

## NOW CONCERNING SPIRITUAL THINGS

an historical account of one man's walk with God

Jim Ash letter No. 103

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

### THE BLESSING OF FAITH

If you have been reading my letters, you realize that some things about which I write may be unusual. Factually speaking, some of the things about which I write may be entirely new to you. I do not necessarily write in order to present some spiritual truth that may be new to you. I present them in my letters because they have been revealed to me by the Holy Spirit Who, has directed me to share them with you.

My letters are written so that you might truly believe in the only begotten Son of God, Who now is both Lord and Messiah. Therefore, it is important to **hear and believe what** He said during His three and one-half year ministry since He will return to rule and reign over the earth from Jerusalem as Absolute Sovereign. Jerusalem will then be the capitol city of the earth. The metes and bounds of the real estate contract that God cut with Abraham will be established and enforced to the letter and Israel will be the premier nation of the world.

The reasons I reveal “new things” in my writing is (1) because they are prophesied in Isaiah 42:9, which appears in the masthead of my letters, (2) because I have learned to hear the voice of God continually, the source of the *new things* and (3) because I have been directed to share them in my teaching and in my writing. Since faith comes by hearing,<sup>1</sup> my faith has grown immeasurably over the past number of years, the result of hearing His voice continually. There is no way to express in words the blessing of hearing His voice continually. I literally have hundreds of pages – a treasure trove of true knowledge – transcribed from my journal over the past years.

The Good News is to realize (as you are reading these words) is that you also have the same spiritual capability to learn to hear His voice continually. That blessing is an ongoing life-changing experience simply because you cannot hear the voice of God daily and remain unchanged because each word He speaks **that you hear** is a spiritual envelope which contains the Godhead: God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit, which I explained in my January letter. You,

therefore, cannot continually hear rhema words from God, each of which contains the Godhead, without gradually being transformed into “Their image, Their likeness” as Adam and Eve were originally created.

One example of the *change* in my life is my almost immeasurable increase in faith. By faith, I now ask for and receive things promised by the Lord that I would not have asked for, nor could not have asked for a number of years ago.

To emphasize the importance of our faith, all you need to do is look at the ministry of Jesus. He was limited **in what He could** do in his own home town because of lack of faith (not *His lack of faith*, but *their lack of faith*) since a prophet is not without honor except in his own home town, his own country, his own home.<sup>2</sup> For example, hear these words Jesus said to those He healed:

“**Your faith** has made you well”<sup>3</sup>

“According to **your faith** let it be unto you,”<sup>4</sup>

“Great is **your faith!** Let it be to you as **you desire**,”<sup>5</sup>

“Go your way; **your faith** has made you well.”<sup>6</sup>

“**Your faith** has saved you. Go in peace.”<sup>7</sup>

Your faith, therefore, is an essential ingredient in order to access God's blessings, which brings me to the purpose of this letter.

Recently the Lord said to me, “John 14:12 is a good way to start another letter. Those are My words that ‘My *pew people*’ need to be reminded of. Those who have previously been unable to accept this teaching may be receptive now.”

First, let's define again what He means by *My pew people*. That phrase comes from this prophetic word the

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<sup>2</sup>Jesus said, “Whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple.” (Luke 14:33). That means His own family. Even His brothers and sisters did not believe in Him. That is unbelief. One who wishes to grow in faith does not need to be in the presence of unbelief. Unbelief is insidious and unrelenting to a person of faith.

<sup>3</sup>Matthew 8:10.

<sup>4</sup>Matthew 9:29.

<sup>5</sup>Matthew 15:28.

<sup>6</sup>Mark 10:52.

<sup>7</sup>Luke 7:50.

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<sup>1</sup>See Romans 10:17.

Lord gave me: “I am going to call men and women **out of the pew**, bypassing a corrupted pastoral system, and teach, prepare, anoint, commission and send them out armed with John 14:12 to bring in the greatest harvest of souls ever just before the Rapture.” The Lord has also said to me that this is one of the “new things” of Isaiah 42:9 to be revealed in the latter part of this final generation prior to the Rapture of the church.

By way of further explanation, the *pew people* chosen will be those who are faithful and who have a good foundation in the written word (logos) on which to build. Because the Rapture is close at hand, there is not enough time remaining to teach and impound within them the written word so as to speak it into rhema. Therefore they will be trained by learning to hear His voice continually to shorten the training period within the remaining time available. This is also why there is insufficient time to train those who are young for this responsibility.

Here is what Jesus said as recorded by the apostle John in chapter fourteen, verse twelve of his Gospel, “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 bible clearly records that He (Jesus) is seated at the right hand of the Father in the third heaven and now has all authority in heaven and on earth, whereas the only authority Jesus had during His personal ministry was that which was given to Him by the Father. In my letter No. 93 dated January 15, 2007, I listed twelve scriptures, direct quotations of Jesus, as evidence of this statement.

