

## NOW CONCERNING SPIRITUAL THINGS

an historical account of one man's walk with God

Jim Ash letter No. 130

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

### ELIJAH'S MANTEL

For several years I have written about the preparation, training and sending out of twelve NEW servants of God who will be commissioned with words prophesied by Isaiah and Jesus in the following two bible references:

#### **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.

The Isaiah reference states that the former things have come to pass **before** the new things will be declared. As a result, those who declare the new things **will prophesy the future in new ways not done previously**. *The former things that have come to pass* are the activities of God's servants, from the first Pentecost following the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, to this present day. In that approximate two thousand year period, the preaching of the Gospel has followed the pattern set forth in the second chapter of the book of Acts. Then from the bible record, we find that for some period of time, signs and wonders followed believers (as Jesus prophesied<sup>1</sup>) as they preached the Word.

But signs and wonders no longer confirm the Word taught and preached in the church universal as they occurred in the newly established "Acts 2 church." And the church universal is **EVERY CHURCH** where Jesus **is lifted up** as Savior, Lord and Redeemer of mankind, regardless of how much "extra baggage" has been picked up along the way. This definition was given to me by the Lord. He said that every church who so lifts Him up is a part of His fragmented body, regardless of the *extra baggage*. That is not the usual way churches are identified. The usual way is by their differences, spoken as criticism. This may be called pride – spiritual pride. Spiritual pride which caused Lucifer's downfall,<sup>2</sup> is the worst kind of pride and is one reason why God's body is divided and is in spiritual adultery.

The lack of signs and wonders to confirm the Word preached is the result of the *extra baggage* accumulated since that Pentecost morning in Jerusalem

two thousand years ago. That is about to change. *The former things that have come to pass* are the old ways (old wine) of the church that do not confirm signs and wonders (new wine).

One of the **NEW THINGS** (new wine) included in Isaiah's prophecy is the restoration of signs and wonders that will confirm the Word taught and preached. The spiritual famine in the church is drawing to a close.

In a short period of time, twelve NEW servants of God, who have been in training for many years, will be released at select points over the earth, armed and dangerous *to the enemy*. They will be commissioned and anointed to fulfill John 14:12. Their ministry will be unlike any other since that Pentecost morning in Jerusalem. They will do greater works than Jesus did, as He prophesied.

The twelve NEW servants of God will be anointed to take from Satan by supernatural power (greater than he possesses), everything Satan has done to man. Death, illness, disease, and calamities that have befallen man at the hands of the ruler of this world will be taken from the perpetrator. Let's set the stage for this occurrence:

After Jesus fasted for forty days and forty nights, at the beginning of His ministry, Satan came to tempt Him. Only two of the Gospels (Matthew and Luke) record the three temptations. The following bible references describe the third temptation. These two references reveal why Jesus called Satan "the ruler of this world"<sup>3</sup> and why Paul called him "the god of this age."<sup>4</sup> **This should leave no question as to who is in charge of this world.** First, listen carefully to the words which describe this third temptation as penned by Dr. Luke, then listen to those written by Matthew on the same subject.

#### **Luke 4**

**5** Then the devil, taking Him (Jesus) up on a high mountain, showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time.

**6** And the devil said to Him, "All this authority I will give You, and their glory; for this has been delivered to me, and I will give it to whomever I wish.

**7** "Therefore, if You will worship before me, all will be Yours."

**8** And Jesus answered and said to him, "Get behind Me, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you

<sup>1</sup>See Mark 16:17.

<sup>2</sup>See Isaiah 14:12-15.

<sup>3</sup>See John 12:31; 14:30; 16:11.

<sup>4</sup>See 2 Corinthians 4:4.

shall serve.”

#### **Matthew 4**

**8** Again, the devil took Him (Jesus) up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory.

**9** And he said to Him, “All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me.”

**10** Then Jesus said to him, “Away with you Satan! For it is written, ‘You shall worship the Lord your God and Him only you shall serve.’”

