

*Now Concerning Spiritual Things*  
*an historical account of one man's walk with God*

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**VICTORY OVER THE ENEMY**

My wife, Dale, first met Billie Ballweg four years ago when she came to play her guitar and sing about her Jesus, for the residents of a Plano, Texas nursing center. Shortly thereafter, Dale and I became good friends with Billie and her husband, Chuck. This letter is about Billie's search for fulfillment in life.

In 1970 Chuck was in the U.S. military service and was stationed at Travis Air Force Base in Long Beach, California. It was there that Billie began to experience back pain. Chuck had learned of a civilian Yoga instructor who was giving lessons on the Base, and suggested that Billie try it as an exercise that might help the pain. And so Billie enrolled in the Yoga classes. The civilian instructor was a man who came to the base weekly, with military approval, to teach the classes. In the words of the instructor, "The goal of Yoga is self realization, to look deeply within to discover one's true self, or one's higher self, in order to experience peace through eastern meditation." This sounded good to Billie because she was searching for fulfillment in life, while the peace the instructor spoke of, had eluded her.

The class instructions began with assuming the lotus position, legs crossed, pulled closely to the body in an erect sitting position. Before and after assuming the lotus position, there were breathing exercises, which included inhaling through one nostril and exhaling through the other for two or three minutes, in preparation for meditation. After meditating in the lotus position for about thirty minutes, each student would then lie down, flat on his back, in a position called the "sponge." The instructor would then direct each one to focus his attention on relaxing the toes first, then proceeding up the body, one part at a time, until the whole body had been thought of in a relaxing mode. Billie said at that point, the student would become so relaxed that he would either go to sleep or begin to see visions. And this was considered as getting in touch with self.

At this time in her life, Billie was very discontented and was searching for answers without

knowing what she was looking for. She was homesick for her family in Holland, had low self-esteem, felt very insecure and unfilled. So she threw herself into Yoga with reckless abandon on a twice-daily schedule. Very soon she became so proficient, her teacher told her that she should become an instructor. Chuck was then transferred to Zweybrucken, Germany where Billie immediately enrolled in a Yoga class and soon became the instructor. While she was teaching her first class, one man abruptly left the class without any explanation. The man's wife later came to Billie and said the reason her husband left so abruptly, was because he had a very frightening spiritual experience in class, and for that reason, he would not be back. Soon thereafter, Billie began to experience visions.

In her first vision, she saw an orange Volkswagen with flowers on the front hood. The next day while driving onto the Base, she saw a man driving an orange Volkswagen, with flowers on the front hood, *exactly as she saw in the vision the day before.* Thoughts then began to come to Billie in the form of a word of knowledge concerning the future, similar to the spiritual gift mentioned in 1 Corinthians 12:10. For example, she wished for a cherry tree. Soon thereafter, a family came to visit Billie and Chuck and brought her a cherry tree to plant in their yard. The visions would appear as clear as a TV picture in vivid color. In one vision, she saw their landlord wearing a brown long-sleeve sweater. Shortly thereafter, she saw the landlord's wife preparing to wash her husband's sweater, *the same sweater she saw in the vision.*

Billie progressed to the point that she could prophesy to her daughter and tell her of a problem Billie knew nothing of. While sitting in the lotus position one day, Billie, who was reared as a Catholic, saw herself in a vision, wearing only her underwear, in the presence of the virgin Mary, who was standing with a veil over her head, hands together at her chin. In the same vision were the three children of Fatima (France) walking around, dressed in black. In the vision, Billie was made to feel ashamed, because she was undressed, and was also made to feel she was unworthy of Mary. Later, that same demonic spirit impressed her that, "Mary is

the way.”

