.”

There are so many scriptures about how God will be with us, and this is a wonderful promise each Child of God has. Our God will never leave us nor forsake us. But notice how God doesn't mention first - how and what Moses is to do when he gets to Egypt. BUT rather he jumps to, **"When thou hast brought forth the people out of Egypt, ye shall serve God upon this mountain"**. The natural mind would think this is back to front. If that was you or I, and God just told us what he wanted us to do - we would probably want to know - ok - what now? What's first? What's next?

But God is Spirit and he speaks by Faith. Before he would tell Moses what to do when he got to Egypt and how Pharaoh would harden his heart and not want to let the people go. He 'FIRST' spoke a word of prophecy into and over Moses. He was declaring, you will succeed and you will bring the people out and you will return to this mountain and worship God.

These words were a token serving as a visible and tangible representation of the fact.

In modern day language we would say "you can take it to the bank".

These words went to work in Moses, not only in his future – but stirring courage and hope to rise in strength for the coming battle. God equips us with everything we need; he will always speak a word to his children that will sustain them through every battle.

In Isaiah 46 v 9 and 10, He says - **"Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me, Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure."** (KJV)

Many times in our lives, God is speaking! But are we listening?

Before we enter any battle the Holy Spirit will have already spoken a word to us. Just like someone who sits a test or exam. They are never tested on what they don't yet know, but rather they are tested on what they already know or should know. Maybe they weren't paying attention in class or were busy daydreaming. But let us always be sober and ready to hear what God is saying to us.

Declaring the end from the beginning

Think about how God was speaking to Abraham about being the father of many nations long before he had his promised son. How God gave Joseph a dream long before it would come to pass. How David was anointed king long before he got to the palace.

God always declares the end from the beginning. Jesus is the Author and finisher of our faith; he speaks and releases the sustaining power of his Word into our spirits. He is declaring over us - whatever or whoever comes against you or seems to be standing in your way - KNOW with ASSURANCE that you are coming out victorious.

Even as Jesus was leaving this earth he was speaking and releasing the Word of God to his disciples in Acts 1 vs 7-9 **“And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight.” (KJV)**

This is how we know that God has spoken to us, because no matter how impossible it looks, no matter what happens, or how things seem to be going in the opposite direction, His Word still burns strong in us. We have a hope that does not fail, we have a vision of how it ends and His Word sustains us.

Isaiah 55v11 says **"So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it." (KJV)**

If we will never let go of the Word that God has given to us, then that Word will never let go of us, but it will sustain us through every battle, through every storm and will give us hope and strength to believe and receive our promise.

1 John 3 v 1-3 says **"Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not. Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure. (KJV)**

The world does not know who we are, they will try many things to rise against God's People, but God has spoken to us and revealed to us that when Jesus shall appear we will be like him and we shall see him as he is.

That is our destiny, no matter the cost, no matter the battle. We have already won; we have already been given the hope of glory. Therefore, we will rise and go forth in the Name of the Lord because he is with us and he has spoken the end from the beginning. So let us not grow weary or be distracted by what is going on around us!

I am reminded of the word I heard the Holy Spirit say: -
“There is this day a movement in the heavenly realm that will cause much shaking. But STAND FIRM because as evil falls and seems to come into even deeper darkness and confusion, so at the same time my chosen ones will rise and shine and their vision will become clearer and clearer!”

So let us encourage ourselves with the Word of the Lord, and let His Word sustain us - Let us Rejoice and Praise King Jesus for He is our strength. Our Trust is in God Alone!

Remember He has told us beforehand so that we will not be distracted, fearful or deceived but instead, we shall be sustained.

I finish this chapter with these Words of Jesus written in Luke 21 v26-28 “Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken. And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh.” (KJV)

Chapter 3

I will be with thy mouth, and teach thee what thou shalt say

Exodus 4 vs 10 – 17 (KJV)

“And Moses said unto the Lord, O my Lord, I am not eloquent, neither heretofore, nor since thou hast spoken unto thy servant: but I am slow of speech, and of a slow tongue. And the Lord said unto him, Who hath made man's mouth? or who maketh the dumb, or deaf, or the seeing, or the blind? have not I the Lord? Now therefore go, and I will be with thy mouth, and teach thee what thou shalt say. And he said, O my Lord, send, I pray thee, by the hand of him whom thou wilt send. And the anger of the Lord was kindled against Moses, and he said, Is not Aaron the Levite thy brother? I know that he can speak well. And also, behold, he cometh forth to meet thee: and when he seeth thee, he will be glad in his heart. And thou shalt speak unto him, and put words in his mouth: and I will be with thy mouth, and with his mouth, and will teach you what ye shall do. And he shall be thy spokesman unto the people: and he shall be, even he shall be to thee instead of a mouth, and thou shalt be to him instead of God. And thou shalt take this rod in thine hand, wherewith thou shalt do signs.”

We have looked at how Moses said "I will now turn aside to see this great sight", and how God began to speak to him about his plan to rescue the people.

We looked at how God declared the end from the beginning. Now we see that God continues to tell Moses that Pharaoh will resist the plan of God to set his people free, but that in the end, he would let them go.

He gave Moses miraculous signs in Exodus 4 vs 2-7 (KJV)
“And the Lord said unto him, What is that in thine hand? And he said, A rod. And he said, Cast it on the ground. And he cast it on the ground, and it became a serpent; and Moses fled from before it. And the Lord said unto Moses, put forth thine hand, and take it by the tail. And he put forth his hand, and caught it, and it became a rod in his hand: That they may believe that the Lord God of their fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, hath appeared unto thee. And the Lord said furthermore unto him, Put now thine hand into thy bosom. And he put his hand into his bosom: and when he took it out, behold, his hand was leprous as snow. And he said, Put thine hand into thy bosom again. And he put his hand into his bosom again; and plucked it out of his bosom, and, behold, it was turned again as his other flesh.”

After God had instructed Moses we now see that Moses starts to question God saying "O my Lord, I am not eloquent, but I am slow of speech, and of a slow tongue." But I love God's answer **"And the Lord said unto him, Who hath made man's mouth? or who maketh the dumb, or deaf, or the seeing, or the blind? have not I the Lord? Now therefore go, and I will be with thy mouth, and teach thee what thou shalt say."**

It is so easy to start thinking about our own abilities or lack of them when God calls us to do something, but God has told us that we do not go in our strength but in his.

2 Corinthians 12v9 and he said unto me, **"My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me."** (KJV)

In our walk with God, we will be reminded many times of our weaknesses but God is greater, he gives us his strength. We will find out very quickly how little we can achieve without him, for if we try to do anything relying on our own strength we will make things worse instead of better!

One of the things that the Children of God are called to do in these days is to 'Speak forth His Word', but we will not be able to speak from our wisdom and understanding. Rather we are told in Luke 21v 14 and 15 – **“So make up your mind not to worry beforehand how to defend yourselves. For I will give you words and wisdom that none of your adversaries will be able to resist or contradict.”** (NIV)

God is looking for people today who are ready to listen to him, trust him and submit to him. God is moving by his Holy Spirit throughout the earth regardless of who stands for or against him. I believe that includes the Christians. Not everyone who calls themselves a Christian will take part in this great move of God. Many will fall by the side, weary and fearful and will still question God when it is all over. Some will watch from a distance and wonder what is going on. Some will even question whether this is really God?

I used to pray for God to go with me. But then the Holy Spirit spoke to me and said, "I am going to move are you coming with me?" That changed how I prayed from that day. I do not want to miss out; I want to be right in the middle of his fire, I want to be ready and prepared!

Is that what you want?

We need to encourage ourselves with the Word of God as we prepare to move forward with our God. It is natural to worry and to fear, but we are not called to be natural! We are called to walk in the Spirit. We are called to walk by faith and not by sight. And faith comes by hearing the Word.

Here are some mighty scriptures to meditate on: -

Luke 12 v 11 and 12 "When you are brought before synagogues, rulers, and authorities, do not worry about how to defend yourselves or what to say. For at that time the Holy Spirit will teach you what you should say". (NIV)

Matthew 10 v 19 and 20 "When you are arrested, don't worry about how to respond or what to say. God will give you the right words at the right time. For it is not you who will be speaking – it will be the Spirit of your Father speaking through you." (NLT)

Romans 8:31 "What then shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?" (NIV)

1 John 4 v 3–4 “And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world. Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is He that is in you, than he that is in the world.” (KJV)

God was sending Moses into Egypt, but it was God who was going to deliver the people. Moses didn't need eloquent speech. All he needed was to know that God was with him. He needed to believe that God had spoken and that he was well able to do what he said he would do.

Today we live because Jesus lives, today we belong to him, He is the vine and we are the branches. We are not called to change anyone or the world by the wisdom of our own words; we are called to preach this Gospel of the Kingdom. We are called to preach and teach Jesus Christ, crucified, resurrected and glorified. Our message is, Jesus Christ is the Saviour, the Healer, the Baptiser in the Holy Ghost and Fire and He is the King and He is coming again. Paul teaches us in 1 Corinthians 1 v 17–31 that we belong to Jesus, we are part of his body, his church, and that God has made Jesus our wisdom, and righteousness, sanctification, and redemption.