The words you have just heard from the mouth of the devil confirm **why** three times Jesus called him *the ruler of this world* and why Paul called him *the god of this age*. Satan literally had the authority he proclaimed to Jesus. Here is the way that was acquired:

Earth One, including Lucifer and his angels to rule over it, mankind to live thereon, all the marvelous, perfect appointments (furnishings) and the perfect ecosystem/botanical garden of God in Eden<sup>5</sup> (on Earth One), were created to last for eternity. Lucifer’s failure was unplanned for. Evidence of that is:

- (1) God’s second and final choice to rule the earth **was not another wonderfully created angel** and
- (2) hell was created for Satan and his angels after the destruction of Earth One.<sup>6</sup>

That’s why he is still at large. The Lord Jesus does not yet have the necessary angelic support system to overcome him. When that occurs at the end of the Tribulation, He will return to earth at His second coming about which I have written previously.<sup>7</sup>

The gifts and calling of God are irrevocable,<sup>8</sup> even to angels. The **ministry** of Satan was revoked by God when He destroyed Earth One in His fierce anger, **but not the gifts and calling of God**.<sup>9</sup> Therefore **Satan had the legal right** to be in the midst of the garden of Eden on Earth Two. That authority was given to him by God, Who created him to rule Earth One, which may not be revoked, since God is responsible for all of His words.

The tree of life (God) and the tree of the knowledge of good evil (Satan) were both in the midst of

the Garden of Eden on Earth Two.<sup>10</sup> To repeat for emphasis, Satan had the legal right to be there because the gifts and calling of God are irrevocable, even to angels.

According to the record in the first chapter of Genesis, God gave man (Adam and Eve) the authority to rule the earth, that is, to subdue it and have dominion over it.<sup>11</sup> This authority to rule the earth and enjoy God’s creation **was conditional upon one thing**: Man was instructed not to eat of the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the midst of the garden lest he die. This instruction was obviously given to the man (Adam), as recorded in the second chapter of Genesis.<sup>12</sup> It is also obvious that God’s instruction not to eat of the “forbidden fruit,” was told to Eve by Adam, since God’s instruction was originally given to him. Here is an important thing to remember: A *reema* word spoken to an individual is much more impressive to that individual than it is to someone else with whom he may share that word.

In the beginning, things were going well with Adam and Eve, but in the meantime, who should show up in the midst of the garden of Eden but Satan. The record states that Adam and Eve both ignored God’s instructions and “bought” the devil’s deceptive invitation to eat the *forbidden fruit*.<sup>13</sup> In that sin, Adam and Eve forfeited to Satan their God-given authority to rule the earth. And he still has that same authority today. That’s why Jesus called him *the ruler of the this world* and why Paul called him *the god of this age*. That is exactly what he is and how he regained authority to rule the world once more.

Now let’s look at Satan’s power and authority. Notice that the devil took Jesus up on an exceedingly high mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. This was obviously done by the devil supernaturally, either by translating himself and Jesus to the “advantageous viewing point” or by a “supernatural vision.” Either way, it was a demonstration of the supernatural power of Satan.

Realize that this was done after Jesus was infused with both the third Person (Holy Spirit) and the second Person (the Word) of the Trinity immediately following

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<sup>10</sup>See Genesis 2:9.

<sup>11</sup>See Genesis 1:26-28.

<sup>12</sup>See Genesis 2:16, 17.

<sup>13</sup>Since I have previously written about what is called “the forbidden fruit,” this comment will be brief. Neither Adam nor Eve ate something with their mouth that contaminated them spiritually. Jesus, Himself, settled that once and for all by saying it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a man but what comes out of the mouth, that defiles a man (Matthew 15:11; Mark 7:20). The way you “eat” spiritually (whether of good or evil) is by hearing, believing and confessing with your mouth, for as it is written, “With the heart one believes unto righteousness and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation” (See Matthew 4:4; Romans 10:10).

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<sup>5</sup>See Ezekiel 28:13.

<sup>6</sup>See Matthew 25:41. Hell was created for the devil and his angels **after the destruction of Earth One** as evidenced by the fact that they would be impounded there today had it been prepared before the fall of Lucifer.

<sup>7</sup>See Jim Ash letter No. 123 entitled, THE PURPOSE OF THE CHURCH.

<sup>8</sup>See Romans 11:29.

<sup>9</sup>The reason that the calling of God is irrevocable is that He calls you with words spoken from His mouth. Once His call is spoken, it cannot be rescinded because His word is Truth and He therefore is responsible for all of His words.

John's baptism, about which I have previously written.<sup>14</sup> This means that Jesus was empowered with the Word,<sup>15</sup> Who was before the world was,<sup>16</sup> through whom all things were created,<sup>17</sup> including Lucifer. That is why Jesus, clothed with supernatural authority greater than that of Satan, was able to withstand his three temptations, whereas Adam and Eve were not. The Creator (the Word) is smarter than His creation (Lucifer). Therefore Jesus, clothed with the Word, withstood Satan's three temptations, acquiesced to his (Satan's) supernatural activity to *shroud* His capability to overthrow him (Satan). The ministry of Jesus had to be *shrouded* in secrecy to deceive the deceiver. That's why, through the Father's guidance and direction, Jesus many times had to walk a "tight rope" in his activities and in what he said to keep from revealing to the deceiver His true identity. Remember, the reason Jesus came to earth was to destroy the works of the devil.<sup>18</sup> That activity had to be *shrouded* in secrecy or Jesus would have failed in His three and one-half year ministry.