In another vision Billie saw her mother (who was in Europe at the time), looking at Chuck. Billie wanted to talk to her mother, who could not hear her as she cried out. For this reason, Billie thought she (Billie) was *dead* and awakened very frightened. The next night she was afraid to go to sleep because of the vision. Then, as she lay afraid in the bed, while trying to go to sleep, she felt a force literally trying to pull her spirit out of her body. This was not painful, but it was very scary. Lying there alone in bed, Billie realized she was out of control. After resisting the force pulling at her spirit for some time, she grew tired of resisting and let go. Her spirit left her body immediately and went through the window which was closed. Her speed of travel was exceedingly fast.<sup>1</sup> As she left her home she passed a graveyard, saw a man with a hat on, who looked like Satan. The thought transmitted to Billie was, “I’ve got you!” She then instantly landed in her mother’s kitchen some three hundred miles away. While sitting in the corner of the kitchen on the floor, she thought, “I have to go back home.” And instantly it was done. Zip, she was back home, went back through the same closed window into her bedroom but couldn’t get back into her body. She tried at least five times to do so, finally succeeded, went to sleep exhausted and slept well.

Billie advanced in Yoga to the point that she could heal her own headaches. She would go into the Yoga routine and her headache would stop, but would later return. When Billie was instructing, she could put people to sleep with the “sponge.” Those in Yoga could have their own mantra by paying their guru \$200.00.

At a later date, while waiting for her daughter, Mary Ann, in Zweybrucken, Germany, Billie suddenly felt very frightened, realized that her spirit was trying to leave her body again, reached out and literally held onto a wall while crying out, “No, no, no! Mary Ann please come!” Mary Ann then arrived and the feeling and fear subsided. Billie’s last demonic vision occurred in Germany as she lay awake in bed, with her eyes closed. In the vision she saw what appeared to be eight angels,

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<sup>1</sup>Billie experienced astral projection, a demon instigated and controlled out-of-body experience. If this has ever happened to you, denounce it immediately and do not ever attempt it again. To do so is an open invitation to the demonic world, to wreak havoc in your life. See footnote #9 in this letter on how to get help.

beautifully dressed in white robes, walking around in a circle. As she stared at the angels, they became ugly demonic looking creatures with empty eye sockets, as though they were dead bodies, all wearing black hoods. Upon awakening the next morning, Billie became very frightened as she went into the living room to begin her Yoga exercise. When she sat down, *it was then that the Lord revealed Himself to her in a profound way with His presence and awesome love.* And this was the beginning of God’s call on Billie’s life. That night, the Lord spoke to Billie *in English* instead of Dutch, her native language, which was confirmation and consolation that a move to the United States was His will for her.

Chuck’s next military assignment was at the Air Force Base in Montgomery, Alabama. After moving to Montgomery, one evening Billie was watching the 700 Club on TV. Johanna Michaelson was ministering and said that anyone who had been involved in Yoga or eastern mysticism, had to renounce their involvement in such demonic activity in order to receive Jesus. As Billie watched the TV she renounced Yoga, eastern mysticism and all demonic activity, prayed the sinner’s prayer with the evangelist, was born again and instantly delivered from her homesickness. She then threw away all Yoga related literature and her husband bought her a bible. Then Billie said to the Lord, “Do I have to assume the lotus position to communicate with You?” And the answer was, “No.” The Holy Spirit then spoke to her with instructions on getting her husband involved in the a specific area of the Lord’s work, where he was born again.

When Chuck was stationed in Germany, he and Billie made a trip to Rome, Italy. While there, they visited a Catholic Church. Inside of the Church Billie saw a replica of the veil in the Temple which was torn in two from top to bottom when Jesus was on the cross,<sup>2</sup> at which time the Holy Spirit spoke to her and said, “You can come in now.” There were some people outside crawling up the stairs to the Church, on their hands and knees, doing penance. As Billie observed this, she said, “Lord, do I have to do that?” And the Holy Spirit said, “No.”

About six months after being born again, Billie became angry with her mother-in-law. Shortly thereafter the Holy Spirit convicted Billie that she should forgive her mother-in-law. Then while her

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<sup>2</sup>See Matthew 27:51.

husband was talking to his mother, he handed the phone to Billie, who said to her, "I love you." The Holy Spirit immediately filled Billie with overwhelming love for her mother-in-law. In bed that night, Billie awakened, got on her knees in the middle of her bed and began to pray, whether in the Spirit or not, she does not know. As she did so, she began to speak in a language she had never learned. She had received the spiritual gift of tongues without asking for it. Even though she made no effort to speak in a low tone of voice, her husband did not awaken as she prayed with her new prayer language.

