

## NOW CONCERNING SPIRITUAL THINGS

an historical account of one man's walk with God

Jim Ash letter No. 144

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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**

In a fallen world, righteousness does not depend upon perfect conduct but upon obedience.

### THE ELIMINATION OF DEATH A MANDATE FROM GOD

Many years ago, a prophet said to me, "If you will keep a written record of words God says to you, in three years you will be able to look back over those notes and understand how He deals with you specifically." That sounded like a good idea and I started keeping that written record on November 27, 1965. That November morning was the first time I had received a supernatural manifestation of the Holy Spirit after praying for Holy Spirit baptism two days earlier.

That manifestation was in the form of a vision. As I was getting dressed for work that morning at about 7:45 A. M., I was shown a vision in bright, white light. About eight feet in front of me on my east bedroom wall, the word **WISDOM** appeared in large capital letters written in bright, white, radiant light.<sup>1</sup> I had prayed for the spiritual gift of "wisdom"<sup>2</sup> in my prayer for Holy Spirit baptism two days earlier.<sup>3</sup> The word *wisdom* remained on the wall for just a moment, then vanished as quickly as it had appeared. Needless to say, that got my attention, let alone, the fact that as a bible teacher, I had denied that such things occurred today. God has a sense of humor. He took me. He's full of surprises.

Then the Lord spoke to me in that still small voice that Elijah heard in the cave that day he had fled

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<sup>1</sup>I still remember this incident as though it were yesterday. The letters in bright, white, radiant light were, carefully designed. The height was twice the width, which makes for good balance in design, something I carefully noted, since I had done some advertising sign lettering as a young man. I clearly remember that both ends of the "S" were carefully finished with a forty-five degree "cut" instead of a square *cut* ninety degrees from the vertical. This is something only God could have known and only God would have used to get my attention. This reminds me of something God once said to me: "The smaller things are greater than the great things."

<sup>2</sup>"The word of wisdom" is listed as a spiritual gift in 1 Corinthians 12:8,

<sup>3</sup>When I prayed for baptism of the Holy Spirit, it was with "zero" faith – with what you call *zero* in mathematics – neither plus nor minus. My position on this matter was that if God did these things today, I wanted them.

from Jezebel<sup>4</sup> and gave me instructions concerning meeting with the pastor of the church we were attending at that time. That started my journaling words God spoke to me.

My early records of God's words to me were kept on office scratch-pads, restaurant paper napkins, a corner of the Wall Street Journal or the Dallas Times Herald, on hotel stationery or anything else available when God spoke. Those notes were dated and filed in file folders. Up to now, those notes have been formalized into three books.

In 1996 I began transcribing my journal entries, printing and filing them in three-ring notebooks. Since then, my entries have gradually grown from a few words or sentences every two to four months to the opening of God's flood gates on April 10, 2004, about which I have written in Jim Ash letter No. 143. Many things have occurred in those more than seven years, some of which I will relate in this letter.

For many years, the Lord has encouraged me to write and publish what He gives me. But on February 14, 2011, He gave me teaching and writing instructions in a rather lengthy prophecy. Here are three sentences from that page and one-half typed, prophetic word:

"Not only are you to teach this new way of Life, you are to write about your new assignment. Look forward with great anticipation to this new assignment. You now have not only My permission, but My mandate as well, to testify to the blessing of learning to walk in the **Listening Method** every day."

To testify means to give evidence as a witness, to something you have experienced. A mandate is an official order or commission to do something. Translated into everyday jargon, God, Himself, has given me a mandate to write and to testify on the blessing of walking in the *Listening Method* every day.

Many times God has told me to write and to teach that which He gives me. But this was the first

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<sup>4</sup>See 1 Kings 19:12.

time I had ever been *commissioned or mandated* by God, Himself, to write, teach and *to testify* about a subject, in this case, about the Listening Method of spiritual growth. And I gladly accept His commission. Since I have been mandated to write and to testify, you will find in this letter personal references to myself that ordinarily do not appear in my writing.

Although I have previously written on the subject of the Pentecost Method as compared with the Listening Method, this letter will take that comparison one step farther to reveal the benefits of walking in the Listening Method daily.

Changing from the Pentecost Method to the Listening Method has been the subject of My letters No. 140 and 141, but this letter will reveal (1) the transition I went through in order to walk in the Listening Method daily and (2) the resulting benefits I enjoy that are also available to you.