“For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel: not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect. For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God. For it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent.

Where is the wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the disputer of this world? Hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world?

For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.

For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom: But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumbling block, and unto the Greeks foolishness; But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God. Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called: But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are: That no flesh should glory in His presence. But of Him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption: That, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord.” (KJV)

Let us know without a doubt that Jesus is the head of all things to the Church and that we are his ambassadors and as we yield to His Grace in these days He will equip us and sustain us in Him in everything and every place.

I am reminded of these words that the Holy Spirit spoke to me, "For my people will be sustained by me and me alone. I equip my people. I AM the church, I AM the head of ALL things to the Church, I AM the body - you are in me. I AM in you and with you. I AM your health and strength. I AM your source, your breath, your life. Trust in me alone. Preach my gospel, live my gospel, breathe my gospel, feed on it and drink from it and be it."

We are being prepared for greater days. We will be ready to move when He says move. We will open our mouths and He will fill them. Amen.

What stops the Servant of the Lord in their tracks?

I remind you of the words the Holy Spirit spoke to me:- My grace is flowing now in these days; it is increasing upon those who are willing to yield to it. Most are afraid of my heavy glory, but there are those who hunger and thirst for me, and I have prepared them for this day, like Esther.

Doors will open wide, not as the masses think, BUT I AM moving my way, through my chosen ones! There is going to be an explosion, a tidal wave which covers all, moves things, shifts things. So shall this move of my Holy Spirit be upon the earth, my people will move with and in - and as I have declared through my prophets no man will get the glory - no system will get the glory.

Let us take a look at what happened to Moses as he was on his way to Egypt.

Exodus 4 v 20 -26

“And Moses took his wife and his sons, and set them upon an ass, and he returned to the land of Egypt: and Moses took the rod of God in his hand. And the Lord said unto Moses, When thou goest to return into Egypt, see that thou do all those wonders before Pharaoh, which I have put in thine hand: but I will harden his heart, that he shall not let the people go. And thou shalt say unto Pharaoh, Thus saith the Lord, Israel is my son, even my firstborn: And I say unto thee, Let my son go, that he may serve me: and if thou refuse to let him go, behold, I will slay thy son, even thy firstborn. And it came to pass by the way in the inn, that the Lord met him, and sought to kill him. Then Zipporah took a sharp stone, and cut off the foreskin of her son, and cast it at his feet, and said, Surely a bloody husband art thou to me. So he let him go: then she said, A bloody husband thou art, because of the circumcision.” (KJV)

This is a very interesting passage of scripture, isn't it? Reading through this chapter verse 24 "And it came to pass by the way in the inn, that the Lord met him, and sought to kill him." can seem to the natural mind as out of place. But when we look into it, this is a very key principle for Moses and for every Child of God.

God had told Moses all about his plan and had given Moses instructions and great miraculous signs. But we see here that when Moses was on his way to Egypt, God had an issue to address with Moses before he could let him go any further.

God had put up with Moses' questioning and fear so far, but at this point, there was something far greater that God could not let go unchecked. It was enough to kill Moses and stop him in his tracks.

It was because Moses had failed or neglected to circumcise his son. It does not tell us his reasons, but this just shows us that God is not concerned about why Moses didn't do it - he was only concerned that he did not do it.

I believe that the answer is in verse 20 when God said **“And thou shalt say unto Pharaoh, Thus saith the Lord, Israel is my son, even my firstborn”**

When God made this statement Moses knew what it meant, he knew the significance of Israel being his son and what that meant to the children of Israel. He would have known about the covenant that God had made with Abraham and how He had commanded the sons to be circumcised on the 8th day. The 'Cutting away of the Flesh', which is what the circumcision represented, acted as a remembrance and acknowledgment of the Everlasting Covenant that God had given to Abraham. God had told Abraham that he would give him a son but Abraham had tried by his flesh to fulfil that promise, which caused him much trouble. But God revealed to him in his old age, that it was by God's power alone that he would give him the promised son.

God had told Abraham that his descendants would be in slavery for 400 years but that, because of the covenant; God would bring them out into the land that he had promised to Abraham. He told him that anyone who did not remember or acknowledge this covenant would be cut off from the blessing of the covenant. But much more than that, God had spoken about the Promised Messiah, the Son of God. That would be born and the Children of Faith that would be upon the earth. How we would be saved by Grace through Faith, not of works lest any man should boast. I don't want to go into a deep teaching about the 'Circumcision of the Flesh'.

If you are interested in learning more there are plenty of teachings you can find on the Circumcision of the Flesh in the Old Testament and how it relates to us today as the Circumcision of the Heart in the New Testament.

But what the Holy Spirit is leading me to do is to draw your attention to a very important issue, one that preachers and ministers do not talk very much about, because it is a very personal and private encounter with God.

What stops the Servant of the Lord dead in their tracks?

James 4 v 17 - **"Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin". (KJV)**

For whatever reason Moses had neglected, or had lost regard, for the 'Covenant of God', maybe because he had tried in his own 'flesh' to help those in slavery and had failed so badly that it had cost him 40 years of hiding in the wilderness, or maybe he had forgotten about the Covenant or had questioned or even doubted it during his time of isolation. But something happened that night; Moses went forward from that place a different and a changed man. He was no longer questioning God but he had a boldness and confidence that he did not have before.

This issue had been put right with God.

Many times, we as the Children of God know that we are called, we know the voice of God, and we deeply experience his presence. Others can see it and recognise it. We have no doubt that He is God, but there will come a point in everyone's relationship with God when they will be stopped dead in their tracks - and have a deep encounter with God, although many will not recognise it as such. But this is where God reveals to them, that no man will glory in his presence.

There comes that moment or moments when the servant of God realises that they can do nothing in their 'flesh' that is by their own understanding, knowledge or strength. But that God is the potter and we are the clay. Jesus is the Vine and we are the branches. Many times it is a painful experience as we are broken before the Lord and as he 'cuts away the flesh' in our hearts by His Holy Spirit. But the freedom and liberation of walking, and experiencing his great Covenant, greatly outweighs the pain as we are lifted into where God wants to take us and become what He wants us to be.

What we do in these moments will determine how far we will go in the purpose of God. As we respond and yield to him doors will begin to open up to us as God leads us. If we don't respond and yield to him then doors will close as God says 'ok, do it your own way'.

Many are not willing to yield to the Holy Spirit, because of a lack of knowledge, or stubbornness, pride or rebellion to sound doctrine, and instead continue to be ruled by their own wisdom or doctrines but mostly by their own emotions. So instead of entering their promised land and taking possession of what God has promised, they roam around and around in the wilderness.

Even Esther was told by her uncle, “You have been called to the kingdom for such a day as this, but know this that if you do not go before the king you will perish and God will surely raise up another deliverer.” And she answered, "I will go before the King and speak for the people - and if I perish I perish". Esther recognised at that moment that her life was worthless if she didn't obey the plan of God. She willingly surrendered everything to God at that moment and God gave her wisdom, strength and boldness as He opened the doors for her and for the people to be delivered.

Some will be reading through these chapters and asking the question “When is she going to tell us about the fire?” We all want to hear about the fire, but God has warned us that we must be prepared in order to be in the fire.

If you have been listening to anointed and appointed teachers and prophets you will have heard this message again and again in the last decade. Many have tried to take the power away from his Grace, they have made light of it. But it is still powerful.

2 Timothy 1v9 says **"Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began"** (KJV)

Titus 2 v 11 and 12 says **"For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world"** (KJV)

It is time to understand the Power of His Grace toward us and in us.

As I have been preparing this chapter, I asked God for a New Testament scripture to explain and open this up for us, his people today. We are about to look into the fire, but this could be the most important chapter of this whole study. I deeply urge you to take the time to ask the Holy Spirit to reveal this to you personally and not just skip over this chapter!

As I was worshiping I heard in my spirit "Philippians 3" and as I opened my bible and read it I was blown away. I could have searched Google for scriptures but I love the 'old fashion' Holy Ghost way - may we the people of God in this generation get back to being led by the Spirit.

When I read this scripture my spirit was rejoicing - and I knew God was speaking; he is moving and doing what he said he would. I pray as you hear these words, that your spirit will be filled with that same expectation that Jesus is Coming Soon and that before He comes, This Gospel of the Kingdom shall be preached, and many will be saved in this great harvest.

Start Rejoicing Now, Hallelujah!

Paul tells us in Philippians 3

1 Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things to you, to me indeed is not grievous, but for you it is safe.

2 Beware of dogs, beware of evil workers, beware of the concision.

3 For we are the circumcision, which worship God in the spirit, and rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh.

4 Though I might also have confidence in the flesh. If any other man thinketh that he hath whereof he might trust in the flesh, I more:

5 Circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, an Hebrew of the Hebrews; as touching the law, a Pharisee;

6 Concerning zeal, persecuting the church; touching the righteousness which is in the law, blameless.

7 But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ.

8 Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ,

9 And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith:

10 That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;

11 If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead.

12 Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus.

13 Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,

14 I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

15 Let us therefore, as many as be perfect, be thus minded: and if in any thing ye be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you.

