

NOW CONCERNING SPIRITUAL THINGS

an historical account of one man's walk with God

Jim Ash letter No. 126

Copyright May 15, 2010

email: jimash3@sbcglobal.net

Boldly declaring the **new things** of Isaiah 42:9 and the **greater things** of John 14:12 in this generation

GET READY THE KING IS COMING

A recent email announced, "A Call to the Entire Nation" to pray. A "Joel gathering"¹ at a specific place and time (June 14-18) was included in the announcement. The call to pray cited 51 million abortions, congressional leaders who promote homosexuality, abortion and socialism while ignoring God and the wishes of the people, refusal to honor the National Day of Prayer while choosing to honor the Muslim day of prayer, toleration of immorality, perversion and homosexual marriage and a church that is being conformed to the world instead of changing it.

Nineveh in its day may have been the largest city on the earth, with an estimated circumference of 50-60 miles and a population of more than one hundred and twenty thousand ruled over by a king. Jonah discovered that prayer and fasting can change a city (*as well as a nation, for example*). Jonah's day in principle may have been no different from today. And notice that it was the people who believed God (through the prophet Jonah) and proclaimed a fast, from the greatest to the least. When the fast of the people came to the attention of the king, he issued an official proclamation for the people to pray, to refrain from evil and violence and for man, beast, herd and flock to neither eat nor drink. How long the fast lasted, the bible record does not say, but we do know it got God's attention, big time, so that He repented of the destruction He had prophesied through Jonah.²

The one thing missing from the email admonition to prayer was fasting and it was prayer **and fasting** that led to Nineveh's revival. Have we become too complacent to fast? According to the bible record, it was fasting **of the people** that led to the **action of the king**. His official proclamation then included prayer as well as fasting from food and drink by man, beast, herd and flock.

Here is an admonition to those who attend the prayer vigil in June of this year: Law will not change the heart of man but the heart of man can change the law. That in principle was what happened at Nineveh by prayer **and fasting**.

The email also admonished, "How we respond to God today (*in prayer implied*) will decide what America looks like for the next 50-100 years. But this writer and teacher says it differently. We don't have

¹A "Joel gathering" based on these verses from the book of Joel that are listed separately since that is the way they were treated in the email: Joel 1:5, 2:1, 1-14, 15-17, 18.

²See book of Jonah (a short book) for the story referred to.

even 50 years! Saints of all ages, listen up: 50 years from today, America and all other nations of the world will be more than thirty years into the millennial reign of an absolute monarch, the King of kings! Chew on that! We are living in the latter years of this rapture generation.³

More than sixty years ago, I learned in Economics 101 at Baylor University that two methods of economic thought are deductive and inductive. Deductive thought begins with basic principles to arrive at a conclusion. Inductive thought begins with the conclusion and reasons back to the basic principles.

It may surprise you to know that the inductive method may be used in the study of scripture. Further, that the inductive method can take "dry bones" bible facts and make them "come alive." It may further surprise you to know I have used both the deductive and the inductive methods for many years. Here is an example of how both methods work.

For years I have been writing and teaching that we are living in what I call the "rapture generation." Should you ask someone who uses the deductive method of bible study, you would find there are at least five positions on the rapture⁴ of the Church: the partial rapture position, pretribulation, midtribulation, posttribulation and atribution. The atribution position assumes the rapture is not literal but spiritual. The word "tribulation" refers to the seven year period of time preceding the Second Coming of the Lord to the earth to rule and reign during the Millennium. If you are a serious student of the bible you can find scripture support for each position.

In my bible study I use both the deductive AND the inductive method and have found when you combine both, you end up with a more definitive conclusion. In using the deductive method, the Holy Spirit must quicken to your heart the "logos word" for it to become a "rhema word." Then you know.

Here is the way the inductive method works. When one learns to listen to the voice of the Lord continually,⁵ every word you *hear* is a "rhema word" that acts as a "light container" which will shine on the

³I am not the only servant of God who believes the rapture will occur in this generation. A well known pastor whose church services are on international television regularly says we are living in the terminal generation.

⁴The rapture of the Church is principally described in 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18.