Here is my background for the beginning of this adventure taken briefly from my journal notes.

On 5/6/97, I was up at 4:15 A. M. praying for the stability of world governments at all levels, that the Gospel might flow freely. *I did spiritual warfare against warring spirits causing civil war and civil strife in every nation world-wide.* Then I did specific spiritual warfare over the nation of Zaire where Mobutu's reign of terror was brutalizing that country. .

On 5/10/97, I began world-wide spiritual warfare over civil governments where there was civil war, civil strife, civil unrest or disobedience with specific attention given to the civil war in Zaire (Cambodia).

On 5/17/97, Mobutu's thirty-two year reign of terror over Zaire ended with his abdication, eleven days after I began my spiritual warfare over that nation.

On 5/18/97, Laurent Kabila, head of rebel forces, marched into Kinshasa (the Capitol) welcomed by thousands in the streets with chants, applause and waving of flags.

You have no idea of the effect this had on me. The Lord was teaching me about the power and the effectiveness of spiritual warfare, and that what is occurring in a nation (or geographic area) that may be seen in the physical, is a result of what is going on in spiritual forces above that nation or geographical area.

From that point on, my spiritual warfare prayer each morning grew in knowledge and in scope to the point of specialization in many areas. This has led to a Spiritual Warfare Manual that is about ninety percent

complete that will be finished and published. During this period of my life, my daily prayer time had increased to two hours. And the blessing to me was that I knew what I was doing in my prayer time was effective. There were other observable results that I will omit here. The point I wish to make is that, as I was obedient and faithful daily, the Lord was teaching me and expanding my knowledge and effectiveness to do battle against the enemy in the most effective way.

Here now are excerpts from my journal that reveal an unusual transition in my prayer life – one that was entirely new to me but one that changed my life forever. This transitional change is something that runs counter to everything I had heard of or had read about, at that time. My obedience to God's instruction, therefore, was somewhat hesitant or reluctant on several occasions. But notice that God was not demanding but gentle and persuasive as He led me through the transition, step by step. The excerpts:

5/16/04. (seven years after my spiritual warfare experience began) "The time will come when I will relieve you of most of your spiritual warfare duties. I will change your priorities and bring them closer to home to further concentrate your effectiveness. The smaller the target, the greater the efficiency."

5/18/04. "My son, as I have said, your prayers – your prayer life will undergo change. Be not anxious about this. As I point out changes, know that I have appointed others to pray those responsibilities. Nothing happens, My son, until someone prays. That's the way change, My change, is affected on the earth. I am more dependant on you (and others) than you realize."

7/26/04. "Your mission will change. Try and listen carefully. Some of the things you have been praying about have been turned over to other watchmen on the wall. Be not concerned about this, however, for I will either withdraw from you the desire or will point out to you specifically that which you should discontinue."

8/12/04. "You may discontinue your prayer for the fifty states."

2/2/05. After spending an hour and forty-five minutes listening and journaling (writing what He said) and another forty-five minutes in prayer (two hours and thirty minutes total), He said, "You may dispose with the long list of personal blessings in your daily prayers if you desire."

3/16/05. Today for the first time I omitted my prayers about a long list of family and friends as the

Lord cleared me to do on 2/2/05. Prayer time was one hour and forty seven minutes, most of which was spent with the Lord – visiting, listening and writing.

4/12/05. My prayer time was once much speaking and little or no listening. That has reversed. Missed prayer time is no longer a stigma since God said that I may omit My usual prayer time when time is spent with Him. “Yes, My son, and even that will change, so stay tuned! Refusing to hear rhema words from Me is like millions of dollars in unclaimed bank deposits waiting to be withdrawn to pay all your debts in full with an abundance left over while you live the life of a pauper.”

5/16/05. Several parts of my usual prayers were surrendered to the Lord this morning, as though prayed in total, in lieu of time spent with Him, a procedure which He has approved previously.

5/26/05. Very little prayer today – mostly communion and fellowship with the Lord – listening and writing – a little over an hour.