16 Nevertheless, whereto we have already attained, let us walk by the same rule, let us mind the same thing.

17 Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an ensample.

18 (For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ:

19 Whose end is destruction, whose God is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame, who mind earthly things.)

20 For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ:

21 Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself. (KJV)

Father God, in Jesus Name I ask that as we consider these things, cause your Holy Spirit to reveal your truth and grace to us so that we will be ready and prepared for these days ahead. Amen.

The Rock

Just like God had promised in Exodus 3 v 12 **"Certainly I will be with thee; and this shall be a token unto thee, that I have sent thee: When thou hast brought forth the people out of Egypt, ye shall serve God upon this mountain."** Now after Moses had led the people out of Egypt, and had crossed the Red Sea and had seen many great miracles just like God had spoken, they now find themselves back at the place where God had first appeared to Moses as a flame of fire in the bush.

In Exodus 17 we find that they have traveled from the wilderness of Sin and had come to Horeb, the Mountain of the Lord, but there was no water and the people murmured and complained saying to Moses "Where is God?"

In verse 3 it tells us **"And the people thirsted there for water; and the people murmured against Moses, and said, Wherefore is this that thou hast brought us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our cattle with thirst?"**

Moses could not give them water but in verse 4 we see that he **"Moses cried unto the Lord, saying, What shall I do unto this people? they be almost ready to stone me."**

And we see that God had prepared a way in the wilderness for His people, He was not taken by surprise. We see as we read verses 5 - 7 **"And the Lord said unto Moses, Go on before the people, and take with thee of the elders of Israel; and thy rod, wherewith thou smotest the river, take in thine hand, and go. Behold, I will stand before thee there upon the rock in Horeb; and thou shalt smite the rock, and there shall come water out of it that the people may drink. And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel. And he called the name of the place Massah, and Meribah, because of the chiding of the children of Israel, and because they tempted the Lord, saying, Is the Lord among us, or not?"**

Before we go any further in our study and preparation for the coming fire we must take special note of 'The Rock'.

The water is important, and the fact that the people were thirsty is important but the most important thing is "The Rock".

The Story of Moses is a type and shadow or a picture of God's plan for Salvation. Everything was pointing forward to the coming Messiah and Redeemer Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 10 v 4 expressly tells us that Jesus Christ was the Rock, **“And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ.”** (KJV)

There was no water and there was no way of getting water it is said the Horeb is one of the driest places on the earth so they could not dig a well – but – God caused the water to come out of “The Rock” and the people did drink.

We see here a perfect picture that God has provided a way and that there is no other way. Jesus is the way the truth and the life and He told us that no man can come to the Father but by him.

1 Corinthians 3 v 11 says **“For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.”** (KJV)

God did not give them options to find water to drink from – he gave them one source. If they had neglected or rejected this water, they would have died.

I find it interesting that 1 Corinthians 10 v 4 states "**for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ.**" The Rock followed them throughout the wilderness meaning that they would always have water available so they could drink and live.

This represents the Grace of God poured out to all men. But it's interesting to note that throughout the Gospels, we read that people followed Jesus. God has made Salvation available to us, and as we receive Jesus we then follow him.

When we come through the 'Wilderness of Sin' we will be dry, thirsty and empty. The dry cisterns of this world which include the religious systems that deny the power of God, only leave people more hopeless and lifeless! Many have come to the Mountain of the Lord but they find no water.

Let me explain what I mean:-

God delivered the people out of slavery in Egypt and led them across the Red Sea by His mighty hand. His great plan of Salvation was not only to bring them out of slavery BUT also to bring them into their promised land. His plan was for them to be free from slavery and to possess new ground and live in that freedom.

In other words, he brought them out from something in order to bring them into something much greater.

We see that God had brought them out, but this generation never entered into their promised land, they died in the wilderness because of their unbelief.

God has not changed; it is still His perfect will to bring us out of slavery to the world and to sin and to bring us into the abundant life in Christ Jesus!

There is a highly misunderstood principle among God's People today that the Promised Land represents Heaven. You see we have been delivered from 'Egypt' which speaks to us and represents the slavery to the world and to sin. We have been delivered out of the power of darkness, and He has translated us into the Kingdom of His dear Son. Just like how God brought the people out of Egypt and destroyed their enemy at the Red Sea and brought them to 'The Rock'. They came to the Mountain of the Lord to the Rock of Horeb - which was and is Jesus Christ.

Today Jesus is our Rock of Salvation, there is no other way.

Many agree and believe that Jesus is the Rock of Salvation and that Jesus is the only way to the Father and to enter heaven, and this is Truth. But here is the misunderstanding; the Promised Land does not speak to us about heaven. The Promised Land does not represent heaven, but rather a life of possessing and experiencing the promises, favour and power of God in our Christian walk through the power of the Holy Spirit. Enabling us to take back the ground from the enemy and bring many more souls to Jesus.

We cannot make the Promised Land a picture of heaven – because there are no giants in heaven and there are no battles to fight in heaven. But the Promised Land is a picture of a Born Again Believer entering into and experiencing the blessing and favour of God through the power of the Holy Spirit here on this earth to preach the Gospel and bring many souls to Jesus. This is called walking in the fullness of the Spirit.

The Egyptians at this time believed that the final judgement was dependent on their own works both on earth and in the afterlife. And this false teaching still exists today; people believe that we can be saved by our own good works.

We see that the people came out of Egypt, but all the ways of Egypt had not come out of them.

We also see this today; Christians have not left down their desires and lusts for worldly things, in order to enjoy the abundant life that Jesus has provided for them.

John 4 v 14 says **"But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life."**

This is an important key for us in this generation to understand. Jesus is 'The Rock' and we must drink and thirst for the water that flows from him, we cannot depend on our own works, and we cannot build the foundation of our Salvation on anything else other than Jesus 'The Rock'. God told Moses to strike 'The Rock' and this represents Jesus' death on the cross, where He became the once and for all sacrifice to provide salvation and deliverance for all who call upon His name. We come to the Father through Jesus 'The Rock'; we come through the knowledge of His death on the cross and His resurrection from the dead. We drink from the water that flows from the Rock and we live. Just like Moses and the People. But more than this, Father God wants the well of water to spring up in us so that He can overflow to others. He wants us to reach out to others, to help bring them unto salvation, healing and deliverance, bringing all glory and praise to His name by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Jesus said in John 7 v 37 – 39 **“If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)”**

But sadly, we see today, that many are not thirsting for the living water but are like the people in Exodus 17 at this place they called Massah, and Meribah. Massah means "proof" and Meribah means 'contention' because men were fault-finding and tempting God even in this place of Grace.

Massah which means 'proof' speaks to us about the Love that God has demonstrated and proved to us by sending His Son to die on the cross.

Romans 5 v 8 **But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (NIV)**

Meribah which means 'contention' speaks to us about how people who murmur and complain even after all God has done for them.

The New Testament warns us against having this same attitude.

Philippians 2:13-15 “For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him. Do everything without complaining and arguing, so that no one can criticize you. Live clean, innocent lives as children of God, shining like bright lights in a world full of crooked and perverse people.” (NLT)

James 5:9 Don’t grumble about each other, brothers and sisters, or you will be judged. For look – the Judge is standing at the door! (NLT)

1 Peter 4:8-10 “Most important of all, continue to show deep love for each other, for love covers a multitude of sins. Cheerfully share your home with those who need a meal or a place to stay. God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another. (NLT)

If we come today to the knowledge of the cross, and we have received the gift of salvation, but refuse to enter into the fullness of God's plan, but rather remain like the Israelites who saw the rock and drank from the water but still were not satisfied, they were full of disobedience and unbelief, murmuring and complaining and even after all that God had done for them they were still saying "Is the Lord among us or not"? We will stay in the wilderness like they did and not experience what God has planned for us, but more importantly, we will not be able to reach other people and lead them into his abundant life.

But PRAISE GOD! When we move on, into a deeper revelation and knowledge of the cross and the resurrection and life, we will begin to hunger and thirst for more of Jesus - following Him in all His ways. We will be surrounded by and feasting on the Living Bread, and drinking from the Water of Life, then we will experience the joy and the power and the fullness of the Holy Spirit.

We will be following 'the Rock' thirsting for more of Him rather than going our own way and hoping that 'the Rock' will follow us.

Many 'Christians' are asking this same question today "Is God among us or not?" but they are looking at all the wrong things.

We must return to the Mountain of the Lord and Worship Him alone, we must acknowledge that Jesus is 'The Rock' and we must thirst for more of His Living Water, the Word!

This is life to all our flesh. As we do He will lead us through the promised land, we will be filled with the Fire of His Word and receive the power of the Holy Spirit to march on the promised land to take back the ground from the enemy and bring Glory to the Name of the Lord. Just as Jesus said in Acts 1 v 8 **“But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.”**

I have been both blessed and challenged in this study and preparation for the coming fire; I have also become more aware of how the deception of false teaching and the lack of knowledge are stealing from the children of God. I invite you, as I have done and am doing, to search your heart and allow the Holy Spirit to reveal to you anything that would be standing in your way from receiving what God has planned for you.

