# NOW CONCERNING SPIRITUAL THINGS

an historical account of one man's walk with God

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

#### PARADISE FOUND

God's second attempt to establish a perfect earth, after He destroyed Earth One, also ended in failure. But the good news is that another Adam, another Man, was born to fix the failure of the first Adam. Here is the way that failure began as recorded in Genesis, chapters one and two:

### Chapter one

Jim Ash letter No. 151

**26** Then God said, "Let Us make man in *Our image*, according to *Our likeness*; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

**27** So God created man in *His own image*; in the *image of God* He created him; male and female He created them.

**28** Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill (*replenish*) the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

### Chapter two

7 And the Lord formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.<sup>1</sup>

This record in Genesis briefly outlines God's second "perfect" beginning that also ended in another failure. But this time God foreknew of the failure. As I have previously written, God knew that the first Adam would fail because he (Adam) was no match for a fallen Lucifer. The reason is that when Lucifer was created, he was God's anointed cherub who was perfect in beauty, full of wisdom and perfect in all his ways, who had God's seal of approval.<sup>2</sup> No other angel was created with those attributes. God said to me, "When I created Lucifer, I put all of the attributes of the Godhead in him that it was possible to put in a created angelic being – he was like Me." Remember, Lucifer was created to rule the world forever. That is why he was created with such unique supernatural perfection.

God foreknew that Adam would be no "match" for Lucifer's supernatural craftiness. Evidence of this is that Lucifer's successful rebellion against both God and man was the cause of God's destruction of Earth One.

But the only way God could bring forth a nation to establish a blood-line, from whom would come the second or the last Adam, was through the law of procreation that was forever spoken into existence on Earth One.

God confirmed to me that He knew the cost of bringing forth the last Adam, to eradicate the mistake of the first Adam, would result in the destruction of many souls, which still grieves Him. But there was no other way to bring forth the first Adam, because of God's perfect, permanently spoken immutable words of procreation set forth in the creation of Earth One. Therefore, God had no other choice. Failure to correct Adam's disobedience in this matter would mean that God's creation (Lucifer) would prevail over the Creator, and God will not allow that to occur, because the Creator is smarter than His creation.

Now let's explore God's second "perfect" beginning as confirmed by the Genesis references from chapters one and two, cited on page one column one of this letter.

God said, "Let Us make man (male and female) in Our image according to Our likeness" and "in the image of God" (meaning God Incarnate).

From Strong's Concordance "in Our likeness" means "in Our resemblance or similitude."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>If you will carefully read Genesis, chapters one and two, you will find two different accounts of the creation of man. The purpose of the creation account in chapter one is to delineate carefully the original joint-authority given to man (male and female) to rule God's "creature creation," which was surrendered through Adam's sin. The purpose of the creation account in chapter two is to give in chronological order the creation of man. Adam was created first and acted under God's direction to do a number of things for an unknown extended period of time before Eve was formed out of substance taken from Adam's body.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>See Ezekiel 28:12 (a)-15.

Strong's definition of "In the image of God" is, "a phantom, i.e. figuratively an illusion, resemblance, a representative figure, especially an idol."

Simply said, "in Our likeness" and "in Our image" means that man, who is a physical triune being, was originally made like God, Who is a spiritual triune being, and that God was also made like man. God, Whom you cannot see with natural eyes, wanted someone physical and visible in whom He could deposit Himself, on whom He (God) could lavish Himself in love.

"In Our likeness" or "in our Image" means that man (male and female) originally was God Incarnate.

This is what Adam gave up, when he heeded the voice of his wife to eat of the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, contrary to God's instructions.<sup>3</sup>

Realize that neither Adam nor Eve ate with their mouth the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Since I have previously written about this in some detail, I will treat it only briefly here.

Jesus said that it is not what goes into the mouth but what comes out of the mouth that defiles a man.<sup>4</sup> This means that Eve was deceived by hearing what Satan said. She then believed it in her heart and confessed it with her mouth by persuading Adam to follow in her disobedience. Here is further proof that you eat spiritually <u>by hearing and believing</u> words <u>either from Satan or from God</u>:

Jesus said, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word (rhema) that proceeds from the mouth of God."<sup>5</sup> This clearly states that we sustain ourselves physically by eating food with our mouth but that we sustain ourselves spiritually *by hearing words that come from the mouth of God.* In other words, we eat spiritually by hearing and believing words that come from the mouth of God, or by words that come from Satan, both of whom are spirit beings. Yes, Satan, as well as God, may communicate with man. In that manner, Satan rules this world today as confirmed by Jesus.<sup>6</sup>

The tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the garden of Eden were not physical trees but were Satan and God. They were in the midst of the garden because both had the legal right to be there. God had the legal right because the earth and the fullness thereof is the Lords.<sup>7</sup> Satan had the legal right to be there because God gave him the right to rule Earth One, that may not be rescinded, because the gifts and calling of God are without repentance (or irrevocable)<sup>8</sup> to angels as well as to man.