7/27/05. Two hours spent in listening and writing. Ended at 10:00 A. M. (No prayer time)

11/12/05. “Time spent with Me, My son, is rewarding for both of Us. So, yes, you may relinquish your prayer details to Me under such circumstances, for Our association together now is as it was with the twelve in My personal ministry – My time spent with them – especially when I would call them aside and explain to them My teachings that were veiled from the masses. That time was very important for them. And so your time spent with Me is equally important now to you.”<sup>5</sup>

11/13/05. “My rhema words have removed from you the Adamic sin-nature.” (Not the Adamic sin-

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<sup>5</sup>Notice in this “word,” the Lord compares His teaching the twelve during His personal visible ministry to teaching me today. The only difference is that He was visible as He taught the twelve in His personal ministry but He is invisible as He teaches me today. He is the same Teacher whether He is visible almost two thousand years ago or is invisible today. However, His teaching today is more specialized and personalized. Every word you hear is designed specifically to fill a need you have at that moment. It doesn’t get any better than that. You have the same ability to learn to hear His voice today that I have. Learn to use it. Learn to listen. That’s my teaching today that He has commissioned me, that He has mandated me, to teach you. I am living testimony that it works for both you and me. While the Pentecost Method is Old wine, the Listening Method is new wine. It’s old wine versus new wine or a section of land versus an unlimited supply of gold bars that may be exchanged for the currency of every nation under heaven.

curse, which is removed at salvation, but the Adamic sin-nature that remains in everyone after the sin-curse is removed, since we live in a fallen world. *This means that the tendency or the desire to sin was removed from me by hearing a sufficiency of rhema words from the mouth of God.*

11/18/05. “You may forego your usual prayer time this morning. I will see to that for you.” And later in the day He said to me, “Hereafter, when you come to spend quiet time with Me, come with no prayer agenda. If I want you to pray, I will tell you.”

These dated notes cover a period of eighteen months and two days. That is the time it took God to transition me from spending all of my prayer time (about two hours) talking to Him to spending all of my quiet time listening to Him. I do have a short, concise prayer (approved by Him) that I usually tack on to the end of His words to me that takes about a minute. Other than that, all of my time is spent listening to Him – listening to Him and writing every word He says to Me. This, of course, is not limited to time spent with Him first thing in the morning. I have journal entries given to me at all hours of the day and night. But most of them come first thing in the morning, which I set aside for Him. If you will put Him first in your life, He will put you first in His life.

Please believe this teacher. There is no way to overestimate or over-value the blessings of learning to hear rhema words from the mouth of God. In my fellowship with Him, it is not unusual for Us to have a two-way conversation where I think of a question, ask it and get an answer – *just like two people talking together in intimate conversation.*

The great blessing of listening is that in every rhema word you hear from the mouth of God, there is an impartation of the characteristics of God, Himself, that you need most at that time. You cannot listen to rhema words from the mouth of God and remain the same.

It’s as simple as this: you become what you eat in both the physical world and the spiritual world. Jesus gave us the prescription in His answer to Satan’s first temptation after He had fasted for forty days. He said, “Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.” While I have written these words many times over the past ten years, please hear them again. This very clearly states that we eat physically by eating with our mouth, but we eat spiritually by hearing words from the mouth of God.

There is no other way. The Holy Spirit may quicken into rhema a scripture (logos) or a thought, but when you learn to listen continually, every word is rhema. Once you learn to listen, put God first in your life and devote time to Him faithfully, He will respond to you the same way He has responded to me. The reason I say that to you is because He has given me a mandate to tell you. Realize these are words God has given me for you.

“Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”<sup>6</sup> In that sentence written by the apostle Paul, “word” is translated from the Greek word “rhema.” It’s hearing the *rhema*, not reading the logos, that produces faith. Here is an example:

You may read the bible through in a year which is a noble accomplishment. But the test is whether or not one who has done that has his life changed forever. The bible contains all we need for life and Godliness and I spend some time therein, but most of my bible reading now is done from the inductive point of view. Here is what that means.

There are two methods of reasoning used in the study of Economics that have applications outside of Economics. The two methods are deductive reasoning and inductive reasoning. The deductive method reasons to conclusion from available facts. The inductive method starts with the conclusion and reasons back to the facts.

Much of my bible reading, study and research now is done by the inductive method. As I listen to His words, He will give me the revealed meaning of a verse of scripture or a teaching of the bible as the conclusion of the matter. The light in those rhema words will then shine on the logos (bible verse or teaching) with understanding. I then go to the bible (logos) to search out supporting facts from scripture. And they are always there in greater abundance than may ever be seen by intellectual study alone. Since the bible was inspired by the Holy Spirit, He is the best teacher of what He wrote.

In this method, the hidden things in the scripture are revealed. Mysteries of the kingdom are mentioned by Jesus, and in the writing of Paul and John. Here is an explanation of the mysteries of the kingdom.

