

NOW CONCERNING SPIRITUAL THINGS

an historical account of one man's walk with God

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JESUS OF NAZARETH Part Four

Communication/identification

As you read my *letters*, you realize the thrust of my writing is not the basic salvation message, per se, but for maturing or growing up as believers. As the apostle Paul wrote, “till we all come to the unity of the faith and the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men but, speaking the truth in love”¹

The Lord has given me a number of prophetic “words” on the condition of the Church and how to minister to those needs. As I wrote in my last *letter*, He has said to me, practically speaking, the Church (individual believers) believes God is mute. Not that Christians believe that God cannot speak, but since He does not speak to them, they conclude that He does not now speak to believers as a practical day-to-day experience. One of the reasons for this belief in evangelical churches, for example, is the emphasis placed on reading and studying the Bible *as God's word*, in the absence of positive teaching on the fact that God does speak to His family today, *as His word teaches*. While knowledge of the Bible is foundational, and contains everything necessary for life and Godliness, it is only a beginning. One of the main purposes for the written word (logos – *the book of the Lord*) is to introduce us to *the Lord of the Book*. The kingdom of God is not about law but relationship – intimate relationship with God which was severed when Adam sinned. That relationship clearly implies not monologue, but dialogue, not occasionally but regularly.

In the kingdom of God there are two things necessary for maturity, for intimacy, for dialogue with our Lord: (1) our knowing the Lord and (2) the Lord knowing us.

Although these two avenues of spiritual communication may appear to be received simultaneously, they are not. Both are required for maturity, for intimacy, but each one is acquired differently. Here is what Jesus said about both:

(1) Our knowing the Lord

Jesus said, “But when the Helper (Holy Spirit) comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, *He will testify of Me.*”² The word “testify” means to speak of or to declare. The Holy Spirit declares to us the reality of Jesus – makes Him real to us for the first time so that we *know Him personally*.

Jesus also said, “He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and *manifest Myself to him.*” Manifest means to declare, exhibit or make known. It is therefore clear that the Holy Spirit *introduces us to Jesus*. That's one of the reasons He came and that is the way we get to *know the Lord*. With baptism of the Holy Spirit, Jesus becomes real to the heart of the believer and *we become acquainted with Him*. When the baptismal measure of the Holy Spirit enters, **He takes the initiative** and introduces us to the Lord Jesus.

(2) The Lord knowing us

Although the Holy Spirit is involved, *He does not take the initiative in introducing the Lord to us so that He knows us; we must take the initiative ourselves*. Here is the way it works. Speaking of Himself as the shepherd in John, chapter ten, Jesus said:

3 To him (the shepherd) the doorkeeper opens and the sheep *hear his voice*; and he *calls his own sheep by name* and leads them out.

4 And when he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them; and the sheep follow him, for *they know his voice*.

Notice in verse three that “the sheep hear his voice” and “he calls his own sheep by name.” This does not imply that the sheep talk to him but that **the sheep are quiet** so as to *listen to him and hear his voice as he calls them by name*. In verse four Jesus said the sheep *know his voice* which again implies sheep that are quiet and listen while the shepherd talks. Sheep do not talk to the shepherd. One reason why Jesus often teaches by the example of sheep and the shepherd is to teach us to listen for His voice as sheep do. The shepherd talks to the sheep and they know him *by his voice*. Sheep who do not listen to the shepherd, who do not hear his voice *may become lost – easily misled*

¹See Ephesians 4:13-15 (a).

²John 15:26.

– *easily distracted*. Jesus also said, as recorded in the tenth chapter of John,

27 My sheep hear My voice and I know them, and they follow Me.

Notice in this quotation that the way Jesus *knows the sheep* is not by speaking to them nor by their speaking to Him but *by their hearing his voice*. He knows them not by His speaking but *by their listening*. He wants to talk with intimacy to all His family but *few have learned to listen*. When you do, it will change your life – forever. He will say things to you He has wanted to say for a long time. He said it best: “Behold I stand at the door and knock. If anyone *hears My voice* and opens the door, I will come into him and dine with him and he with Me.” Notice in these words of Jesus, one must *hear His voice* in order to open the door. Not the talking voice, but the listening ear of the believer summons the Savior Who stands outside until you let Him in.