<u>The essential objective of this letter, "Paradise</u> <u>Found," is centered on the principle of forgiveness</u>. Read, listen and hear how important forgiveness is in our walk with God and how paradise that was once lost may be found again through God's forgiveness.

In my quiet time with God the morning of September 27, 1996, I read these words from the book of John, chapter 20:

**21** So Jesus said to them again, "Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you."

**22** And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.

**23** "If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

After thinking abut these words, I then laid my hands on an imaginary globe of the earth and prayed this prayer:

" I forgive the sins of everyone who has lived on the earth from Adam to the cross and from the cross to this present day. I likewise forgive the sins of everyone alive today in every city, county, state and nation on every continent, every island and in every boat, ship or plane the world over, and everyone who shall ever live on the earth, in Jesus' name. Amen."

As soon as I finished that prayer of forgiveness, deep within me I heard the Holy Spirit say very clearly, "That's what Jesus did." As soon as I heard those words, I was lifted (*in the spirit*) to a place where I knew I had never been before. It was like entering the elevator of a high-rise office building and literally "*feeling*" the elevator take you swiftly to the penthouse on the very top of the building. This was so real and vivid within me that my first thought was to look around at my new surroundings, because I knew I had never been there before.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>See Genesis 3:17.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>See Matthew 15:11.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>Matthew 4:4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>See John 12:31; 14:30; 16:11.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup>See Psalm 24:1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup>See Romans 11:29.

I knew within my spirit that I had been elevated by God to a spiritual position in prayer beyond anything I had experienced previously.

For several weeks I was puzzled over what had happened to me spiritually. Then the morning of October 22, 1996, I went to the Hillcrest Church House of Prayer to lay hands on prayer requests, received by the church, and pray for the specific needs of each one.

At the same time I was praying, there were five people in an adjoining room doing the same thing I was doing. As I heard them pray, my thought was that they were more spiritually mature than I was. Therefore, if I shared my forgiveness experience with them, they might be able to give me some spiritual insight on my puzzling forgiveness experience.

I walked into the room where they were seated, made that request, and they agreed.

As I began to share my forgiveness experience with them, the tears began to flow; I was overcome and unable to finish my explanation. Needless to say, this was a surprise and I was totally embarrassed at my dilemma. Each of the five then gathered around me, laid hands on me and began to pray and prophesy over me. I remember one of the women said, "I have never prophesied publicly before, but this is so strong I feel that I must give it," and she did. There were a number of prophesies and a pertinent scripture was given by the one man in the group. When they finished praying for me, I made a note of their names, thanked them and went on my way.

So the understanding of my puzzling forgiveness experience was left to me and the Lord, aided very little by the prophesies except by the following scripture from Psalm chapter 126 given by the man:

**5** Those who sow in tears shall reap in joy.

**6** He who continually goes forth weeping, bearing seed for sowing, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.

These two verses from the Psalms were prophetic of my coming apostolic ministry that was completely unknown to me at the time. Retrospectively, however, I realized that the tears I shed, as I related my forgiveness experience, were the sign that my forgiveness experience was of the Lord. I then also realized that the Holy Spirit led me in that prayer of forgiveness, <u>while I originally thought the prayer was my</u> <u>idea</u>. Little did I know at the time, that this was the beginning of my training to become an apostle of the Lord, and that forgiveness would play a major role in my training.

Now fast forward to one summer afternoon, as near as I can recall, in the year of 2005. While I was out walking for exercise, the Lord spoke to me and said, "Confession eradicates the sin from My records."

That changed my prayer life forever. For example, in 1965, after I was baptized with the Holy Spirit, for a while, I believe the Lord may have thought that I had a recording of my voice that I played intermittently throughout the day, which said only these two words: "Forgive me." But since the Lord's words to me on confession, *I have been unable to find a single place in the New Testament where it says that we are to ask God to forgive us in a situation which involves only ourselves*. In many instances we are admonished to forgive others or we will not be forgiven, but that is where the wrong is against us or we perceive that it was against us. Our forgiveness by God, therefore, is predicated upon our forgiving others. That is an absolute with no exception.