Jesus is 'The Rock'; He is the solid foundation of our faith. All other foundations will fall and crumble. In these days we need to know with assurance that our trust and hope is in Jesus alone and that we are careful to follow all His commands with total willingness and obedience!

Jehovah Nissi

The Lord my Banner

Exodus 17vs 8-16

Then came Amalek, and fought with Israel in Rephidim. And Moses said unto Joshua, Choose us out men, and go out, fight with Amalek: tomorrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the rod of God in mine hand. So Joshua did as Moses had said to him, and fought with Amalek: and Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the hill. And it came to pass, when Moses held up his hand, that Israel prevailed: and when he let down his hand, Amalek prevailed. But Moses hands were heavy; and they took a stone, and put it under him, and he sat thereon; and Aaron and Hur stayed up his hands, the one on the one side, and the other on the other side; and his hands were steady until the going down of the sun. And Joshua discomfited Amalek and his people with the edge of the sword. And the Lord said unto Moses, Write this for a memorial in a book, and rehearse it in the ears of Joshua: for I will utterly put out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven.

And Moses built an altar, and called the name of it Jehovah nissi: For he said, Because the Lord hath sworn that the Lord will have war with Amalek from generation to generation.

In the first part of chapter 17 we looked at how God provided water to flow out of 'the Rock' and immediately after this great display of God's love and grace an enemy came to attack the people.

Many times it can be just like that for us today. It seems that just as we are beginning to make some headway, another battle comes out of nowhere. Just like the old saying "1 step forward and 2 steps back".

I find it very interesting that God never seems to do things the same way twice. We know that when the people were at the Red Sea with no way forward, and the Egyptians were chasing fast and furious behind them, God made a way to deliver them and at the same time destroy the Egyptians. God fought for them. But in these verses in chapter 17, we see that God was working with them.

This time they had to do something more than just trust and obey.

We must also remember that the Israelites were slaves, there were no trained fighting men among them but on this journey, they were becoming stronger and stronger along the way. So we can take courage today, as we continue on our Christian walk, we are also growing stronger along the way.

We notice in verse 9, that Moses commanded Joshua to choose men for the battle, while Moses would stand on the top of the hill with the rod of God in his hand.

Have you ever watched a battlefield scene in a film and thought, “How do the men know who is enemy and who is friend?” I have thought this many times. When the battle begins each side, has its distinct uniform or style of clothing but amid the battlefield covered in mud and the blood – everyone looks the same. I have wondered to myself if, at some stage of the battle, each man is just fighting for their own survival.

I believe that in the heat of the battles that we face in our own lives; it can be easy to forget why we are fighting and lose sight of who we are fighting. We can very easily become battle-weary and lose sight of our identity and purpose. Instead of pressing forward into the purpose of God in our lives, we can become distracted and lose our vision and passion.

Moses took his stand on the top of the hill where he could be seen as he held up the rod of God. This was like a banner to the men which reminded them of what God had already done for them, and encouraged them to be strong, for the Lord was with them even in the midst of the battle. But it wasn't only the men that were fighting who grew weary.

We read in verse 11 that as Moses lifted his hands Israel prevailed and was taking ground but when Moses lowered his hands the enemy prevailed.

So we see that Moses was the one who grew weary. Thankfully he was not alone, he did not have to bear the burden on his own, but Aaron and Hur put a stone under Moses and stood by his side and held his arms up until the battle had ended in Victory. This speaks of the power of the prayer of agreement.

Reading over these few verses I am reminded of Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane. When he said to his disciples **“My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death; tarry ye here, and watch with me”** (Matthew 26 v 38) There was a battle in the Garden of Gethsemane as Jesus was faced with the reality of the death he was facing and in verse 39 we read **“And Jesus went a little farther, and fell on his face and prayed saying O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt.”**

We call it the Battle of the Will. Jesus was feeling the weight of the heavy burden and the great cost of his destiny and purpose as it was drawing close. He knew the sin of the world with all the sickness, disease and shame would be placed on him. He had lived a sinless life, he had no guilt of his own and now he was alone. But here in the Garden, we see that Jesus did not forget why he was going to the cross and who he was dying for. When he looked up to his Father he saw that banner of love and he received the strength and courage to finish the work of salvation. Love lifted him, carried him and held him on the cross. The perfect love that casts out all fear is expressed here in Jesus' great love for his Father and the Father's great love for his creation.

We will find ourselves many times in a battle of the will. We are tempted to feel discouraged or weary in the battle, as the battle between our flesh and our spirit wages. The flesh says you are tired, you need a rest while your spirit is saying don't back down, stand strong.

Jesus asked his disciples to tarry here and watch with him. But they could not as we read in verse 40 **“and Jesus cometh unto the disciples, and findeth them asleep, and saith unto Peter, What, could ye not watch with me one hour? Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak”**.

I think this is beautiful, that Jesus the Son of God, asked his disciples to pray with him. He wanted them to tarry and to watch with him. But they did not, instead, they fell asleep. When I am tempted to feel alone, I remind myself that Jesus knows and understands, because he faced a great battle for me. This gives me the courage and strength to press in and not to give up.

The definition of the word 'tarry' is to stay somewhere for longer than expected and delay leaving.

I love this definition because it spells out to me that in prayer we have to be willing to stay for longer than expected and not be in a hurry to leave until we know the battle is over.

We see in the story of Moses standing on the hill overlooking the battle that he had to tarry, he had to stay longer than he had expected and couldn't leave until it was over. He needed help. Thankfully Aaron and Hur were not like the disciples and were willing to help.

I see a great problem in the world today. There are many battles, but there are few who are willing to stand on the hill top and hold up the rod of God and declare Victory.

The rod of God speaks of Authority. Moses wasn't standing on the hill, so men could see him; he was standing over the battle declaring the Authority of God. He was holding up the Word of God, the Promise of God, and declaring that the great I AM, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob was with them. In New Testament language he was saying "If God is for you, who can be against you".

The problem I see in the world today is that people have become tired of standing in the place of prayer and have become battle-weary from holding up and declaring the authority of the Word of God. As a result, many are being defeated on the battlefield and the enemy is taking more ground than he ought to be able to take.

The power of true intercession prayer has been lost amid a sea of religious doctrines and false teachings.

Many still ask for prayer but I have often asked myself do they even know what prayer really is.

Moses took his stand that day to overlook the battle, and he held up the rod as a banner. As we stand in the place of prayer today, we must stand overlooking the battle and hold up the rod of God, the authority of God like a banner for all to see.

A banner flying high that declares “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever”. A banner lifted up for all to know that “Jesus is Alive”. Joshua took his enemy down with a sword, and today we have been given the Sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God.

As prayer is lifted up, and the banner of the Lord upheld so the Word of God will prevail in every battle.

Moses could not stand on his own and Joshua and the men could not prevail by their own strength. They worked together and God was working with them. This is a powerful picture of unity. Where God’s people operate in unity great is the blessing that surrounds them.

As God was leading Moses to the day where he would come down and cover the Mountain with FIRE – he was causing Moses to grow in wisdom and understanding, obedience and boldness. And today as God is preparing his people for the last great FIRE – he is causing his people to advance, to stand tall, and to know that their identity is in Christ Jesus. We must not grow weary from the place of prayer; we must continue to uphold the banner of the Lord and stand strong by the power of the Holy Spirit.

With our eyes firmly fixed on “Jehovah Nissi – The Lord my Banner”.

God does everything on purpose and he does everything with purpose

Exodus 18 vs 13-26

And it came to pass on the morrow, that Moses sat to judge the people: and the people stood by Moses from the morning unto the evening. And when Moses' father in law saw all that he did to the people, he said, What is this thing that thou doest to the people? why sittest thou thyself alone, and all the people stand by thee from morning unto even? And Moses said unto his father in law, Because the people come unto me to enquire of God: When they have a matter, they come unto me; and I judge between one and another, and I do make them know the statutes of God, and his laws. And Moses' father in law said unto him, The thing that thou doest is not good.

Thou wilt surely wear away, both thou, and this people that is with thee: for this thing is too heavy for thee; thou art not able to perform it thyself alone. Hearken now unto my voice, I will give thee counsel, and God shall be with thee: Be thou for the people to God-ward, that thou mayest bring the causes unto God: And thou shalt teach them ordinances and laws, and shalt shew them the way wherein they must walk, and the work that they must do. Moreover thou shalt provide out of all the people able men, such as fear God, men of truth, hating covetousness; and place such over them, to be rulers of thousands, and rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens: And let them judge the people at all seasons: and it shall be, that every great matter they shall bring unto thee, but every small matter they shall judge: so shall it be easier for thyself, and they shall bear the burden with thee. If thou shalt do this thing, and God command thee so, then thou shalt be able to endure, and all this people shall also go to their place in peace. So Moses hearkened to the voice of his father in law, and did all that he had said. And Moses chose able men out of all Israel, and made them heads over the people, rulers of thousands, rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens. And they judged the people at all seasons: the hard causes they brought unto Moses, but every small matter they judged themselves.

This is another interesting portion of scripture, we see here that Moses had a difficult and practically impossible task of trying to instruct and keep law and order with so many people. Many issues and matters required counsel, direction and wisdom.