After renouncing Yoga, and all related demonic activities, destroying all Yoga literature and being completely delivered from its demonic influence, Billie had this to say, "The *stated* goal of Yoga is self realization, to look deeply within to discover one's true self, or one's higher self, in order to experience peace through eastern meditation and to *develop psychic power*. *This becomes an open invitation to demonic spirits who simply come in and take over*. Human beings do not have supernatural power of their own. When such is experienced or displayed, the source is either the Holy Spirit or demons. There are two supernatural beings: almighty God and Satan in violent conflict with each other."

Here is an update on Billie and Chuck: They worship at the Baruch Ha Shem Messianic Jewish Synagogue in Dallas, and attend the Saturday morning service. As members of the Christian Motorcycle Association,<sup>3</sup> they spend their Sundays ministering to young men, from twelve to eighteen years of age, who are incarcerated at the Gainesville State Prison for Boys. Many have accepted Jesus. On an average of twice each week, Billie goes to nursing homes where she plays her guitar, sings and prays for the residents, and, as she says, "brags on Jesus." I personally know of two cases where she delivered a resident of a demon, on the spot, as she was ministering in a nursing home.

I want to share with you one story about Billie's anointed nursing home ministry: About three years ago, Billie was playing and singing for thirty to thirty-five residents in the dining room of a Plano, Texas nursing center. Dale, who worked there at the time, was sitting next to Maxine, a resident who was born again in 1957, and was holding her hand as Billie played. Suddenly Maxine began to shake the hand that Dale held and said

excitedly, "He's here, He's here! He came down and sat in my chair! Then He left, but He's still here!" The radiance of the Holy Spirit was evident in the area around her chair and included several other people including Dale. As Billie observed the presence of the Lord, she stopped singing, walked over behind Maxine and began to pray. In her usual condition, because of alzheimers, Maxine could seldom speak in complete sentences. In the presence of the Lord, she spoke clearly. For many weeks afterward, she was able to tell of her experience in complete sentences.

In several of my previous letters, I have written about the World War in progress, between God and Satan. In this letter I have written specifically about Billie's Ballweg's search for fulfillment in life, and subsequent conversion to Christ, to present a real live illustration of that *spiritual battle*. What I write about is real, not imaginary. The good news about the World War is, I know who wins! It's in the Book! Jesus is the Victor and I'm enrolled in His volunteer army. And He is looking for other volunteers.

The spiritual manifestations Billie experienced through Yoga *were of Satan and his demonic forces*. Satan is real and has supernatural power. You are no match for him and his demonic hordes unless you are a faithful, mature, born again, Spirit filled Christian, trained in the methods of spiritual warfare. Even then, because of a generational curse,<sup>4</sup> deliverance<sup>5</sup> may be necessary to live a victorious life in Christ. That is one reason why, as a Christian, you must stay in the Word, or read the Bible, because it was written to you. It is

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<sup>4</sup>Proof of generational curses, where the iniquities of the fathers are visited upon the children to the third and fourth generation, is found in Exodus 20:5; 34:7; Numbers 14:18; Deuteronomy 5:9.

<sup>5</sup>Generational curses are caused by sin which allows entry of evil spirits or demons. They will come in unannounced as they did with Billie Ballweg. A way to consider whether or not there is a generational curse or curses in your family or someone else's family is to observe what is passed down from one generation to the next. For example, heart attacks in men at age 55 (or some other age), divorce, illegitimacy, uncontrollable temper, fear, adultery, cancer, poverty, homosexuality and other sexual sins, abusiveness, and there are many others. Insurance companies and the medical profession recognize generational curses under another name. I'm not saying these problems are always caused by a generational curse. *I am saying* that they *can be*. Here is a list of resource materials available in Christian book stores which deal with deliverance and generational curses: **Breaking Generational Curses** by Marilyn Hickey, **Pigs In The Parlor** by Frank & Ida Mae Hammond, **They Shall Expel Demons** and **Blessing Or Curse** by Derek Prince and **Breaking Family Curses**, a four audio tape series by Larry Huch.