This is in line with the apostle John's admonition in 1 John chapter one:

**9** If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

This statement from John, lines up with God's words to me: "Confession eradicates the sin from My records." Or, our unrighteousness (sin) is eradicated from God's records by our confession.

The underlying reason to confess our sins is because **unforgiveness is as idolatry.** Here is why: At the cross, Jesus purchased forgiveness for everyone who will call on His name.<sup>9</sup> If we therefore fail to forgive someone that Jesus has forgiven, we place ourselves before Him and worship self, which is idolatry. When we forgive someone else, it frees us from Satan's grip. Satan is the one who does not want us to forgive because God, Himself, has made that a condition of salvation. If we will not forgive someone else, God is prevented from forgiving us.<sup>10</sup>

Therefore it is important to *confess* our sins. When that happens, there is no need to ask for forgiveness, because the sin no longer exists, since it has been eradicated from God's records.

From this word on confession the Lord gave me, I began to learn about forgiveness. Over a period of time, the Lord then taught me how strong Satan's grip is on the world, and on many immature believers, because of unforgiveness, and how his grip could be completely eradicated. Here is His prescription:

In the outline that follows, insert in the blanks the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup>See Joel 2:32; Romans 10:13.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup>See Matthew 6:12, 14, 15; 18:23-35; Mark 11:25,26; Luke 6:37; John 20:23.

one who offended you. All of this should be said out loud so that both the Lord and the enemy hears everything.

- 1. Confess the sin to the Lord.
- 2. Repent (I repent).
- 3. I forgive \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. Lord will you bless \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5. I bless
- 6. Lord I forgive myself.
- 7. I bless myself.
- 8. Lord, will you bless me.

9. Lord I now release \_\_\_\_\_ and myself to You to do the work, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

Notice that it is the Lord who does the work (item nine) in your heart after you say or confess these nine steps of forgiveness.

This needs to be said out loud so the enemy knows he no longer has the legal right to accuse you of the sin. He will do that anyway, because he is the accuser of the brethren.<sup>11</sup> But when you know that confession of the sin eradicates it from God's record, you can pay no attention to his accusation and tell him to, "Get lost!"

Concerning the validity of the nine steps, here is an example:

Dale and I were having dinner at our church one Wednesday evening before classes that followed. Dale was sitting on my left. Another woman who was seated on my right said to me, "I have had a dark cloud over me for twenty years and I can't get rid of it." My reply was, "Have you forgiven the other party?" She said she had and had also done everything the Scripture said to do and still carried the dark cloud.

I then led her to say out loud the above nine-step forgiveness prayer, except when it came to the personal parts about the sin or the name of the other party, to simply say that to herself to retain confidentiality. As she came to step 6 and said out loud, "I forgive myself," she bowed her head, the tears flowed, and the twenty-year cloud disappeared. After the mistake, she became a believer, confessed, repented and made everything right that she had done wrong, except she did not know that she needed to forgive herself. As she confessed step six of the nine-step forgiveness prescription, she was completely set free from Satan's grip. Each of those nine steps may not be essential for complete clearance in every case. But the step you think may not be essential, may be the one needed. I suggest that you do them all every time. If you will do so, it will work every time.

For years I have known that the Lord is training twelve individuals, at "twelve select parts of the earth," to be released as new apostles. Their purpose is to fulfill this one verse from John, chapter 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.

In order to do greater works than Jesus did, each of the new apostles will need greater authority than Jesus had, to include becoming God Incarnate, as Jesus became after John's baptism.

After being in training for fourteen years, six months and sixteen days, the morning of April 8, 2011, I was led by the Spirit once more to pray the nine-step prayer of forgiveness. But this time, the prayer was retroactive to conception in my mother's womb. That prayer was followed by a prophetic word from the Lord that is selfexplanatory.

Since the Holy Spirit fertilized the *seed* of Jesus in Mary's womb, He came forth from her womb without the Adamic sin curse or sin nature as the Son of God.

The nine-step cleansing prayer that the Spirit led me to pray, cleansed me of sin retroactively at conception, from my mother's womb. Therefore, when I am released into my ministry, along with eleven other new apostles, each of us will begin our ministry exactly as Jesus did after He was baptized by John – free of both the Adamic sin-curse and the sin-nature, in preparation to be infused with all the fullness of the Godhead bodily, to become God Incarnate.