Now look at the devil's promise to Jesus. He promised to give Him all the *kingdoms of the world*, provided Jesus would comply with his condition to *fall down before him and worship him*. Satan obtained the legal right to make this offer to Jesus when Adam's sin forfeited to Satan his (Adam's) legal right to rule the earth.<sup>19</sup> Jesus also taught this same thing *shrouded* in a parable.<sup>20</sup>

Realize that the ministry of Jesus was *shrouded* in mystery so as to keep His identity shielded from Satan and his ruse to send Him to the cross, through the betrayal of Judas Iscariot. In essence, Jesus, under the guidance of the Father, became bait to ensnare Satan in his own trap, about which I have previously written.

Here is my point about Satan. He is literally *the ruler of this world* (not the kingdom) as Jesus said, and he does it without either the world or the church knowing it. Here is a brief overview of his tactics, cleverly concealed.

Jesus said, "If any anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow Me."<sup>21</sup> **He said that because *self* is of the flesh in which nothing good dwells.**<sup>22</sup> This means anything, everything, that is undertaken *by self* and taken to conclusion, without the guidance of the Holy Spirit, is of

the world and is therefore of no value *in the kingdom*. Self accomplishments open the door to pride and he walks right in, thank you very much. Pride became the downfall of Lucifer.<sup>23</sup> Conversely, if any activity is undertaken, either with the approval of, or with the direct guidance of the Holy Spirit, that endeavor will resound to the glory of God and close the door to the enemy.

Here is the application of that principle as used by the enemy in the world: The economic system, the educational system and the government are all self-based. The business and professional world, the legal profession, the medical profession, for example, and all other activities in the daily lives of those who live in the world are self-based.<sup>24</sup> Most homes are self-based and the church is partially self-based and partially faith-based, which is spiritual adultery. *Self indulged* is Satan's way and the way of the world. *Self denied* is God's way.

Those of you who do not understand the cunning, the slyness, the shrewdness of the enemy, listen very carefully to one who has had extensive experience in dealing with his demons in hand to hand combat. One main reason for the word of God in the bible is to keep you from the grasp of the enemy who is smarter than any mortal who walks the face of the earth. Yes, it is true that Jesus gave us authority over the devil when He said, "Behold I give you authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy and nothing shall by any means hurt you,"<sup>25</sup> but you can memorize those words forward and backward in the Greek and still know nothing about actively dealing with the enemy and his tactics. That's why the Word of God is our only means of protection. The reason Jesus came to earth was to destroy the works of the devil.<sup>26</sup> The only weapon of both offense and defense in this raging world war in the spiritual realm is the sword of the Spirit.

In all three temptations, Jesus said to Satan, "It is written."<sup>27</sup> The Word of God is the only thing Satan respects and the only thing God honors.

For ten years, Dale and I were Deliverance Ministers in a Dallas church. Few churches have such a ministry and most churches are totally unaware of that need and are without qualified believers to minister in this area. There will be an increasing need for this ministry as we near the rapture.

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<sup>14</sup>See Jim Ash letter No. 125 entitled, HOW, WHEN, WHERE AND WHY IT HAPPENED.

<sup>15</sup>See John 1:14.

<sup>16</sup>See John 17:5.

<sup>17</sup>See John 1:1-3.

<sup>18</sup>See 1 John 3:8 (b).

<sup>19</sup>See Genesis 1:26-28 and Genesis 2:16, 17 as scriptural evidence of this statement

<sup>20</sup>See Matthew 21:33-40; Mark 12:1-12 and Luke 20:9-19.

<sup>21</sup>Luke 9:23.

<sup>22</sup>See romans 7:18.

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<sup>23</sup>See footnote #2, page 1, column 1.

<sup>24</sup>This is not to say that these activities are evil. Instead this is to emphasize that these accomplishments are the result of qualifications obtained through use of the mind which is of self, as opposed to the Spirit, which is of God. None of this is written as criticism, but to emphasize that everything that is self-based is of the world system, governed by the enemy, which is an open door to his tactics. That's how shrewd he is.