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<sup>3</sup>They call themselves the CMA Faith Riders.

the operations manual for life. If you are a born again Spirit filled Christian, you have authority over Satan and the power to cast out demons,<sup>6</sup> but this should be undertaken by one who has put on the whole armor of God.<sup>7</sup>

There are certain practices and teachings, accepted by some Christians today which appear to be harmless, such as Yoga, for example, but which actually open the door to demonic forces of evil. Chi and Martial Arts, for example, fall in the same classification as Yoga.<sup>8</sup> When you meditate, stay away from eastern mysticism. Meditate on the Lord Jesus, His promises, who He is, what He has done for you, and the word of God. Any spiritual effort to aggrandize self or to look inward to discern “one’s true self” or “one’s higher self” *is an open invitation to demonic forces and should be avoided at all costs.*<sup>9</sup> The way to know self is to turn to Jesus who said, “If anyone desires to come after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross daily, and follow Me.”<sup>10</sup> The cross is the symbol of death, not life. That means we must give up our life, or *die to self*, in order to receive His life. Jesus said, “And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all peoples to Myself.”<sup>11</sup> He is drawing you to Himself right now if you will accept His invitation. Once you catch a glimpse of Him, His holiness, His purity, His love and light all act as a mirror to reflect your *true self*, which is never a pretty picture. Once that happens, you’re on the way.

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<sup>6</sup>See Mark 16:17.

<sup>7</sup>See Ephesians 6:11 - 18.

<sup>8</sup>There are many other practices which fall in this classification. Some of the publications listed in footnote #5 in this letter contain long lists of such practices, which were discovered in deliverance ministries.

<sup>9</sup>If you or someone you know is involved in such practices, I strongly recommend that you do what Billie did. Here is the failsafe recipe: a.) You must be born again and accept Jesus as Lord, b.) renounce all such activity and destroy related books and printed materials, c.) stop the activity immediately, d.) consider whether or not you need and will accept deliverance. Most Spirit filled Churches will have someone who can minister to such needs. e.) Do not feel embarrassed or ashamed because you need help.

<sup>10</sup>Luke 9:23, Italics added.

<sup>11</sup>John 12:32.

## THE WAY IT WORKS

Five years ago, I began making wooden crosses, mainly for men – crosses to give away as a “conversation piece” about the Lord. They were small, marked by three nail holes, worn around the neck with an adjustable single strand leather cord. It took two years to perfect the process by which I assembled them, which “came to me” one morning as I was awakening. Soon thereafter I discovered most of my requests for crosses came from women. So much for my wisdom!

About a year ago this clear thought came to my mind, “Stop making crosses.” At the time, my thoughts were along this line: “The very idea of stopping something that I do to draw attention to the Lord!!!” I actually resented the thought. Then one day, two or three months later, I realized that I no longer had the *desire* to make them, which I accepted as the Lord’s will.

I am presently engaged in the most exciting project the Lord has ever instructed me to do, which I will share with you in a later letter. Concerning the project, the Lord gave me a prophecy about 8:30 A.M. on September 4, 1998. In the prophecy,<sup>12</sup> the Holy Spirit revealed to me an interesting thing about the *desire* to do the Lord’s work, and used the crosses as an example. Here are some of the words He gave me, which I would like to share with you:

*“My son be prepared for a change in your life. But do not be reluctant to change as I speak. It will be as it was with the crosses. I put the thought in your mind to quit making them, which you resented at first because you were uncertain of the origin of the thought. Then I took away the desire to make them and you accepted the change as My will. That’s the way it works at times. That is why I desire to give you the desire of your heart. When I put the desire there, the result is as though it was your desire first. But that is not so. It was first my desire given to you quietly, without fanfare. Then in the transfer, My desire becomes your desire and the work has begun.”*

....more later, the Lord willing.

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<sup>12</sup>The above prophecy, given to me personally, contains both *foretelling* and *forthtelling*, just one of the blessings of accepting without limitation the work of the Holy Spirit today.