Now let’s define what Jesus calls His “works,” referred to in John 14:12. The Jewish leaders, who wanted to kill Him from the beginning of His three and one-half-year ministry, became incensed over the fact that on the Sabbath He healed a man who had been impotent for thirty-eight years because of sin. In the verbal encounter that followed, here is the partial retort of Jesus to the Jews, excerpted from John’s Gospel, chapter seven:

21 Jesus answered and said to them, "I did **one work** (healed the impotent man on the Sabbath), and you all marvel.

22 Moses therefore gave you circumcision (not that it is from Moses, but from the fathers), and you circumcise a man on the Sabbath.

23 If a man receives circumcision on the Sabbath, so that the law of Moses should not be broken, are you angry with Me because I made a man completely well on the Sabbath?

24 Do not judge according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment.”

Notice that in verse 21 Jesus referred to His healing the impotent man as “**one work**.”

The “works” that believers would do, therefore, to which He referred in John 14:12, were the miracles he performed.

Here is a list of the miracles (works) He performed:

1. He made the blind to see
2. the deaf to hear
3. the mute to speak
4. the maimed whole
5. the lame to walk.
6. He also healed the sick
7. raised the dead
8. cast out demons
9. cleansed the lepers
10. calmed the wind
11. and the sea
12. multiplied loaves and fish
13. turned water into wine
14. walked on water.

This is a list of His **works** which He said that believers would do. He did not say that believers would do **some** of the works He did. He said the **works** that I do he will do also – and **greater works** than these he will do. You may believe that miracles 10 through 14 are not classified as His works since they involved control of the weather and creation of the physical. My reply to that is that those works were no more difficult than restoring a withered hand and making the maimed whole, which involved creation or the restoration of the physical. Either way you may decide, it is a revealed fact that miracles number 1 through 9 were works Jesus prophesied that you and I would do. One must either believe that His works included either items 1 through 9 or items 1 through 14. Take your pick. I have mine.

Now what do we do about the dilemma? It is obvious that John 14:12 prophesied by Jesus has not been fulfilled with only a few exceptions some of us have experienced, seen, heard of or read about. It is also obvious that every prophecy given by Jesus will be fulfilled and there is not much time left, if you read the scripture as I do.

Here is the answer I have been given by the Holy Spirit. This prophecy will be fulfilled in the remaining days prior to the Rapture by *His pew people* who will take the time to learn to listen for and to hear the voice of God continually. That will be His method of training because the time is short.

I have known these things for several years. Now is the time for them to be revealed. My understanding given by the Holy Spirit is this: God's servants who are actively involved full time in a ministry to which they have been called will continue in their calling unless the Holy Spirit reveals otherwise. Faithful *pew people* who are grounded in the Word but do not have a specific call on their life, and who will undergo the discipline to learn to listen for and to hear the voice of God continually, will thereby be trained.

Another point I wish to make concerns not only the works that Jesus did but *the way* in which He did them. When He found faith in those to whom He ministered, He simply spoke the end results into existence and they were manifested instantly.<sup>8</sup> That is a vital point in the fulfillment of this prophecy of Jesus as He commissions and sends out *His pew people* armed with John 14:12. They will minister as Jesus did and **that will come to pass in this generation.**

With the following words the apostle Paul wrote of the cleansing necessary as preparation to be involved in this move of God: “. . . that He (Christ) might sanctify and cleanse her (His body, the church) with the washing of water by the **word**, that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.”<sup>9</sup> Notice that **word** in this passage is translated from the Greek word *rhema*. This means that the washing of His body, the church (individual disciples) so that she (each disciple) should be cleansed, holy and without blemish comes **from hearing the rhema word of God.**

Those **in the pew** who will be used in this mighty work of God will be trained by Him through learning to hear His voice continually. This is exactly what Jesus meant when He said to His disciples, “You are already clean because of the word (*logos*) I have spoken (past tense) to you.”<sup>10</sup> Notice “*logos*” is past tense because those were the words He spoke in the past. As they were spoken, however, they were *rhema* and that is when their cleansing took place. Thusly, will one be taught, trained, anointed, commissioned and sent out to participate in the bountiful harvest to close out the church age prior to the Rapture. This is one of the **new things** Isaiah prophesied

about as recorded in Isaiah 42:9 and one of the **greater things** Jesus prophesied as recorded in John 14:12. The new things about which Isaiah prophesied **are** the greater things about which Jesus prophesied.

The training required will take longer than one might think. The reason is that **one's life must be transformed** sufficiently by the washing (cleansing) of water by the *rhema* word – by hearing the voice of God about which I write – **for a sufficiency of time according to the Lord's measure.** As that occurs, one enters into his Sabbath rest<sup>11</sup> as the daily *rhema* Word does the work. In this process, the Holy Spirit will lead and guide you every step of the way. He will tell you of your progress, correct you when needed and bless you every step of the way. Your sin nature will be removed and He will tell you when that occurs. After that, your progress will be stepped up, as He said to me.

This process cannot be hurried. It will be dependent upon (1) your boldness in prayer in asking for great spiritual blessings for yourself (about which I have previously written), the receipt of which will glorify the Lord, (2) the time you choose to set aside for the Lord each day, (3) your willingness to respond to Him when He wants to talk to you (He doesn't keep banker's hours), and (4) your obedience to His direction as you hear His voice and record His words in your journal.