<sup>25</sup>Luke 10:19.

<sup>26</sup>See 1 John 3:8 (b).

<sup>27</sup>See Matthew 4:4, 7, & 10.

The purpose of this letter thus far has been to point out that:

- (1) God has prophesied through Isaiah and Jesus that NEW servants of His will appear on the scene, empowered to inflict on the enemy maximum harm (damage) in these last few years of this rapture generation,
- (2) these NEW servants will be armed with John 14:12, as prophesied by prophet Jesus, and will offer *new wine* to the Lord's body,
- (3) this NEW ministry will initially be rejected by the church because *the old wine tastes better than the new*, but
- (4) God will directly intervene to introduce the *new wine* into His church, in preparation for the greatest harvest of souls to ever occur on planet earth, immediately prior to the rapture.

Hear the following words given to me by the Lord the morning of Friday, November 6, 2009:

**Yes, My son, I, as the Word, had to be infused into the body of Jesus of Nazareth or he would have been no match for Satan.**

You know that Adam was created to fail. The reason is that he was weakened when I took from him substance from which Eve was created. He was doubly weakened with Eve as a wife. That type of man is no match for Satan.

You must remember that Lucifer was My most magnificent creation, perfect in beauty, full of wisdom and an anointed cherub who was perfect in all his ways with My seal of perfection. Until your earthly cloak is shed, *you cannot understand how wonderfully made he was. He was like Me.*

Realize I learned from that mistake. Few there be in whom I can confide with such intimacy. But I learned My lesson well.

When I said Jesus was crucified from the foundation of the world, that meant from the foundation of Earth Two. *I had no idea of Lucifer's failure at the beginning of Earth One.* But when I saw My mistake, I knew what had to be done to correct it.

My new ruler would need to be a man like Adam who could be endowed with Deity (second person of Trinity, the Word) so as to overcome or outsmart Satan. Then through His life on the earth, He could be trained to rule with mercy (forgiveness with compassion) **AFTER** overcoming Satan through death **AND** resurrection. His death paid the sin debt. His resurrection provided entry for man into eternity with Me.

You now will understand that until one is proven trustworthy, I cannot reveal My weakness. But I am like you. Such weaknesses do not repel but create a common bond. Only a few understand what James wrote in that light. But I can trust you with such.

**So you see, I long to share My life with others**

**but few take the time to know Me as I desire.**

**The reason My mother, brothers and sisters were no longer My family is because I was speaking as the second Person of the Godhead, not as Mary's son. My whole life changed with My infusion. Thereafter I saw what the Father saw: the condition of the world under the influence of its ruler – Satan.**

Yes, My son, at the infusion of My *twelve new servants*, they will see differently. They will no longer see as man sees, but will see as I see. They will see the world in the grip of Satan, and My church in adultery through his influence, which will be their two objectives.

I, as Elijah, will give My mantel to *twelve new Elishas* who will be empowered to do twice as many miracles as I did (greater works than I did). That's what John 14:12 means.

Yes, it would be good to put this in a letter, along with the eight miracles of Elijah and the sixteen miracles of Elisha.

### **The Miracles of Elijah**

1. The shutting up of heaven, 1 Kings 17:1; James 5:17; Luke 4:25.
2. Multiplying the widow's meal, 2 Kings 17:14-16.
3. Raising the widow's son, verses 17-23.
4. Causing fire to come down from heaven, 1 Kings 18:37, 38.
5. Causing rain to come down from heaven, verses 41-45.
6. Causing fire to come down from heaven, 2 Kings:1-10.
7. The same, verse 12.
8. Dividing the Jordan, 2Kings 2:8.

### **The Miracles of Elisha**

1. Dividing the Jordan, 2 Kings 2:14.
2. Healing the waters, verse 21.
3. Cursing the young men, verse 24
4. Procuring water for the three kings, 2 Kings 3:16-20.
5. Multiplying the widow's oil, 2 Kings 4:1-7.
6. Raising the widow's son, 4:37.
7. Healing the deadly pottage, verse 38.
8. Feeding the Hundred men, verses 42-44.
9. The healing of Naaman, 2 Kings 5:1-19.
10. The smiting of Gehazi, verses 20-27.
11. Causing the iron to float, 2 Kings 6:1-7.
12. Opening the eyes of his servant, verse 17.
13. Smiting the Syrian army with blindness, verse 18.
14. Restoring their sight, verse 20.
15. Arresting the king's messenger, verses 32, 33.
16. A dead man raised by touching his bones, 2 Kings 13:20, 21.