One day Jesus sat in a boat and told the multitude a parable. Then later when He was alone with the twelve, He explained to them the meaning of

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<sup>6</sup>Romans 10:17.

the parable and said to them, “To you it has been given to know the mystery of the kingdom of God.”<sup>7</sup> That’s exactly what Jesus is doing today. Both the hidden things in the scripture and the mysteries of the kingdom of God are made known by our Lord *today* through the Listening Method – not all of them, of course, but the ones that are of importance to you. That’s how personalized His words are when we lean to listen.

James wrote, “You have not because you ask not.”<sup>8</sup> In line with what James wrote, God has given me this antidote for lack of spiritual understanding: “The eleventh commandment is, ‘If you don’t know, ask Me, and the twelfth is, ‘Learn to listen.’” It sounds like James heard from the same One I listen to.

Learning to listen to Him continually is the most fascinating thing I have discovered. You never get enough of His words. The way to be fulfilled in life is to be filled full of Him – and that comes from hearing His rhema words, each of which is designed to meet your specific needs.

Note carefully these rhema words from the mouth of God on January 22, 2011, as transcribed from my journal:

“Yes, My son, your salvation draws nigh. You are almost there.

**“Realize what you have tapped into. As you listen to Me for a sufficient period of time according to My standard, you actually become Me, Jehovah God, for in the spirit world as well as in the physical world, you become what or whom you eat.**

“You were reluctant to write that until I said it to you in words. That is quite a message. **That message needs to be made known.**

“The Pentecost Method leads to death.<sup>9</sup> The Listening Method leads to life without dying in this rapture generation. In this rapture generation, it may literally become a life or death situation, depending on whether you continue to remain in the Pentecost Method or change to the Listening Method.

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<sup>7</sup>See Mark 4:1-12.

<sup>8</sup>James 4:2 (b).

<sup>9</sup>If you remain in the Pentecost Method, you may be susceptible to illness, disease or death that you may become immunized to as you learn to listen to words from the mouth of God 24/7. The Lord has given me several prophetic words listing names of people who died of cancer, caused by the enemy, which was not His will. Had they learned of and operated in the Listening Method, as I have for years, cancer, which came from the enemy, would have gained no hold on them and they could be alive today. I am living testimony that it works.

“It’s your work (the Pentecost Method) or My work (the Listening Method). It’s your choice. Isn’t that simple when seen by revelation?”<sup>10</sup>

(end of prophetic word)

Here is a partial comparison of the Pentecost Method to the Listening Method.

<u>Pentecost Method</u>	<u>Listening Method</u>
Old wine	New wine
Deductive method	Inductive method
Section of land	Gold bars
To the gifted and called	To all believers
From death	To life
From illness	To wellness
From uncertainty	To confidence
From the unknown	To the known
From reason	To revelation
From doubt	To faith
From theory	To fact
Beginning to the end	End to the beginning
From uncertainty	To the <i>how &amp; when</i>
You work/God rests	God works/you rest
Your needs met	His needs met
Incremental growth	Exponential growth

The following rhema words transcribed from my journal were given to me on November 8, 2004:

“You see, what I am perfecting you for. I am perfecting you to walk in My perfect will. The way to become perfect is to walk in My will, for My will is perfect. That is the way you are perfected. As I instruct and you obey, as you then act, you are perfect because My will is perfect. **Obedience of My rhema word to you MAKES you perfect.**<sup>11</sup> That does not mean you will not make mistakes, that you will not become disgusted, will not say things you shouldn’t, *but that you will be righteous as you make those mistakes* because your faith will remain unwavering. Faith, My son, is My measure of perfection, not perfect conduct. Now you are beginning to see what I am teaching, what I am revealing to you. To sum up these

<sup>10</sup>This prophetic word given to me on 1/22/11 was also published in my letter No. 143 dated October 14, 2011.

<sup>11</sup>Please realize the importance of this statement. As you learn to listen continually, He will tell you His will for your life. And as you hear His words from His mouth, those words will create within you the desire to obey Him, which makes it easy. Obedience then becomes a blessing. His rhema words you hear will make you hungry for more – and they will continue.

words, in a fallen world, righteousness is not based on perfect conduct but upon obedience.”(end of prophetic word)

And lastly, hear these rhema words from the Lord that were given to me the morning of Monday, February 14, 2011, that are inclusive of the three sentences in the indented paragraph on page one, column two of this letter. These words were given to me, but they are also for you. Please listen

“Yes, My son, one day at a time, you are walking toward a New Life – a new way of life.