⁵"Continually" does not mean without interruption. That word is "continuously." When Paul wrote, "Pray without ceasing," the meaning is, "Do not cease to pray." Likewise, to hear continually means do not cease to listen.

“logos word” (or words) to reveal understanding in the form of enlightenment or a conclusion, for example. This is the way the hidden things of the scripture are *revealed*. This is also why revelation is the source of true knowledge. In this manner, the *rhema words you hear* are spirit, life, love, truth, light, food and faith.

“They are spirit because they come from the breath of My mouth, says the Lord.

“They are life because each word you hear is spiritual Jesus.

“They are love because that is Who I am.

“They are truth because I spoke it.

“They are light because they enable you to see.

“They are food because they satisfy your spiritual hunger and thirst.

“They are faith because faith comes by hearing.”

Here is an example of the inductive method: Since I have learned to listen, God has given me eight or nine prophetic rhema words (revelation) on the rapture of the church including a close date for that event. Theologians and serious bible students (who use the deductive method exclusively) present alternatives; revelation (the inductive method) presents solutions.

The inductive method takes time initially in order to learn to listen. That may sound a bit peculiar, but it is the truth. Time spent in learning to hear His voice **may seem to be wasted effort in the beginning** but it will reap rich dividends. I speak from experience. Here is an example: Years ago Dale would say to me, “Why doesn’t the Lord talk to me like He talks to you?” Now it is not unusual for her to come to me and say, “May I read to you what the Lord said to me this morning?”

Nothing, absolutely nothing, affects you like a prophetic rhema word from the Lord given to you personally. Those words are alive because they are spiritual Jesus. **They have a life of their own and your use of them never loses the anointing.** When the Lord gives you a prophetic rhema word, **as you share those words**, they have the same affect as though Jesus, Himself was speaking because He is. And, incidentally, His invisible ministry (today) is infinitely more powerful than His visible ministry was because (a) He has been to the Father and (b) through the power of the Holy Spirit, He (Jesus) is accessible to everyone at every point on the earth, world-wide! A rapid way to grow from one degree of glory to another is by listening.⁶ There are *two principle reasons* why some believers are reluctant to accept the inductive method. Here are three passages of scripture that support the **first reason**:

From Romans 10

13 For “whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

⁶See 2 Corinthians 3:18.

14 How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher?

15 And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, who being glad tidings of good things!”

From 2 Timothy 4

1 I charge you therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom:

2 Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching.

3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers;

4 and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.

From 2 Timothy 3

16 All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,

17 that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

The Romans 10 scripture calls for preachers to preach the *gospel* of peace which comes from the New Testament. In the 2 Timothy 4 reference, the command is to “preach the word” which again implies the bible as the source of the “word,” but admonishes that the time will come when “they” will not endure sound doctrine but will develop itching ears, turn away from “the truth” (the bible implied) and turn aside to fables. The Lord spoke to me and said, “**The antidote for ‘itching ears’ is ‘listening ears,’**” which supports the inductive method.

The 2 Timothy 3 reference states that all scripture is given by inspiration of God with which we are admonished to sound doctrine which again points to the bible as the only true source of “sound doctrine.”

The conclusion of the three scripture references is that the written word, the bible, is the sole source of our faith. The implication is that one must be careful when he listens so as not to hear the wrong voice and be led astray. Hear these words from this writer and teacher, the inductive method **ALWAYS** supports and confirms but **NEVER** contradicts the written word (the bible). The reason is simple: they come from the same Source – the Holy Spirit who is the Spirit of truth (John 14:16, 17; 15:26; 16:13).

For several centuries now we have had a bible we can hold in one hand and read without fear of

reprisal. Bible colleges and seminaries have sprung up in support of every denomination, some of which claim to be non-denominational. And the method of teaching is usually predicated on bible study and research *based on the deductive method*. This is usually the source of those who stand in pulpits across the nations of the world to which I say a resounding, amen!

This, in summary, is the **first reason** why some believers are reluctant to accept the inductive method.