Please read the following **nine-step prayer** I was led to pray and the prophetic words that follow. According to these prophetic words, the nine-step cleansing prayer permitted me (and the other eleven apostles), to go forth free of the Adamic sin curse and sin nature, just as Jesus did, to become God Incarnate at our release into ministry.

# The prayer:

(1) Lord, I confess as sin my whole lifetime from the moment I was conceived in my mother's womb to this present time.

(2) I repent of everything I have done in my lifetime from the moment of my conception to this present time.

(3) I forgive **EVERYONE** of every wrong and of every sin committed against me from the moment of My conception to this present time.

(4) Lord, will You now bless **EVERYONE** who has wronged me or who has sinned against me from the moment of my conception to this present time.

(5) I now bless **EVERYONE** who has wronged me or who has sinned against me from the moment of my conception to this present time.

(6) Lord, I now forgive myself of **EVERYTHING** I have ever done since I was conceived in my mother's womb to this present time.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup>See Revelation 20:10.

(7) Lord, I now bless myself.

(8) Lord, will You now bless me.

(9) I now release myself and **EVERYONE** to You who has ever committed a wrong against me, or who has sinned against me, from the time I was conceived in my mother's womb to this present time, to do the work, for You Lord, do the work. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

(end of prayer – beginning of prophetic word)

"My son, what you have just done makes you of equal standing with the Godhead, as was Jesus when he was conceived and brought forth from the womb of Mary to redeem mankind from the mark of sin and death, under which the whole world lies. That gives you the legal right or the legal standing with the Godhead that Jesus of Nazareth had from the moment of His conception.

"That, My son, gave Me the legal right to empower you with the same anointed, supernatural, legal, empowerment given to Jesus immediately after John's baptism.

"My son, your record in the records room of the third heaven was then expunged or cleansed by the blood of Jesus, of **EVERYTHING** you have done since the moment of your conception in your mother's womb to this present time. This means that there's a red tint on these pages of your record book in the records room in the third heaven.

"My son, you now stand before Me prepared to receive your Godhead impartation upon your release into ministry. Amen!

"You must realize what you have done.

"All manner of things done in your life, included within the parameter of lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes and the pride of life, have been removed from your life completely. And because of Jesus and what He did, you are now as He was when He was released into His ministry.

"My son, My spiritual laws, when spoken into existence, are fixed in place forever and must be obeyed as qualification for entry into My kingdom. This, in addition to your obedience to the details of your assignment, determines your final judgment. In other words, you, yourself, determine your own final judgment of reward. Isn't that simple?

"This final spiritual adjustment in your life had to take place before I could release you into ministry, for you had to be cleansed and prepared as was Jesus in order to do greater works than Jesus did.

"Now you know.

"Now you can teach others.

"Only one who has been cleansed may cleanse others.

"And yes, isn' that also simple?

"You must be clean in order to cleanse others.

"You may not cleanse others while you are unclean, because that is both confusion AND contamination in action. And yes, again, isn't that simple? "If you wallow in the pig pen (*the world*), you may not cleanse others while you are contaminated.

"My son, all of My requirements are simple when seen by a rhema revelation. You see that – you know that now to a greater degree than may be seen except by revelation. Hence, the power **AND** the blessing of learning to hear My voice daily in the few remaining years of this rapture generation.

"Only one thusly cleansed and prepared as you have been this morning, may be released to bring the fulfillment of John 14:12.

"You are right. No one would ever know of these things except by revelation. Hence, the immense value of the Listening Method over the Pentecost Method.

"My son, My way, when seen by revelation, is not difficult. Hence, the value of teaching the Listening Method as you are released.

"Because you have learned these things over a period of more than fifteen years, you will be e able to teach them with a shorter learning curve than yours.

"Now, My son, you are perfect before Me. Additionally, you know how to walk obediently in My will so that your activities are also now perfect. You, therefore, are perfected by My will as you walk (live) in it.

"My son, I had to bring you to this point before I could release you. Therefore, as I release you, you will be able to confidently go forth to do battle against Our common foe, fully equipped for battle. The only thing left is your anointed infusion of Myself. That is what prepares you for ministry just as Jesus was prepared for His ministry.

"When We pray, we petition the Lord to minister to us. When we learn to listen, as the Lord speaks to us, he petitions us to minister to Him.

