

NOW CONCERNING SPIRITUAL THINGS

an historical account of one man's walk with God

Jim Ash letter No. 183

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

RHEMA TALK FROM JIM'S JOURNAL

An introduction

Over the past seventeen plus years, God has given me many prophetic rhema words, as I have spent quiet time with Him the first thing each morning, to record His words in my journal. Nothing compares with hearing the voice of God – with hearing rhema words from Him as He plants them in my mind as thought-transmissions, since thoughts are the language of the Spirit. From my journal, I transcribe His words with my computer and print them for filing in three-ring notebooks. Then, only after I read what I have transcribed and printed in readable form, do I for the first time know what He said – do I know the meaning of what He said to me. It is then that I often am awed – am humbled – at words from the mouth of God.

And many times over these seventeen plus years, after reading the edited, corrected, finished copy of what God said to me, have I thought, “This is the most profound word God has given to me.” That thought occurred to me after reading my transcribed copy of the following word.

One example is the unanswered question that was asked Jesus when He was in Pilate's court prior to His crucifixion, “What is truth?” That answer is in this word – an answer that I had never seen before.

A simple, accurate, description of the two trees that were in the garden of Eden is also hidden in these words as well as why God is frustrated.

The new revelations in the following word cause me, once again, to realize the blessing of learning to hear His voice daily. You have that capability, if you choose to use it. Rhema words will change your life. As you read the following word, note the simplicity of His rhema words. Rhema words today impart the “when,” the “why,” and the “how to” of certain bible facts, shrouded or clothed in types and figures, and makes them user-friendly.

Saturday, May 5, 2012

“Realize that the history of My restoration of man centers around the husband in My New First

Family **AND** Jesus. Those two, My son, are the fulcrum around which the defeat of the enemy rests.

“Before the foundation of the world (Earth Two), those three, Jesus, and both members of My New First Family, were chosen as My “battering rams” to break through the bulwark of Satan's defense.

“You do not yet realize, that as Jehovah God, I am defenseless against Satan, without man through whom I **MUST** act to restore order in the cosmos.¹

“My son, when I, Jehovah God, am not at peace, **neither is the cosmos.**² In order to restore peace and tranquility to My poor world, I must have man to fight my battles. **My son, that is what makes this battle so frustrating to Me.**³ I, as Jehovah God, with limitless power and authority, must await the willingness of My creation (man) to defeat someone whom I endowed like Myself.

“Originally, Lucifer was empowered by Me to be like Me. I, as Jehovah God, with limitless power and authority, must await the willingness of My creation (man) to defeat someone whom I endowed like Myself.

¹The “cosmos” is the universe as a well ordered whole, and the cosmos is well ordered because omniscient God created it. But for omnipotent God to be defenseless against Satan without man through whom He must work, I had never thought of. God must work through man to defeat Satan, our common foe.

²This is the first time I have been given revelation on the fact that God's peace has reference to the cosmos. This is a profound revelation but simple and understandable when we consider that Satan, our common foe, is a spirit being with supernatural power who is the prince of the power of the air. Satan is at loose in the cosmos, in which there will be no peace until he and his forces and all who follow after him are cast into the lake of fire at the Great White Throne Judgment..

³The fact that omnipotent, omniscient Jehovah God is frustrated is also new to me. I just don't think of Jehovah God as being frustrated. But after He gave the explanation, it is easy to understand. The fact that God, Himself, with limitless power and authority, must find someone – weak, sinful man – to battle with and defeat supernatural Satan, explains God's frustration and the blessing of knowing Him. That's why it has taken so long. That is also scary until you have read the end of the book – we win!

“Originally, Lucifer was empowered by Me to be like Me. He was the most wonderful, the most beautiful, **the most complete of ALL of My creation.** He walked among the fiery stones, which means he was impervious to fire (see Ezekiel 28:14). He was like Me in **EVERY AREA** except for one thing. **Within him lay the option to serve Me. I gave him all of My attributes including My power and authority, except the power to grant that authority. That I retained for Myself.**

“Here is something to put this in perspective. I gave the same authority to Lucifer that Jesus now has and for the same purpose, namely, to rule the earth.⁴ And once granted, I could not rescind it, or My word would not be Truth. **My son, Truth is forever.**⁵

“The only thing I did not put under the authority of Lucifer was Myself. And that was My salvation.⁶ But it was not that easy. Even though My authority exceeded that of Lucifer, I was bound by My authority previously granted to him forever. The only way I could defeat a fallen Lucifer was to do it through another of My creation. Since through man, Lucifer stole My creation, through man My creation would

⁴Jesus was God Incarnate during His visible ministry, meaning He was filled with the fullness of the Godhead bodily, or with the three Persons of the Godhead (see Colossians 2:9), who, at that time, were the Father, the Word and the Spirit, three spirit Beings. **Lucifer had that same anointing as a spirit being.** Within him dwelt the fullness of the three Persons of the Godhead, the Father, the Word and the Spirit.