Attention brides

Jesus taught the same lesson in the parable of the ten virgins,³ all of whom went out to meet the bridegroom, all of whom expected to be chosen. This is the story of the Rapture.⁴ You will recall that five virgins had an abundance of oil while five had lamps that “are going out.”⁵ The five who had an abundance of oil were chosen by the bridegroom while the five who did not were not chosen and heard from the bridegroom, “I do not know you.”⁶ The reason he did not know the five virgins with an insufficiency of oil was *they had not taken the time to listen to him – to hear his voice*. This is a learning process and it takes a sufficiency of oil (Holy Spirit) to hear the call of the bridegroom.

We hear the voice of the bridegroom today through the same Holy Spirit who introduces us to Him. He knows that you know Him by what you say to Him. You know that He knows you by what He says to you. It appears that the five virgins who were not taken in the Rapture knew the bridegroom but had not taken the time to listen for and to hear his voice, and they were left behind.

In this parable, all ten virgins *knew the bridegroom and expected to be chosen by him*. The five who were chosen had learned to sit quietly in His presence and listen to him – to hear his voice – *his proposal*.

The listening ear of the bride summoned the bridegroom from his bridal chamber. That is spiritual intimacy and fulfillment attained no other way – the way of

³See Matthew 25:1-13 for this parable.

⁴See 1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17.

⁵See Matthew 25:8.

⁶See Matthew 25:12.

two who are in love.

Although this parable is not given to teach about salvation, but about the Rapture, I believe it clearly teaches that the five virgins who were not chosen were saved, but had not taken the time to hear the voice of the bridegroom. Hence, they knew him but he did not know them. People in love *talk to each other*. It works the same way in the natural as in the spiritual or supernatural.

I have previously made this point, but let me make it again. At whatever the cost, at whatever the time required, make time to learn to listen for and to hear rhema words from the Lord *on a regular basis*. Time set aside in the early morning to be alone with Him is a blessed investment. He awaits your hearing His knock, His voice. He died to reestablish intimacy with you that was lost when Adam sinned. Intimacy with Him portends rewards at the Judgment Seat of Christ⁷ beyond our fondest imagination

An explanation worth listening to

What follows next is an example of my learning to listen to the Architect of the universe, a capability that you also have. This explanation was given to me on Saturday morning, July 29, 2006. I have added the bold fonts, italics and underlining for emphasis and footnotes for scripture support, clarity and explanation. I have also entitled this word received, “The Plot Revealed.”

The words received

“My son, as you have correctly discerned, the written word (logos) *does have disadvantages*. ‘Release Barabbas, crucify Jesus and let His blood be upon us and our children’⁸ came from specialists in the written word.⁹ But don’t forget, lest you miss the fact that those Jews were unknowingly birthing into existence the real Messiah with their proclamation of death. It was death to Satan, however, to give birth to Yeshua Messiah and grant to Him

⁷The judgment seat (Greek: bema, Strong’s #968) of Christ is one of seven “judgments” mentioned in the Bible that occurs between the Rapture and the Second Coming, is for raptured believers to receive rewards or loss of rewards for works and their walk of faith. See 1 Corinthians 3:10-15; 2 Corinthians 5:10.

⁸See Matthew 27:24, 25; Mark 15:11-14

⁹The scribes, Pharisees and members of the Sanhedrin were not strangers to homiletics, exegesis and hermeneutics. One of the problems in these areas is the possibility of using the intellect as one’s master instead of his servant. Intellectual conclusions from assimilated scripture verses are not always accurate, regardless of how carefully they may have been arrived at. The classified section of the phone book under the heading “‘churches’” may be only partial evidence of such. Revelation is the source of true knowledge. When one’s study and conclusions from the scripture are blessed by Holy Spirit revelation on the same scripture or subject, the dual reference confirmation will be accurate.

the power to overthrow the ruler of this world; that is, to take from him by force that which he had taken from Adam by trickery and deceit.¹⁰

“My son, I had to seize by force that which Satan took from the first Adam.¹¹ You now see, as cruel and unlikely as it might seem, Jesus was bait for the enemy. When he (the enemy) saw the opportunity through Judas Iscariot, to crucify My Son, he thought, as depicted in the parable of the vineyard (the world)¹² that he and his fallen angels would then have the world to themselves as they once had.¹³ Instead, God’s plan, secreted in the mind of the Godhead only, had to be that way to foil the effort of Satan (aided by the Jews), to establish himself again as the ruler of the earth.