The **second reason** why some believers are reluctant to accept the inductive method is because it involves hearing the Lord's voice continually. To my knowledge, that is not taught at bible colleges nor seminaries. I have heard two pastors in the Dallas area, both of whom are on television regularly, warn against someone who claims to hear the Lord's voice as I do. One of those pastors proclaimed *from his pulpit* that not even Jesus heard from God all the time. In Jim Ash letter No. 93 dated February 15, 2007, from the four Gospels I quoted twelve statements from the mouth of Jesus that seem to shed some interesting light on this subject. Nevertheless, here are the three scriptures the Lord has given me as evidence that **hearing His voice continually or regularly is real and is something new for this time in the history of the church**.

Amos 3:7

Surely the Lord God does nothing unless He reveals His secret to His servants the prophets.

Isaiah 42:9

Behold the former things have come to pass, and new things I declare; before they spring forth I tell you of them.

John 14:12

Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to the Father.

When taken in connection with the other two references, the Amos scripture does not apply to the gift of prophecy (1 Corinthians 12:10) nor the office of prophet (Ephesians 4:11) **but to those who have learned to hear the voice of God continually in the few remaining years prior to the rapture**. I remind you that a prophet is one who hears the voice of God and proclaims His message.⁷

⁷If you have doubts about hearing His voice, read the tenth chapter of John where four times Jesus says, "My sheep hear My voice." He then identified Himself as the shepherd and you and me as His sheep. Also read Revelation 3:20. In that verse Jesus describes prayer as dialogue, not monologue, with your speaking to Him and Him speaking to you. Too often God's servants crowd Him out of their life with words while He waits and awaits your willingness to listen. Search the Gospels and there you will find a treasure.

The Isaiah scripture confirms that the former things (ways) have come to pass and God will declare new things before they occur. **One of the new things the prophet prophesied is learning to hear His voice continually today in order to prophesy things before they occur**.

The John scripture (words of Jesus) prophesies that *those who learn to hear his voice regularly* and are faithful thereunto will be sent forth with greater preparation than Jesus had in His visible ministry in order to do the works He did (as He did them) as well as the **greater works** than He did. **This scripture has not been fulfilled, but the time for it to be fulfilled is at hand!** Saints, get ready. The King is coming!

God is spoken of as the husband of Israel⁸ while the church is spoken of as the bride of Christ.⁹ Here is the way this occurs:

God spoke to Moses and said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you."¹⁰ The same words were given to Joshua.¹¹ That was God's proposal of marriage to Israel. That same proposal of Christ to His betrothed is carried over in the New Testament.¹²

When you take time to hear His voice regularly, He gradually becomes more real to you. After a number of years, He will become so precious to you, as you awaken in the morning, your first thought will be, "I Wonder what He will say to me this morning?" Through the years this relationship will grow to the point that you dare not do anything that would hurt Him. Should that occur, it hurts you and you remember the hurt. He will become your life, your love and your way. Your love for Him will grow to the point that you live to be with Him and please Him. Then one day that love will be so all consuming, you will say to Him from your heart, "I will never leave You nor forsake You." That consummates the marriage. In that manner your marriage to Him may be consummated **before the rapture!** Consummation of the marriage to other believers will be after the rapture.

We read these words in Revelation 19:7: "Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready." This scripture speaks of the preparation of Christ to return to earth with His bride to rule for the Millennium. His betrothed (the church) will be taken from the earth to heaven in the rapture where the

⁸See Hosea 2:16.

⁹See Revelation 21:9; Matthew 25:1-13.

¹⁰See Joshua 1:5.

¹¹See Joshua 1:5; Deuteronomy 31:6, 8; 1 Chronicles 28:20. From these scriptures it is evident that God's proposal of marriage to Israel were these words, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." The blessing of being in the kingdom today is the fact that the Holy Spirit, through whom God communicates, is accessible to all believers over the earth 24/7/365(6) whereas that did not occur until the first Pentecost after the resurrection of the Lord Jesus.

¹²See Hebrews 13:4, 5.

wedding and the wedding feast will take place. His bride will be in heaven for the seven year tribulation and will return with Him to rule and reign with Him for the Millennium.