⁵The fact that Truth is eternal explains a number of things that Jesus said. He said, “I am the way (of salvation of man), the truth (I am eternal) and the life (the restoration of that which was lost by sinful man). No one (*therefore*) comes to the Father except through Me” (John 14:6). Isn’t it simple when seen by revelation? Fallen Lucifer’s authority to rule the world could not be rescinded because that authority was given by God’s immutable word.

⁶I had never previously thought of **God’s salvation** before He gave me these words. But those words are truth. The only thing that saved Jehovah God from total annihilation (complete defeat) was the fact that God did not put Himself under the authority given to Lucifer to govern the world. That authority was reserved by God for Himself. This means that the salvation of Jehovah God, as well as that of mankind, hung on that one thread. And the fact that it was a “thread” is indicative of the many thousands of years God has been warring with a fallen Lucifer. And God will not be successful in defeating Satan finally until after the Great White Throne Judgment, when Satan and all those whom he has influenced will be cast into the lake of fire eternally. Our wait prior to living in the New Jerusalem will be well in excess of a thousand years – meaning after the Millennial reign of Christ.

have to be returned (restored) to Me. It was just that simple, but just that profound and just that complex and complicated.

“Lucifer was given the same authority that Jesus now has⁷ and I had to devise a way to recover My administrative decree within My previously spoken immutable words.

“My obvious answer was that through man the fall came. Through fallen man, therefore, I would have to devise restoration.

“In designing God Incarnate man, I put his life in his blood. Through man’s blood, therefore, life would need to be restored to man.

“The physical death of man on Earth One required the spilling of his blood since he originally was God Incarnate. I therefore decreed that without the shedding of blood, there could be no remission of man’s disobedience.

“When man sinned on Earth One under Lucifer’s control, I withdrew Myself from him as I withdrew Myself from Eve and Adam in the garden of Eden. Notice that it was Eve who first transgressed My law. Satan’s methodology is depicted in the garden of Eden in the tree of the knowledge of good and evil which is rooted in self. The tree of Life is rooted in God, that is, it is rooted in the goodness of God and what He wants to do for man. Satan’s method versus God’s method, therefore, is self effort versus God’s effort. This is the way Satan rules the world. Man has bought into Satan’s lie that self is sufficient as opposed to the insufficiency and the inadequacy of self, as Jesus said.⁸ Self is Satan’s tool, while self denied is God’s tool. Therein lies the battle. Satan wants to resurrect self to reign while self must die for God to reign.

“Religions of the world are rooted in the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. In religion, one is taught to abstain from evil and to strive to do good (works) to merit approval.

“Christianity is rooted in the tree of Life wherein self-effort is rendered useless in favor of God’s love, mercy and goodness. When self is in control, God’s hands are tied. When self is denied (rendered worthless), God is in control.

⁷For the termination of the authority that Jesus now has, see 1 Corinthians 15:21-28.

⁸“If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow Me.” (Luke 9:23).

“In the story of the garden of Eden, the two trees and the fall of man contain the total of God’s story for man.

“The tree of the knowledge of good and evil is Satan’s ruse to trap man. The fruit of that tree is the exaltation of self. The fruit of the tree of Life is the exaltation of God. In the world, it’s self versus God.”

Commentary on the word

The fact that the total of God’s story for man is in the two trees in the garden of Eden seems preposterous until it is seen by revelation. It is really simple when seen by revelation, but until then, it is hidden in types and figures, beyond the ability of man to “see” such wisdom in and of his own intellect, regardless of how dedicated one might be as a servant of God.

Everything God has revealed to me during the years I have been listening to His voice, when seen by His revelation, is so simple it may be “seen” or understood by a child. That is what is behind what Jesus said about the little children – “for of such is the kingdom of heaven” – they have an uncluttered mind.

Since *the total of God’s story for man is in the Genesis account of the two trees in Eden*, it seems logical, therefore, to define again the fruit that came from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, but also to explain how Eve and Adam ate that fruit.

During the visible ministry of Jesus, the scribes and the Pharisees, who were among the leaders of the Jews, criticized Jesus and His disciples for eating with unwashed hands, saying that they were transgressing the tradition of the elders. Then, as recorded in Matthew 15:3-9, Jesus skillfully pointed out their hypocrisy, concluding that they drew near to God with their mouth, but their heart was far from Him.

Then Jesus really lowered the boom on the hypocrites and said, “Hear and understand: not what goes into the mouth defiles a man; but what comes out of the mouth, this defiles a man.” (Matthew 15:10b, 11)

Therefore, let it be clearly understood that neither Eve nor Adam ate anything with their mouth, from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, that defiled them. Since we now know that is true, let’s look at what scripture reveals as recorded in Genesis chapter three:

6 So when the woman saw that the tree was

good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, **she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.**

Since neither Eve nor Adam were defiled by eating with their mouth, therefore, how were they defiled? Once more we turn to Jesus for the answer for, remember, He speaks truth and Truth (Jesus Himself) is eternal.