“My son when I called Abram, I saw My Son. You see, the war that started with the first Adam’s sin had many, many so called impossible circumstances imposed upon Me. Such was the thinking of the enemy.

“But I used My own family, unknown to them, to destroy or kill My only begotten Son in order to pay for Adam’s sin (the wages of sin is death) and wrest from Satan the Paradise¹⁴ lost through Adam’s sin.

“My son, you talk about a sinister plot. This one was the most sinister plot ever devised. But it had to be because I, Myself, established the rules of this war when I created Cherubs.¹⁵

“The reason there was a thirty minute silence in

¹⁰See Genesis 3:1-7.

¹¹Jesus said, “And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence and the violent take it by force.” (Matthew 11:17).

¹²For this parable see Matthew 21:33-44; Mark 12:1-11; Luke 20:9-18.

¹³See my letter dated January 10, 1999, entitled “***EARTH 101***,” wherein biblical evidence is established for the existence of a flourishing pre-Adamic civilization ruled over by Lucifer who is now called Satan. He ruled the earth once and was deposed by God in His “fierce anger.” That’s what the present world war is all about. Even though Satan was deposed by God and his authority was stripped from him by Jesus at the cross, as a roaring lion (the roar is not harmful), he goes about the earth as the “accuser of the brethren” wreaking havoc among those unskilled in spiritual warfare.

¹⁴In the spiritual warfare He engaged in while His body was in the tomb, Jesus transferred Paradise or Abraham’s Bosom to the third heaven.

¹⁵Satan is a fallen Cherub. See Ezekiel 28:14. Concerning this war that started when Adam sinned, the Lord said to me, “I can take exception to some of my rules, for example, I made an ax-head to float (2 Kings 6:5-7) and turned the sundial back ten degrees (2 Kings 20:9-11), but I cannot change the rules governing this war. They were fixed when I created Cherubs.

heaven¹⁶ when Adam sinned is because I could then foresee the horror of the cross, the needless sin, suffering and death of the multitudes because of Adam’s frivolous sin in a moment of time.

“You see, Satan thought he was smarter than I am. But that cannot be, because the creation is not smarter than the Creator. That was Satan’s mistake. He was the most beautiful of My creation and endowed with many supernatural gifts. Nevertheless, his vanity and pride were his downfall. No one is greater than Me. I am supreme and I will prevail.

“Jesus became the first fruits of them that slept.¹⁷ He came forth from the grave triumphant over sin, sickness, disease and death to proclaim life for a fallen world tarnished by sin.

“You will see, you will experience uninterruptedly the metamorphosis of the heavens, the earth and man because I have ordained it so. There are others like you. And yes, (name omitted) is one. There are others as well, who will be my assistants, to usher in the Millennium only as a beginning. And yes, (name omitted) will have a prominent role, even as you will have. There are others like you I am also training for the “new things” I prophesied to Isaiah.¹⁸

“*Realize your blessings of prophesying your own future, even as you do so.*¹⁹ Those whom I have so chosen are My pristine elite ones who will be at My side at Armageddon and the Millennium. This “group” will be My “special forces group” under My immediate supervision, empowered with great authority and great favor, My son. Be blessed as again I lay both of My anointed hands on your head to implant and impart Myself and My blessings on you for yet another level, another new beginning, says Jehovah-Jireh to you this Sabbath morning.

¹⁶The first time God said this to me was a number of years ago. This is not the same “about half an hour” referenced in Revelation 8:1.

¹⁷“But now is Christ risen from the dead and become the first fruits of them that slept.” (1 Corinthians 15:20).

¹⁸Isaiah 42:9: “Behold, the former things have come to pass, and ***new things*** I declare; before they spring forth I tell you of them.”