It is important that you record His words to you to include both His dreams and His visions. If God takes the time to give you revelation, you should take the time to record the revelation. As His words to you increase, you will not be able to remember them. On more than one occasion, He has asked me to go back and review His words given to me as far back as three and four years ago, for example. His words are anointed and a re-reading will often bring fresh insight not seen when they were first given. I included in my last letter words He gave me on November 26, 2003.

Every *rhema* word He gives you is anointed. Those words do not lose their anointing. They are anointed when you receive them. As they govern your life, they are anointed when you give them away. God has expressly said that to me. That's the way the bible was written.

This is not about your salvation. Your salvation may be secured without participating in this move of God about which I write. It's about learning to hear the voice of God continually, which will transform your life and allow you to participate in transforming the lives of

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<sup>8</sup>The Gospels record two cases of healing by Jesus where the results were successful but not instantaneous: (1) healing the blind man at Bethsaida, Mark 8:22-26 and (2) delivering the Gadarene demoniac, Mark 5:1-20.

<sup>9</sup>Ephesians 5:26, 27.

<sup>10</sup>John 15:3.

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<sup>11</sup>See Hebrews 4:9, 10.

others. It's about war against the enemy who still comes to steal, kill and destroy as he has been doing for more than six thousand years. It's about a way to be used as God's servant to forcibly take from Satan with spiritual weapons, some of the pain, grief, misery, heartache, illness, disease, calamity and death he has caused.

The works His *pew people* will do will also include the *greater works* that Jesus prophesied. The ministry of Jesus on the earth was a portent of the *same works* and the *greater works* He will do through faithful nobodies as He trains, commissions and sends them out armed and dangerous to the archenemy of God and man.

Those chosen will be under the direction of the Lord even as He Himself was under the direction of the Father in His personal ministry on the earth, about which I have written. The activities of those chosen will be governed by the Lord Jesus through the Holy Spirit **in every detail**. Faith comes **by hearing**. **The listening ear commands the Commander**. One will learn to be absolutely subservient to the direction of the Lord. His training will not be completed until this vital lesson is learned. One properly trained will dare not do anything unless he is directed by the Lord. Obedience is the key.

While all of this may sound very exacting, as one is trained by the Lord, obedience becomes a blessing. Hearing his rhema words continually carry blessings beyond one's comprehension, and there is no limit, for God is without limit.

Hearing rhema words from the mouth of God continually takes some time to become accustomed to. When God's words began to come to me so profusely, it is hard to explain the effect it had on me. Over a period of several months, I finally became accustomed to the fact that the One who was speaking to me was the same One Who spoke the universe into existence. That took a while to get used to. The thing that it was difficult for me to accept was the fact that He was actually talking to me instead of someone who was important. A thought such as, "Why would the God of the universe spend His time talking to someone like me?" would enter my mind. Then I might think, "Why would He waste time talking to someone like me when He could pick someone else who was better qualified and prepared than I was?"

Over a period of months I finally became adjusted to the fact that He was talking to a nobody for a reason and that it was important to listen when He wanted to talk to me. As the words became profuse, I would awaken in the morning with anticipation and excitedly think, "Wonder what He is going to say this morning?" On more than one occasion, I have been awakened in the

middle of the night so He could talk to me. That is intimacy.

Then with the passing of time, it got to the point that because of the intimate things He said to me about the loneliness of His childhood, about his personal life and about ministering in crisis *every day* of His three and one-half year ministry, that at times He really wanted someone just to hang out with. He once said to me, "I like to have someone in whom I may confide, the same as you."

One day I was in my office at my computer keyboard and thought I heard something behind me. I turned around and looked at the doorway to my office and there in my mind's eye I saw Jesus. It was not a vision, but in my mind's eye, I could see that Jewish Rabbi in the doorway grinning almost from ear to ear. He was handsome, tanned and his dark hair of medium length was wind-blown as though He just stopped by to stick His head in my door. And then He was gone – vanished. I can still see His face – that broad smile – almost a laugh – a smile of joy at my serving Him.

One morning in my quiet time with Him, as I was writing the words He was giving me, He said, "I am with you even as you write these words."

Knowing Him personally and intimately makes a lot of difference. He puts spice in life attainable in no other way. What he has done for others He wants to do for you. That's the message He has given me. He wants the same intimate relationship with you about which I write. "You have not because you ask not,"<sup>12</sup> James wrote. It took a long time for me to get to the point of understanding why I should ask for great spiritual blessings for myself and the benefit therefrom. Until I learned that the great spiritual blessings He wanted me to ask for are given so that they might glorify Him, I was reluctant to ask. Since I now understand that, I am no longer reluctant.

I invite you to ask Him now for this same intimate, personal relationship with Him about which I write. It is life transforming and separates Christianity from religion. Christianity is not a religion, it is a relationship with Someone I know Who gave His life on a cross to set you and me free. All he wants is an opportunity to reveal to you Who He is. You can invite Him into your heart by faith now so that He might introduce to you that intimate, warm relationship about which I write. It is real. It is lasting. It is salvation for many and it is forever.

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<sup>12</sup>See James 4:2.