The people had come out of slavery and had no clear vision or direction, and they looked to Moses for advice.

Moses's father-in-law recognised that this was a recipe for disaster. He knew that both Moses and the people would soon become weary and worn out.

Without proper instruction from the Counsel of the Word of God, the people would only continue to walk in darkness, blindness, and confusion and eventually destroy themselves.

We see the people needed guidance and instruction otherwise there would be total disorder.

Proverbs 29 v 18 tells us that **"Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he."** (KJV)

The word 'Vision' used here is talking about the revelation, guidance and instruction of the teaching of the Word of God. He who follows and listens to divine instruction will be joyful and blessed. We will see in the next Chapter that God gave 'the Law' to Moses to establish the people as a Holy Nation.

We also know that although God gave the people 'the Law' and established them as a nation set apart for himself, many times throughout their history, the people fell away from the law and God, and lost the wisdom and the revelation of what God had established for their own good, but instead became rebellious and ungovernable. We can see many examples throughout scripture of what happens when the Word of God is neglected, rejected or ignored.

We are told in scripture that the Word of the Lord was rare and visions were scarce, there was no teaching priest and the prophets were ignored and rejected. When the bible states that there was no vision, it is speaking that there was no teaching of the Word of God. God's Word gives instruction and direction for the best life.

Vision is NOT about fulfilling our dreams BUT rather finding and pursuing the will of God. It is about putting aside man-centered plans and finding the divine purpose and wisdom of God our creator.

Psalm 19 v 7-11 "The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple. The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes. The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb." (KJV)

When we take a look at the world around us today, we see a great falling away from God and His Word. We see a famine for the true Word of God, and although people are running and looking everywhere for something real, they are unable to find it. As a result, there is a lack of law and order, and we see much destruction.

Amos 8 v 11 - 12 "Behold, the days come, saith the Lord God, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the Lord: And they shall wander from sea to sea, and from the north even to the east, they shall run to and fro to seek the word of the Lord, and shall not find it."

But in this study, we are not looking at the world, but rather we are looking at ourselves within the 'Church' of Jesus Christ.

We can see that there has been much confusion and many have been tossed about like boats thrown about in the waves of false teaching and religious doctrines and shipwrecked on the beaches of broken emotions. We see multitudes of people looking for counsel and direction. Many times it looks like we are living in a society that believes that talking about the problem is the only answer. There has been much time and effort spent on 'Counselling the problem' rather than 'Counselling the answer' by teaching the Word of God". Just like this situation in Exodus 18 - the leaders and the people have grown weary and many are worn out!

If we want to know the blessing of God in these days, it is important to acknowledge and return in obedience to the PURPOSE of God contained in the Word of God revealed through the Spirit of God.

Ephesians 4 v 11-16 “And he talking about Jesus gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ. That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.”

God does everything on purpose and he does everything with purpose

Many today, believe that we no longer need the gifts that Jesus gave to the Church, and although I acknowledge that many times these gifts have been abused and mishandled, I must urge you to remember that God's Word remains, His Word endures for ever.

The actions of men never change the Word of God. Our experiences never alter the Word of God. God's Word is established in His Name, not on that of men. We must return to the PURPOSE of why Jesus gave these gifts to the church, and also the PURPOSE of the Gift of the Holy Spirit to the Church and the PURPOSE of the gifts given by the Holy Spirit. There is much teaching and debate about these gifts, which has only distracted from their true PURPOSE.

1 Corinthians 12 v 4 - 7 “Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal.”

We see both these scriptures expressly tell us that their PURPOSE is to strengthen the church, to help and equip God's people to do HIS WORK and to cause His people to grow up spiritually. He desires for His children to be mature servants serving God and His purpose as well as one another for His glory.

2 Tim 3 v 16-17 “All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.”

Only the Faithful and Prepared Ones will experience the Fire of God in these days. The Faithful are those who have placed God's Word as the highest authority over every tradition, doctrine and opinion of man and devils.

The Prepared Ones are those who have yielded completely to the PURPOSE of God.

We are called to preach the Gospel of the Kingdom, to be his ministers of fire in the Name of Jesus by the power of the Holy Spirit. To minister His grace and mercy to a lost and dying generation before it is too late. It is time to lay aside every weight and press into His presence and His Word like never before. To be ready to serve the Lord in these days totally submitted to His Living Word and to His Holy Spirit, surrendered to His divine purpose alone.

Remember the greatest spiritual warfare in our lives is not what the kingdom of darkness is doing or planning. The greatest battle is "Will we believe and obey God's Word or Not?"

A Peculiar Treasure – A people for God's own possession

Exodus 19 v 2 – 6

For they were departed from Rephidim, and were come to the desert of Sinai, and had pitched in the wilderness; and there Israel camped before the mount. And Moses went up unto God, and the Lord called unto him out of the mountain, saying, Thus shalt thou say to the house of Jacob, and tell the children of Israel; Ye have seen what I did unto the Egyptians, and how I bare you on eagles' wings, and brought you unto myself. Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine: And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel.

God was about to establish this people as His own, He wanted to make it known that they were different from all the other nations of the world. The Word was revealed to the people through Moses. God didn't just want to bring the people out of slavery, He desired that they would become a nation that would possess the Promised Land according to the promise he had made to Abraham. God was about to establish not just a nation, but a new age and a new dispensation.

These Hebrews would be set apart for God from this time forth. They would be established as a peculiar people, God's very own possession.

We must not forget that God owns all the earth and all that is in it, yet He desired a special people who would worship and serve Him alone. This new dispensation would be called "the Law", and would later become known as the 'old covenant'. This law distinguished the people of Israel from every other nation.

Moses was sent to deliver the Children of Israel from slavery and also to lead them into God's great plan. The flame of fire that appeared to Moses in the bush was the Word of God revealing the plan of God and giving direction and instruction to Moses.

Now God was about to establish this delivered people as a Nation, by appearing as fire once again. This time he would give instruction and commandments for the people to live by.

The word 'commandments' is almost considered a bad word today, because people simply don't like to be told what to do. This rebellion is rooted in the fallen and sinful nature of mankind. But the commandments were not given to control the people, but rather to give the people divine instruction on how to succeed and prosper both individually and as a nation. God planned and desired the best for His people. God was the creator of all and He wanted the people to have the truth and wisdom to experience life to the full!

Let us take a look at the word "Peculiar". The Greek meaning can mean keeping safe, preservation, possession, property or reserve. The English meaning is restriction to an individual or group.

The modern meaning of peculiar to us today can mean strange, unusual, odd, funny, curious, weird, or just different.

We notice that God established the people as a Peculiar treasure, a Kingdom of priests and a holy nation unto himself in Exodus but also in 1 Peter 2v9 the church of Jesus Christ is called **“a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.”**

These scriptures are not saying that Christians are odd or unusual people, even though the world often looks at us that way. Rather what it is decreeing is that the Church of Jesus Christ is a people who belong to God, they are God's very own special people. Distinguished and set apart for the Glory of God.

We have been delivered out of darkness and translated into His kingdom of light with this purpose – to show forth His praise and to glorify the only true living God.

Exodus 19 v 10-13 “And the Lord said unto Moses, Go unto the people, and sanctify them today and tomorrow, and let them wash their clothes, And be ready against the third day: for the third day the Lord will come down in the sight of all the people upon mount Sinai. And thou shalt set bounds unto the people round about, saying, Take heed to yourselves, that ye go not up into the mount, or touch the border of it: whosoever toucheth the mount shall be surely put to death: There shall not an hand touch it, but he shall surely be stoned, or shot through; whether it be beast or man, it shall not live: when the trumpet soundeth long, they shall come up to the mount.”

We see the principle of ‘sanctification’ or being ‘set apart’ and cleansed again as God is instructing Moses to prepare the people. It is so important to know that as members of the Church of Jesus Christ, we are to be sanctified or set apart for Jesus. We cannot do it by washing our clothes like the children of Israel but instead, we have been washed and cleansed by the blood of Jesus. It says in 1 Corinthians 6 v 19-20 **“know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.”**

We have been set apart unto God for the purpose of His glory. Therefore we cannot simply do as we please; we cannot follow after our fleshly lusts. Notice the last line of that verse **“therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God’s”**.

We cannot say, that because we have been washed in the blood of Jesus and received the gift of Salvation, we can then do anything we want but rather we are expressly instructed to Glorify God.

So how do we glorify God in our body and in our spirit?

The Word Glorify means to praise and worship God and to acknowledge and reveal the majesty and splendour of God through one's actions. So we must understand that it is not just our duty to Glorify God but it is our privilege to represent His goodness and love in and through our attitudes, conversation and behaviour.

This is what sets us apart for Jesus. We strive to be a good witness for Jesus and to be a good testimony of God’s grace to others.

This is not an old covenant teaching but rather a timeless principle.

When Moses turned aside to see why the bush was not consumed he was told to take off his shoes because the place he was standing was holy ground. The ground was not holy because Moses was standing there; it was made holy because the Fire of the Word of God was manifested there. Now the people had to be prepared because the Fire of God's Word was about to be manifested upon the mountain and would make that place holy ground. Nothing unclean can touch the holy ground. God told Moses twice in this chapter, to make sure no man or animal approaches the mountain, for they shall surely die.