¹⁹The Lord has said to me that one of the “*new things*” prophesied in Isaiah 42:9 (see the above footnote) is that those who learn to listen to His voice will prophesy their own future. In this manner, the Lord will direct the activities of His servants who will live to see the fulfillment of the prophetic word because of the shortness of time in these last days. This is a last-days phenomenon in order to (1) inform the Church of up-coming events prior to the Rapture and (2) to protect His servants from the enemies’ stepped-up activities. He has confirmed to me that it is a greater blessing to prophesy your own future and experience its fulfillment than to prophesy some great thing and not see it come to pass. **Those who make time to listen to Him will experience this blessing.**

“My son, you have struck the ground a sufficient number of times.²⁰ Your prayers in the Spirit have penetrated the heaven’s opposition, have entered the portals of the third heaven, opened the door of My storehouse of treasures with the key I have given you (prayers in the Spirit). As you said today, you entered My storehouse and became heavily laden with My treasures. Be blessed. You have been obedient again and I (We) now have a new starting place. A place of prominence, advancement and opportunity for the future.

“As you have asked, when your schooling is finished²¹ you will be prepared and equipped to do everything I have prophesied to you. The “everything” promised includes adequate preparation and training for both acceptance (of the bestowal) and execution of your office in the kingdom.

“Keep your attitude of humility (“God, I can’t do what you have called me to do unless you equip and anoint me.”) and We’ll do fine.”

Observations on “The words received”

Notice that *the words received* which you just read were not given in King James language. It’s what I call straight talk – God’s street talk – telling it like it is. The reason He talks to me that way is because I have taken the time to listen. It has taken me many years to get where I am today in my walk with God. What I am trying to do is give you the benefit of those years of experience in order to shorten your learning curve. That can happen. God has given me that job. If you hunger and thirst for righteousness, there is no need for it to take you as long as it took me – there simply is not that much time left. You can shorten your learning curve greatly by simple obedience to the things I have shared with you in my *letters*. They have worked for me and they will work for you. They are real and bring real results which glorify our Lord.

The explanations given in these words from God contain straight-talk explanations I have not previously heard nor read from any source.²² The use of His family (the Jews) to kill His only Son described as a “sinister plot” is truth and the only way it could have happened. Few believers think of God, Who is love, as the instigator of a sinister plot. But if you will reread “The words received,” the

reason for the sinister plot is apparent.

When you learn to listen to God speak, there are times when His plan appears to be a giant jigsaw puzzle with a number of missing pieces. His revelation through the Holy Spirit then seems to be one of the missing pieces of the puzzle, which, when put in place, allows you to see the surrounding mosaic perfectly for the first time. That is another of the “new things” prophesied by the prophet as recorded in Isaiah 42:9. It is exciting to be a part of that.

The reasons He is doing these “new things” now is because time before the Rapture is short – not as short as some say but between thirteen and fourteen years from today is a good benchmark. Training for some of the things about which I write does take time, for as the Lord has said to me, “Slower progress equals greater retention.” Here is good news for many of us: He will choose neither you nor me because of intellectual or worldly prominence, or accomplishments in any field of endeavor. He is choosing nobodies who will be obedient, for, “Behold, *to obey* is better than sacrifice and to hearken than the fat of rams.”²³ In these last days He will call (is calling) men and women out of the pew, bypassing a corrupted pastoral system, who will turn to Him in simple trusting obedience. He will then train, equip, anoint and send them forth to do great exploits.²⁴

Since I have been instructed to write, the writing in my *letters* is for you. The walk with God about which I write is real. It is the only way I have found to be at peace with God, my neighbor and myself and to live a fulfilled life in the here and now of time. It has not always been easy but in the difficult times He has always been there to walk with me. Every time We walk through a valley (there have been more than one in my life), knowing He is there makes the difference. If he will do it for me, He will do it for you.

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²⁰See 2 Kings 13:14-20 for the story of Joash striking the ground an insufficient number of times (three times instead of five or six times as instructed by the prophet Elisha) depicting the destruction of Syria.

²¹I am enrolled in God’s school of the prophets (His words) through May, 2009.

²²This is not the first time I have heard something “new” from the Lord. He wants the same relationship with you.

²³1 Samuel 15:22.

²⁴The Lord has previously said this to me and reinforced it numerous times. The “great exploits” are in preparation for the greatest harvest of souls the world has seen prior to the Rapture.