About four thousand years after Eve and Adam were tempted and defiled by Satan, Jesus was also tempted by Satan. But Jesus had a number of advantages that neither Eve nor Adam had, which allowed Him to overcome the overcomer.

At the beginning of His visible ministry, after Jesus had fasted for forty days, when He was hungry, Satan came to Him and told Him to turn stones to bread and eat them for food, if He was the Son of God. Hear the reply of Jesus to Satan from Matthew, chapter four:

4 But He (*Jesus*) answered and said, “It is written, “Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word (*rhema*) that proceeds from the mouth of God.”

This means that man eats with his physical mouth to sustain him physically, but the way he eats spiritually is by hearing words from the mouth of God. In other words, man eats spiritually by hearing – by hearing *rhema* words from the mouth of God. In this manner, hearing words from the mouth of God feeds us spiritually.

But remember, it works both ways. Man is fed physically by eating with his physical mouth but **he is fed or defiled spiritually** by hearing *and believing rhema* words, spoken either by God or by Satan. It works both ways.

Eve heard *rhema, or spoken* words, from the mouth of Satan. She believed them in her heart and was defiled, for it is **with the heart that one believes unto righteousness or unto unrighteousness.** It works both ways. That is how Eve and Adam “ate” of the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

Here is something else we may learn from the record of the temptation of Eve and Adam as recorded in scripture. First, realize that Satan is limited in his ways to tempt man. John describes that in 1 John,

chapter two:

15 Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

16 For all that is in the world – the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life – is not of the Father, but is of the world.

First, the world that John is writing about in these verses is the world that is ruled by Satan. Three times Jesus said that Satan rules the world – and he still rules the world about two thousand years after the resurrection.⁹ And he rules the world through self, which is Satan’s weapon of choice, and which is the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Everything originated by self and taken to conclusion without God being involved, is of Satan, regardless of how much good might have been done, for example. Anything – everything – thusly originated and accomplished, will feed one’s pride, which goes before a fall, and which is of the enemy. However, when the same activity is either initiated by or approved by the Lord, the success will give glory to God – not to self. Pride is one of the reasons Lucifer failed.

Satan has only three weapons to tempt man. Those weapons are lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes and the pride of life. He used those three weapons on both Eve and Jesus. Eve bought into Satan’s temptation, but Jesus said, “It is written.”

Here is the way Satan successfully used his three weapons of self on Eve, from Genesis, chapter three, with explanatory parenthetical insertions:

6 So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food (*tasty – lust of the flesh*), that it was pleasant to the eyes (*lust of the eyes*), and a tree desirable to make one wise (*the pride of life*), she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.

A careful analysis of these three temptations reveals that all Satan did to convert Eve and Adam was to distract their attention – their focus – from God and what He could do – to self and what self could do. It is

⁹Three times Jesus said that Satan rules the world as recorded in John 12:21; 14:30 and 16:11, and realize that he does it with “self” as his chief weapon.

just that simple but just that profound.

Years ago when I was involved in daily world-wide intensive spiritual warfare, God said to me that every demon falls under the classification of either, lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes or the pride of life. This is very useful in doing spiritual warfare when either binding or casting out demons, since you can include a statement such as, “. . . and all other demons of lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes and the pride of life,” which is inclusive of all demons. <end of commentary>

Wednesday, August 15, 2012

“My son, My plans between My destruction of Earth One and My reconstruction of Earth Two beginning at Genesis 1:3, required many millennia of time in the planning stage. Finite mind may not comprehend the enormity of such planning. *Only as I enter you in My fullness bodily may you begin to perceive **who I am** and how blessed you are.*

“As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts higher than your thoughts.

“The key to understanding My ways are My thoughts, for, as it is with you, My thoughts precede My ways. The thoughts in My mind direct My ways. So then, My thoughts are the language of the Spirit. Be still and know that I am God is essential to knowing or ‘hearing’ My thoughts.

“Communication in the heavenlies is a “thought transmission,” much like *transportation* is in the heavenlies. Transportation in the heavenlies is a thought process. Hence, in these few remaining years of this rapture generation, it is very important to understand that My thoughts are the language of the Spirit. This means that as you come to spend quiet time before Me with a pen and a journal, My thoughts that appear in your mind are My way of your hearing My voice.

“Thoughts are very important in the heavenly realm. That is the way I communicate with My people and this is the way that you know My ways. You know My ways through My thought-language. My ways are discerned through My thoughts. Learn to listen to My thoughts, for they are the language of the Spirit in these last days.

“Those who refuse to take time to “hear” My “voice-thoughts” in these last days are much more likely to become victims of the enemy.

“Heed this warning My people!”