In closing this letter, hear these prophetic rhema words, related to what you have just read, that were given to me on the dates as specified:

January 12, 2010

Yes, My son, your inductive teaching is the greatest time saver in biblical understanding.

Seemingly, it takes more time to learn to listen in order to begin the inductive process. But that, in time, will reverse. The light in every rhema word I speak to you will shine on the Logos (bible) to confirm or reveal truth. My words are truth. But much of My truth is hidden or concealed in scripture that may only be revealed by My Spirit. That's why one may hear My spoken rhema word with no knowledge of the bible (logos).

Cain and Able are examples. Their encounter with Me was written retrospectively or after the fact. Herein is revealed one of the deceptions of the enemy. He has invaded the church so that those who stand in the pulpit or have gone to seminary or bible college may be considered as spiritual leaders based on their knowledge of the bible. While there is great merit in knowing the bible, that is all second-hand information.

When one learns to listen to Me first-hand, every word you hear is fresh, new, revealing truth that will usually be confirmed by the bible, either in detail or in principle.

My church, My son, needs to know from you and the eleven that My heart's desire is that **EVERYONE** will take the time to learn to listen to Me, for that is of the utmost importance in the few remaining years prior to the rapture.

Every believer in this generation has the ability to learn to hear My voice as I have taught you. There is not enough time left to learn what I desire to teach deductively. That is not criticism of the deductive method but an endorsement of My inductive method for these last days of the church age.

The two thousand year window of the church age is about to close. Those who will take the time to learn to listen to Me will be of more use to Me than they otherwise would be.

The inductive method of spiritual growth is more interesting, informative, exciting and joyful by far, than the deductive method.

I have chosen to intensify the inductive method in the few remaining years of the church age so that one may participate more productively in the abundant end-time harvest. There will exist a need to minister to the many souls who will be

compelled¹³ to come into the kingdom in these last days. One who will learn to listen will be of more help to Me than one who stays limited by the deductive method.

Although there is plenty of time left for preparation, the best way to redeem the time is to learn to listen to Me daily. One who so responds to this, My invitation, will be of more aid to Me and My many prodigals included in the harvest.

Within a few years, churches will need to hold multiple services to take care of the hungry prodigals brought back to Me in the final harvest. Those who will learn to listen will be of more help to the precious prodigals who will be hungry and thirsty for spiritual food and drink.

Many, many of My prodigals have been unknowingly deceived by the enemy just as Eve was. They are out there today awaiting the release of My super apostles and those whom they will train to bring in My harvest, says the Lord to you this morning.

January 13, 2010

About the time you think you have heard everything you need to know prior to your dual release, I come up with an elaboration of something I told you previously. That is the way of My teaching.

As you know, for years I have told you that you would become Me without your realizing how and when that would take place. But now you know that each rhema word you hear from Me brings you closer to that reality.

It's really very simple. As the living Word, I not only am in **EACH** rhema word but **EACH** rhema Word is **ME**. It's like your example of the glass. When you drop it on the tile floor, it shatters into many fragments. Each fragment is part of the glass but not the whole.

What My rhema words are doing is putting together the fragments, one at a time, until you are ready to be infused by Me, the living Word. In order to enter as the living Word, I must have a cleansed vessel. Each rhema word you hear brings you closer to that infusion.

My teaching of this type will continue until the time of your dual infusion.

And yes, you will have spiritual vision in your new walk with Me as that is beneficial to My calling and election on your life. You have so many things to do, at times complete spiritual vision would actually detract from My call on your life. Do not allow this to concern you. **EVERYTHING** you will need to minister in the full in **EACH** of your ministries will be imparted.

My son, there will be ministry times when your spiritual sight will be unencumbered as a weapon against the enemy. There will be other times when absolute spiritual sight or vision would be a hindrance to the task at hand. Each of your five ministries will require separate and distinct enabling characteristics that I will provide so you will be *perfect and complete¹⁴* in each one.

Saints of all ages, get ready. The King is coming!

¹³See the parable concerning the kingdom, Luke 14:15-24 (specifically verse 23).

¹⁴For an explanation of the few words, "perfect and complete," see 2 Timothy 3: 16, '17.