How can we apply this in our lives today?

God is looking for a people who are set apart for His purpose; a people who have given up the desire for worldly things and have surrendered their lives and their thinking to the Will of God. They have put their trust in Jesus Christ alone to be their Saviour. We know that we are saved by grace through faith and not by our own works. We cannot earn salvation as it is the gift of God. We also know that it is the blood of Jesus that cleanses us from sin.

This is where there is much confusion; some teach if we are forgiven and cleansed by the blood of Jesus we are therefore covered by grace full stop.

This is only part of the truth. A Child of God is completely saved by grace through faith. Our spirit is made alive – or born again – connected with God our Father. We are now made aware of walking in the Spirit and not according to the flesh. So we see where the great confusion arises. A great battle begins between the born again spirit and the old flesh nature.

We are cleansed by the blood of Jesus because of His sacrifice on the cross where He took the punishment for our sin. Now that we are born again the bible clearly teaches us that we must now walk according to the Spirit, not our flesh nature which is our own thinking and desires.

We are to be mindful of the things of the Spirit, as we learn more about His nature and character we desire to be more like Him. Therefore we are changed by the Word, working in us a new way of thinking, talking and acting. We live to praise the Lord with our whole heart and to glorify him in everything that we do.

This delights my soul, to think that not only have we been born again and cleansed with the blood of Jesus so that we can go to heaven, but also he has made a way for us to be transformed by the renewing of our mind to live in the abundant life that Jesus has provided for us.

I see a beautiful picture of how we can be sanctified and ready for the coming Fire of God in the New Testament. We must always remember that the Old Testament was a type and shadow of the New Testament. The Word, the Great I AM, was revealed to Moses so that the people could be delivered from slavery. In the New Testament, The Word, the Great I AM was revealed to the world when Jesus who is The Word became flesh and dwelt among men. Jesus was the deliverer, who had come to set men free from slavery to sin and death, and when He had finished his work on the earth He told his disciples to wait in Jerusalem until they would receive power to be His witnesses.

The Fire was coming and the disciples were in a place of preparation and sanctification, as Jesus had commanded them.

Act 1 v 4 and 5 “And, being assembled together with them, (Jesus) commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me. For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence”

Luke 24 v 44 -53 “And he (Jesus) said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me. Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures, And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behooved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. And ye are witnesses of these things. And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high. And he led them out as far as to Bethany, and he lifted up his hands, and blessed them. And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven. And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy: And were continually in the temple, praising and blessing God. Amen.”

We see here that the eyes of their understanding were opened. They understood that the Old Testament had been fulfilled by Jesus and the New had begun. They understood that the Will of God was to preach the Gospel, and they knew they could not accomplish this mission on their own, they understood that the Fire was coming. So they obeyed and remained in Jerusalem. But they were not in fear and hiding while they were waiting for the promise of the Holy Spirit – no – they were filled with great joy, and were continually in the temple praising and blessing God.

In the last verses in Acts 2, we see that they were praying together, and they were in expectation and making preparations, they were ready to move when the Lord said move.

They were not concerned about the religious leaders and those who were against them. They were not afraid. They were in obedience, they were in joy and they were in peace. We know that there were 120 who were in this place of preparation, who were sanctified and set apart, who remained obedient and faithful to the Words of Jesus. We also know that many others didn't stay faithful. But the 120 were ready and waiting with expectation and excitement for the Power of the Spirit that Jesus had promised.

I challenge you today - are you looking forward with expectation and excitement to being part of this great move of God on the earth. Are you prepared and sanctified unto God, rejoicing and praising God for the many souls that will be saved. Have you made up your mind that you will be a witness for Jesus no matter what the cost may be?

Holy Spirit and Fire

Exodus 19 v 16-25

And it came to pass on the third day in the morning, that there were thunders and lightnings, and a thick cloud upon the mount, and the voice of the trumpet exceeding loud; so that all the people that was in the camp trembled. And Moses brought forth the people out of the camp to meet with God; and they stood at the nether part of the mount. And mount Sinai was altogether on a smoke, because the Lord descended upon it in fire: and the smoke thereof ascended as the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mount quaked greatly. And when the voice of the trumpet sounded long, and waxed louder and louder, Moses spake, and God answered him by a voice. And the Lord came down upon mount Sinai, on the top of the mount: and the Lord called Moses up to the top of the mount; and Moses went up.

And the Lord said unto Moses, Go down, charge the people, lest they break through unto the Lord to gaze, and many of them perish. And let the priests also, which come near to the Lord, sanctify themselves, lest the Lord break forth upon them. And Moses said unto the Lord, The people cannot come up to mount Sinai: for thou chargedst us, saying, Set bounds about the mount, and sanctify it. And the Lord said unto him, Away, get thee down, and thou shalt come up, thou, and Aaron with thee: but let not the priests and the people break through to come up unto the Lord, lest he break forth upon them. So Moses went down unto the people, and spake unto them.

How awesome this must have been, the people could hear, see and feel this amazing manifestation of the Presence of God. We see that Mount Sinai was altogether on a smoke, in other words, Mount Sinai was covered, totally wrapped with smoke, because the Lord had descended upon it in fire, and the whole mountain quaked greatly and God answered with a voice of thunder.

Only Moses and Aaron were able to come up the mountain, but the people and the priests could not.

Let us take a look at the Fire. What does the Fire represent? What does this mean to us today?

John 3 v 11 John the Baptist told us **“I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire:”**

There is much confusion in the Church today about the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, what it is and what it is not. But I want you to notice that it clearly says **“he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire”**.

Many people believe that the Holy Spirit is the Fire of God, but the Holy Spirit can be better explained as the ‘Breath of God’ like a powerful wind that is always moving.

In Acts 2v8 Jesus tells us why we should receive this gift of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, **“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”**

Can you be a witness for Jesus without being baptised with the Holy Spirit?

Yes, you can but as one preacher put it “Witnessing without the power of the Holy Spirit is like driving a car without power assisted steering. It is possible, but it is hard work.”

Notice that Jesus said you shall receive power; this is the divine purpose for the Gift of the Holy Spirit to the Church. It is the power to assist you, to empower and enable you to do more and be more productive and effective both in being a witness in your own life and your God-given ministry or destiny.

We must never lose sight of the PURPOSE. So what did John mean when he said 'Holy Spirit and Fire?' Is there a difference between the Holy Spirit and the Fire?

When Moses first saw the flame of fire in the bush, was there any wind or great noise or was the ground shaking? No, Moses didn't hear or feel anything rather he saw something amazing, a bush that seemed to be on fire yet it was not consumed. When he drew near, he heard a voice calling his name from the midst of the bush, in other words out of the flame of fire a voice spoke. This was the Word of God being revealed to Moses. This revelation is life changing so let us take a look at some scriptures.

John 1 v 1 – 3 “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made.”

John 1 v 14 “And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth”.

First of all, we must understand that Jesus is the Word of God. Jesus was with God in the beginning, He was God and He was the Word of God who became flesh, in other words, the Word of God became a man, born into this world to fulfill the plan of Salvation.

So how do we know that the Fire is the Word?

Here are just a few scriptures that let us know that the Old Covenant people understood that the Fire and the Word were one:-

Jeremiah 23v29 “Is not my word like as a fire? saith the LORD; and like a hammer that breaketh the rock in pieces?”

Jeremiah 5:14 “Therefore this is what the Lord GOD of Hosts says: "Because you have spoken this word, I will make My words a fire in your mouth and this people the wood it will consume.”

Jeremiah 20:9 “If I say, “I will not remember Him or speak His name anymore”, Then my heart becomes a burning fire shut up in my bones. And I am weary of enduring and holding it in; I cannot endure it (nor contain it any longer). (AMP)

1 Kings 18v24 “And call ye on the name of your gods, and I will call on the name of the LORD: and the God that answereth by fire, let him be God. And all the people answered and said, It is well spoken.”

Elijah's Prayer in 1 Kings 18 v 36 -39

“And it came to pass at the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, that Elijah the prophet came near, and said, LORD God of Abraham, Isaac, and of Israel, let it be known this day that thou art God in Israel, and that I am thy servant, and that I have done all these things at thy word. Hear me, O LORD, hear me, that this people may know that thou art the LORD God, and that thou hast turned their heart back again. Then the fire of the LORD fell, and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood, and the stones, and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench. And when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces: and they said, The LORD, he is the God; the LORD, he is the God”

At no time did Elijah pray “Let the Fire fall”. He challenged the prophets of Baal and the people by saying why are you stuck between two opinions, in other words, why are you sitting on the fence, if God is God then serve him and if not then serve Baal. As Jesus said you cannot serve two masters. Notice that Elijah said, “Let the God who ANSWERS by fire, let him be God”. So we could say that when the fire fell, God answered. He was saying I AM God. Elijah’s prayer was answered but the false prophet’s god remained silent. This is what the Word told Moses, “I AM, that I AM.” The Word of God was revealed to Moses first as a flame of fire in the bush then in the Fire on Mount Sinai, the Word of God was revealed to Moses and the People.