"You are right, My son. The only way you may teach this is to know the definition of both sin and of righteousness. Otherwise, this teaching will fall on deaf ears." (end of prophetic word)

Notice in the paragraph within the red box immediately above, that a definition of "sin" and of "righteousness" is essential to understanding the *prophetic word*. Here are those definitions:

### **Definition of sin**

Jesus told the woman taken in adultery, "Neither do I condemn you, go and sin no more."<sup>12</sup>

He healed the man at the pool of Bethesda who had been unable to walk for thirty-eight years. Afterward Jesus found the man in the Temple and said to him, "See, you have been made well. <u>Sin no more</u> lest a worse thing come

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup>See John 8:11.

### upon you."<sup>13</sup>

John wrote, "<u>He who sins is of the devil</u>, for the devil sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil. Whoever has been born of God <u>does not sin</u>, for His seed remains in him; <u>and he cannot sin</u>, because he has been born of God."<sup>14</sup>

From some of the teaching or sermons we hear, one might conclude that it is impossible to live each day without sinning. That is a false conclusion based on the three examples cited above; two from Jesus and one from John. Furthermore, John's admonition makes it very clear that one who sins is <u>of the devil</u>. It could not be made any clearer than that!

The obvious conclusion is that one who thinks that he serves God and then sins is greatly confused, for the spirit of confusion is not from God, but from the enemy himself.<sup>15</sup>

In an effort to solve this "problem of sin," I asked God for a definition of sin. Here is the answer He gave me the morning of November 18, 2005:

"Sin is deliberately disobeying God.

"Sin is deliberately doing what you know God does not want you to do.

"Inadvertent mistakes are not sin.

Mistakes made in the flesh that do not deliberately disavow God and deliberately disavow His instructions are not sin.

"God has a short memory on mistakes.

"Whatever is not of faith is sin, but sin is deliberately disobeying that which you know is God's will. My son, see what one sin caused in Adam.

"Sin is deliberately disobeying God, deliberately disobeying what God has told you to do.

"Sin is deliberately disobeying that which God has told you to do or deliberately doing that which God has instructed you not to do.

"Sin is deliberately doing what God has instructed you not to do.

"Sin is deliberately disobeying God."

(end of prophetic word)

There is redundancy in this prophetic word, but when God repeats something, particularly something that is new, He uses redundancy for a reason. From His definition of sin, it seems that this sums up His definition: "Sin is deliberate disobedience."

## **Definition of righteousness**

Now let's look at *righteousness*. Once we know the definition of righteousness, an understanding of the

definition of *sin* will become clear.

On one occasion, God said to me, "<u>In a fallen</u> world, righteousness is not dependent upon perfect conduct, but upon obedience."

This is the same thing Samuel said to the disobedient king Saul: "Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken (*hear and obey*) than the fat of rams."<sup>16</sup> In other words, to obey what God said to you exceeds by far **anything** – *everything* – you, yourself, may choose to do for God! Listen to Him!

Here are two other cases of deliberate disobedience: (1) Adam heeded the voice of his wife, deliberately disobeyed God and "ate" of the forbidden fruit, and you know the consequences of that sin. (2) Abram disobeyed God and upon the advice of his wife, impregnated a maid and produced Ishmael.<sup>17</sup> Upon the <u>deliberate disobedience</u> of those two men hangs every ill imposed upon mankind on the earth today.

Therefore, if one is walking in obedience to what the Lord has said to him, he is righteous before God. This means he will say things that he may regret or do things he wished he had not done, but so long as he does not deliberately disobey what the Lord has told him to do, he is righteous before God, for righteousness depends on obedience, not on perfect conduct. Remember, sin is something one does knowingly or deliberately.

This enables one to live a life free of sin in a fallen world and rejoice as he does so. Hallelujah!

When the twelve new apostles are infused with all the fulness of the Godhead bodily, each one will become God Incarnate and **will have found** <u>the personal paradise</u> that Adam lost when he sinned – not the super abundant, self sustaining, botanical garden food-chain surroundings of the paradise of Eden, but <u>the individual paradise Adam lost as</u> <u>a person</u>. Adam and Eve originally walked as God Incarnate. That's what was lost by sin. Each of the twelve new apostles will recover what Adam lost because each one will become God Incarnate. And each one will receive that blessing after learning to listen to the voice of God daily.

Since God is no respecter of persons, every believer has the ability to learn to hear His voice daily. The choice is yours. Use it and be blessed.

<sup>16</sup>See 1 Samuel 15: 22(b). <sup>17</sup>See Genesis 16:2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup>See John 5:14

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup>1 John 3:8, 9.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup>See Acts 19:29; 1 Corinthians 14:33; James 3:16.