In Revelation 1 v 12-16, John tells us

“And I turned to see the voice that spake with me. And being turned, I saw seven golden candlesticks; and in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle. His head and his hairs were white like wool, as white as snow; and his eyes were as a flame of fire; And his feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace; and his voice as the sound of many waters. And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth went a sharp twoedged sword: and his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength.”

Why were his eyes as a flame of fire? Jeremiah tells us that the Lord said “**I am watching over my word to perform it.**” So his eyes were reflecting what he was looking at. His eyes were like fire because His Word is fire.

His Word is a flame of fire and it destroys every barrier. Psalm 138 v 2 “**I will worship toward Thy holy temple, and praise Thy name for Thy loving kindness and for Thy truth, for Thou hast magnified Thy word above all Thy name.**”

It is worthwhile taking some time to meditate on these scriptures and let the revelation flow in and through your spirit that the integrity of the Name of Jesus which is above all names is backing up His Word which burns as Fire.

God’s Word never fails and it will not return void, it always performs and succeeds in what He sent it forth to do. Many have tried to destroy it, but HIS WORD endures forever.

Why do we need the Fire of His Word?

When Jesus was baptised in the river Jordan and the Holy Spirit descended upon him, we are told that he was led by the Holy Spirit into the wilderness, and there he was tempted by the devil. Here we see that Jesus had both the power of the Holy Spirit and the Power of the Word working together because when He was tempted by the devil He answered and said “It is written.”

Many Christians today know what is written, they can quote scriptures but they have no power to drive the enemy away. So we see that we need both the Fire of the Word and the Power of the Holy Spirit working together in our lives. Remember Jesus said that the Holy Spirit empowers us to be His witnesses. We cannot have the Holy Spirit’s power working in our lives without the Power of the Word. The Spirit and the Word agree and work together to accomplish the perfect will of the Father.

We could say the Word is the vehicle in which the Holy Spirit moves. The Truth of the Word, when it is preached carries the power of the Spirit. The Holy Spirit confirms the preaching of the Word with signs and wonders.

The power of the Holy Spirit is not going to work with our own words but with THE WORD of God which we preach by revelation.

I will summarise this chapter by saying the Fire of God's Word is fuelled by the wind of God's Spirit to cause God's Purpose to explode in revelation and demonstration. The power of God's Spirit like dynamite is ignited by the Fire of God's Word.

The Last days – pillars of fire on the earth

We see that the Word of God first appeared to Moses as a flame of fire in the bush and the PURPOSE was to bring deliverance to the people from slavery. But now that the people were set free we see there was a greater demonstration with thunder, lightning and quaking. The PURPOSE was not so that God could just demonstrate his power to the people but his PURPOSE was to reveal His Word once again, but this time how to succeed and live in their deliverance and freedom.

Exodus 20 v 1 – 20

“And God spake all these words, saying, I am the Lord thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. Thou shalt have no other gods before me. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me; And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments. Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain. Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: But the seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.

Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee. Thou shalt not kill. Thou shalt not commit adultery. Thou shalt not steal. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's. And all the people saw the thunderings, and the lightnings, and the noise of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking: and when the people saw it, they removed, and stood afar off. And they said unto Moses, Speak thou with us, and we will hear: but let not God speak with us, lest we die. And Moses said unto the people, Fear not: for God is come to prove you, and that his fear may be before your faces, that ye sin not."

The PURPOSE of this demonstration of both the Word of God and the Power of God was to establish this people as a holy nation and to give them life. It is known as the commandments or the law – but at this stage of their journey, God was giving them life.

This demonstration turned them from being slaves to becoming a nation. This people would be distinguished from all other nations from that day. Now we know and understand that the dispensation of the law is finished. We are living in the dispensation of Grace. But it is very interesting that what happened in Exodus is a type and shadow of what was to come, here we see the birth of the dispensation of the Law but when we look at the New Testament we see the birth of the dispensation of Grace, of which we are living in and experiencing today. But this dispensation of Grace is about to come to an end and the Church age will be finished on the earth. This is where we stand today at the latter part of the New Testament and the beginning of something new.

God will once again demonstrate His glory by the Fire of God and the Power of God on the earth to reveal the plan of God again. The Word of God is being released by the Holy Spirit on the earth, with power again to prepare the way for the Coming of King Jesus. Because there are many that are not ready.

Moses was sent with the Word of God to deliver the people of Israel from slavery but Jesus who is The Word was sent to deliver the world from the slavery of sin and death. On Mount Sinai, God established the people as His very own treasure a holy nation unto Himself and gave them life through His Word. On the day of Pentecost, the Church was ordained with the Holy Ghost and Fire and began to preach the Word with power. We see in Acts 2 that there was a demonstration much greater than what happened on Mount Sinai. I pray that you will be able to receive this revelation.

Acts 1 v 1 – 4 “And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.”

The power of God's Spirit and the Fire of God's Word came upon each one of them

Remember how great the demonstration of God's power on Mount Sinai was, and how the people could not come near, only Moses and Aaron could come unto the mountain. If any man dared to touch the foot of that mountain they would have died. But on the day of Pentecost, not only did the power of God fill the place where they were but rested upon them and filled them.

When I read this my spirit jumps for joy. When I realised that we are living in a far greater covenant. The experience on Mount Sinai was amazing but the people were spectators only. But when Jesus came, when the Word himself came He made a way for us to enter into God's presence and gave us abundant and everlasting life. He made us the temple of his presence, where he could come and dwell in us. The 120 on the day of Pentecost were witnesses of Jesus' life, death and resurrection and now they had received the power that he had promised to them. They knew that the power and the fire upon them and in them were for the sole purpose of preaching the Gospel and they did not waste any time. Now they could be the witnesses they had been called to be. Now they had the same power that raised Jesus from the dead dwelling in them so they went without fear to preach this good news to every creature.

This is what they had been waiting for.

Have you noticed that God is a God of order and progression, and moves from revelation to revelation, from glory to glory?

For many years, the baptism of the Holy Spirit and Fire has been rejected, ignored and greatly misunderstood and even abused. But we are at the threshold of the closing hours of this church age and the revelation of God's Word and Power on the earth in these days will be much greater than ever before. I have titled this book *The Pillars of Fire on the Earth* because that is what sparked the fire in me to write this book. Before the Holy Spirit spoke to me the word that is at the beginning of this book – He said to me in prayer a few weeks before – I am setting Pillars of Fire on the Earth and they will stand tall above everything else and in those pillars are my faithful and prepared ones.

At first, I didn't understand what this meant and to be honest I am still in awe at what God has planned. But while doing this study my understanding and excitement have been growing.

As God said in Haggai 2v9 **“the glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former”**

2 Timothy 3 v 1-5 describes the days we are living in better than I ever could he said **“But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!”**

Over this past year of 2020, there has been much fear and evil revealed and many have gotten distracted by these things and many will be agreeing with these verses.

I praise God that Paul didn't stop in verse 5 – he continued in verses 10 – 17 **“But you have carefully followed my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, love, perseverance, persecutions, afflictions, which happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra— what persecutions I endured. And out of them all the Lord delivered me. Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution. But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived.**

But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them, and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.”

Those who continue in the Word are called the Faithful. Those who are filled with the Spirit are those who are prepared.

On the day of Pentecost, the wind or the power of the Holy Spirit filled the place where they were and also filled them. The Fire was like tongues of fire upon their head. And as we are told in Mark 16 v20 **“they went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word through the accompanying signs. Amen.”**

Just like many in the nation of Israel walked away from God and his Word, doing their own thing and depending on their own traditions and doctrines, they failed to be set apart for God and to Worship him only.

So we see many people of God in this Church age have also walked away from the Word, doing their own thing, depending on their traditions and falling away from worshiping God only. Many are praying for revival in these days. We must understand that revival is for the people of God to return to God wholeheartedly. There is a call to the people of God today to be faithful and to be prepared.

There is a returning to worship God in spirit and in truth, and to have the Fire of the Word of God in our hearts and in our mouths, and to be filled to overflowing with the power of the Spirit of God. It is time to separate from the false doctrines and false teachings and to take hold of the truth once again.

There is a great shaking of all things, and everything that is not grounded on the solid foundation of God's Word will fall and crumble, just as Mount Sinai was shaken and no man or animal could come near so it shall be in these days. The people of God will be surrounded with the Fire of God's Word and the Power of the Holy Spirit and we will be covered with the glory of the Lord as we sound out the praises to the Living God.

Down through the generations, there have been many people who have received the baptism of the Holy Spirit. There have been many who loved the Word and there have been many great teachers and preachers. But still, there is little revelation of both. We know that the mighty men of faith have had two things in common; they had the Fire of the Word of God and the Power of the Holy Spirit in operation together. Therefore they experienced many explosive things for the Glory of God.

God is moving in the earth in these days because there is a great harvest of souls ready to be brought into his Kingdom. He is a gracious and very patient God. He has provided a way of escape, but many have not heard, many do not know and many are going to be lost. There is a massive harvest of souls to be reached and just like on the day of Pentecost, the early church could not leave Jerusalem without the baptism of the Holy Spirit and Fire, so we cannot reach this lost generation today without that same power.

We read later in Acts that these few men turned the world upside down. The glory shall be greater in these last days because for one reason there are many souls in danger and very little time left and for the second reason there are not just a few men like there were in the early church, but God has a remnant of people all over the earth faithful and prepared.

There will be many miracles and many signs and wonders in these days but let us fix our focus on the PURPOSE - that people will be saved.

I have a word of warning to those who are waiting for the fire of God or revival to come, IT IS HERE right now. The Holy Spirit is not coming again, He is already here and the Word of God dwells in us even in our mouths. Jesus is Coming Again but that will mean our work on earth will be over. The urgency is to seek God with all our hearts, praying in the spirit, walking in the spirit and be separated from everything in this world. Whatever God has given us to do; he wants us to know the Power of the Holy Spirit and the Fire of His Word. As we yield to both, His Glory will be revealed!

When Moses and Aaron came down from the Presence of God it tells us that Moses' face was glowing but he was still only a man. When Peter began to preach on the day of Pentecost he was different from before because he was filled with the Fire and the Spirit but he was still only a man. In these days, the Glory of God will be seen upon God's people and we will preach with boldness like the early church did, but we must never forget, no man will get the glory.

Without Jesus, we can do nothing. But when we are the branches and he is the vine we will bear much fruit.

From January 2019 and throughout that year, the Holy Spirit was speaking to me about a great storm that was coming in the nations, and how it would be like a famine and how things would change, and even though I didn't understand, I simply followed his instructions, he kept telling me to stay close, to stay in his presence and in his word and look for the faith-filled people of God, resist doubt and fear and hold fast to the Word of God. He told me that there would be a wave come over the earth and the people of God would ride that wave like a surfer. How we would only see the destruction from the height of the wave but not be in the destruction. He told me the Word and the Spirit would be what keeps us balanced.

I pray that you will realise the importance of preparation. Like an athlete in training or a warrior in battle we must be disciplined and focused. Ready and prepared, filled with the Fire of the Word and the Power of the Holy Spirit.

I feel that even before this book gets published we will be in the midst of the greatest move of God that this world has ever seen. Even now, the Holy Spirit is showing me, creative miracles, and incurable diseases being healed. I am praying “Lord, enlarge my capacity to receive and to believe” as I hear his voice saying “Hold on tight”. The sense of urgency and expectation is growing stronger every day.

Be encouraged Child of God with these scriptures. Amen.

Acts 20 v24 “But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God.”

Matthew 24 v 12 -13 “ And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.”

1 Corinthians 9 v 24-27 “know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain. And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible. I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air: But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.”

Philippians 3 v 13-14 “Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.”

Proverbs 4 v 25 “Let thine eyes look right on, and let thine eyelids look straight before thee.”

Revelation 3 v 11 “Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown.”

What Next?

One thing that has happened throughout this very strange year of 2020 is that evil has undeniably become more apparent and bold. But as God said, at the same time the true Church of Jesus Christ is rising to new heights of boldness in the Holy Spirit and truth and power of the Word of God. It is no longer about what denomination, tradition or doctrine you believe or don't believe – the only question is are you willing to stand up and be counted in the great army of God, regardless of what the world says or thinks?

It is time to set aside foolish arguments and debates about what the Word of God means and instead take a hold of it and put it into action. Like a warrior welding the sword in battle.

God gave us The Sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God. We have to use it.

Maybe you are someone who has not heard about the baptism of the Holy Spirit like the believers in Acts 19 vs 1-7 **“And it came to pass, that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus: and finding certain disciples, He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost. And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism. Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus. When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied. And all the men were about twelve.”**

They could not receive what they had not heard. This truth remains today. You cannot have faith for what you have not heard.

Maybe you have been taught that this Gift of God is no longer available, or not necessary for us today, or that this was only for the early church. But if you read the bible with a prayerful heart and a listening ear you will not be able to deny that there is much evidence that this happened everywhere the Gospel was preached, and there were many more than the 12 Apostles or the 120 believers who received this gift of the Holy Spirit after they had received the gift of Salvation.

Maybe you have been told that this experience is only for those so-called 'crazy Pentecostals'.

Maybe you are one of those Pentecostals, who have been told about the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and have actually received it at some point. But notice I use the word 'told' not taught, because we can clearly see among Pentecostals it has not been correctly taught or understood.

So we see that throughout the whole church world, regardless of doctrine or denomination there has been much neglecting, rejecting, misunderstanding and abuse of this Gift of God to the Church, the Gift of the Holy Spirit.

But after all is said and done, after all the arguments and debates, we must ask ourselves.

Do I want to be a powerful witness for Jesus in my generation?

Do I want to have the power of God evident in my life to rise and to stand against the persecution and opposition to the Gospel in order to reach the lost for Jesus?

If so then what will it take?

2 Timothy 1 v 6-7 tells us

“Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands. For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.”

This gift of God is the Gift of the Holy Spirit and Fire. We are told to stir up the gift of God, how can we stir up what we have not yet received?

I have heard every argument and opinion about this Gift of God over the years. But quite simply put 'The proof is in the pudding'. Don't present your wise words and doctrines but rather show forth the power of God that is changing people, saving them from hell, setting them free from the bondages and chains of sin and healing their bodies so that they may serve the Lord.

I have made up my mind, I want to know victory over fear, and I want to experience and live in the power, love and soundness of mind every day. I don't understand everything but I have made up my mind to believe the Word of God and trust him to give me understanding as I go.

There is only one passion burning in my spirit and that is to reach the lost for Jesus, inside and outside the church. One thing I know with certainty is that I cannot do anything in my own strength, or my own understanding and I don't want to have anything in my heart or mind that will make the Word of God of no effect. Rather I want the Fire of the Word of God, and the Power of the Holy Spirit moving and working freely in me and through me.

If that means that I will look foolish to the world, then that's what it takes, it is a small price to pay.

One of the greatest generals of faith in the last century was Smyth Wigglesworth. He didn't have a great education yet he was able to preach this Gospel in a way that thousands were saved and saw many supernatural miracles. He is well known as a man who was deeply intimate with the Lord and the Holy Spirit. He is famous for saying things like:-

“Talk to God about men before you talk to men about God”

“The question is not have you got the Holy Spirit but how much of you does the Holy Spirit have”

“There is nothing impossible with God. All the impossibility is with us when we measure God by the limitations of our unbelief.”

“The Spirit reveals, unfolds, takes of the things of Christ and shows them to us, and prepares us to be more than a match for satanic forces.”

“God wants to purify our minds until we can bear all things, believe all things, hope all things and endure all things. God dwells in you, but you cannot have this divine power until you live and walk in the Holy Ghost, until the power of the new life is greater than the old life.”

“It is better to live ready than to get ready!”

He was a down-to-earth straight-talking Yorkshire man, with no training or credentials, yet he shook the world for Jesus. He preached the Gospel in many nations of the world. At the beginning he didn't know anything about this gift of the Holy Spirit; he was serving the Lord to the best of his own ability. He couldn't preach from the pulpit because of a speech impediment, so his wife preached instead. Although he was serving the Lord for many years, it wasn't until he was 48 that he heard about the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. Even though at first he resisted it because it had not been in his doctrine – he was like Moses and decided to draw aside – and go and see for himself. He came home a different man – saying “I've got it I've got it”. His wife was not happy about this, ‘speaking in tongues business’ and she refused to preach, and instead she said if this is from God then you preach. And preach he did, his wife sitting on the back row of the church couldn't believe her ears, it is told how she jumped up and was shouting “That's not my Smythy”, as she ran to the front and cried out “I want it too”.

Their lives and ministry were never the same again.

I tell you these things because I believe that many are called just like Smyth Wigglesworth. Unfortunately many never go seeking the truth for themselves.

No matter what you have experienced so far in your Christian walk, there is so much more to discover. Through this book, I hope and pray that your heart and spirit have been stirred to look beyond where you are and to seek more. If you want to see the Gospel preached and people saved in a greater measure then are you willing to draw aside to hear and to receive more of the Word and more of the Spirit?

If the passion for the lost is burning in your heart, are you willing to take time to fast and pray? Are you willing to say to the Lord, here I am, use me, and equip me? Are you willing to ask the Lord to cleanse you from every wrong attitude, doctrine and tradition and fill you with the truth of His Word and His Spirit?

God is moving by His Spirit, He is moving His way; He is looking for those who are willing and obedient. He is looking for those who are hungry for more of him.

Are you hungry?

Are you willing?

I leave you with one last quote from Smyth Wigglesworth.
“The secret of spiritual success is a hunger that persists ...
It is an awful condition to be satisfied with one’s spiritual
attainments ... God was and is looking for hungry, thirsty
people.”

About the Author

I have been a born again spirit filled Child of God for many years, I am about to celebrate my 50th birthday on writing this book. I can testify to so many amazing healings and experiences that I have encountered through the knowledge of God's presence, his Word and his Spirit. My passion is to share what God has done for me and to encourage others to find that same freedom from religion, fear and every other chain that limits them. I believe that God has a good plan and purpose for every person. God sent you to this earth on purpose with a purpose. We do not decide that purpose but we must discover it.



Audrey Morrow

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