“Life is always like that, My son. I keep My calendar the opposite way than you do because I know the end from the beginning. You live life from the beginning to the end. I see life from the end to the beginning.

“Death is not normal. It is abnormal, caused by Satan. So long as death prevails, Satan is in control.

“I never intended for man to die. I intended for him to live forever.

“The marvelous thing about today is, that by learning to listen to Me on a daily basis, you can overcome death and walk in life, My Life, for eternity.

“Yes, that is true, because We have only about nine years left before the rapture. As you listen to Me – as you take or make time to listen to Me, My attributes of Life are imparted to you to replace the attributes of death (or the attributes of self). As you listen for a period of time according to My standard, those attributes of death will be exchanged or replaced with the attributes of Life – My Life.

“In that manner alone will you gradually become immune to illness to walk in perfect health. Illness is a down payment on death. That’s the way Satan kills mankind.

“And yes, My words, My rhema words, when heard and heeded, will begin to immunize you against illness.

“In the world, immunization is achieved by injecting into the body a small dose of the virus (dead or alive) or the illness, which will trigger an immune response. In the kingdom today, spiritual immunization is accomplished the same way. As you listen to rhema words from the mouth of God daily, that small “dose” of God’s Life “injected” or infused within you, will have a residual effect until you are completely immune from illness, disease and death.

“If you stay in the Pentecost Method, you will be susceptible to illness, disease and death. But if you

will learn to listen, that is, to live daily in the Listening Method of Life, you can become immune to illness, disease and death *in this rapture generation*.

“My son, these words are truth. My truth. My Truth always leads to Life, not to death. My rhema words of Life, when *taken* (heard) daily will gradually make you immune to illness, disease and death *in order to be raptured*.

“My son, this needs to be known and you are My spokesman to tell the world **AND** My church. Tell it loudly, without the frills, but tell it forcefully, for I will bless you and your words as you do so.

“My son, it is time that My body on the earth hear My rhema words of truth from someone who walks the walk and talks the talk. And that person is you.

“You will enjoy sharing or teaching this way of life because I taught it to you. Now you may, now you **must** teach it to others. You must teach it to My lost and dying world and to My church in adultery.

“So there before you lies another of your opportunities to please Me and to bless mankind and My poor church.

“Enjoy this new challenge.

“Tell it like it is.

“Boldly declare My truth – My truth I have shared with you – to the world and to the church. Declare it with joy, boldly, with confidence, to a sick and dying world and to My church in adultery.

“As you know, that will be new to those who hear. And you, therefore, will have opposition. So did I have opposition. But that did not deter Me. Neither must it deter you.

“And there is another of your assignments. One that you are capable of accomplishing, for I have taught it to you.

“Not only are you to teach this new way of Life, you are to write about your new assignment. Look forward with great anticipation to this new assignment.

“Realize that I have looked forward to this day for many millennia. My son, I am only about sixteen years away from being able to bind the enemy with a chain in the Abyss (bottomless pit) for a thousand years.<sup>12</sup> Realize what that means to Me, the Father, and to the heavenly hosts. Only as I release you into ministry will you even begin to see what I have called you to do. It is more important and more far-reaching

than you may now imagine.

“Enjoy this assignment. Look forward to it. Relish it, says a grateful Father to you this morning.

“You now have not only my permission, but My mandate, as well, **to testify** to the blessing of learning to walk in the Listening Method every day.

“Today, you can begin to walk toward Life instead of toward death by learning to listen. The choice is yours.” (end of prophetic word)

I have been mandated to testify to the blessings of walking in the Listening Method every day. Here *in brief are some* of the results in my life:

I am ninety-one years old,  
have no aches or pains,  
am on no medication,  
and walk in perfect health.

I will not get sick,  
*am spiritually immunized*  
from illness, disease and terminal,  
debilitating conditions including  
cancer and Alzheimers.

I will not die but  
will be raptured in about nine years,  
am enjoying life to the full,  
every day.

I am more fruitful in the kingdom now  
than I have ever been,  
and I am living my dream,  
and that of the Father  
and of the Son.

I have been given all authority  
over the enemy to take from him  
everything he has done  
to mankind.

I have more rhema words given to me  
filed in three-ring notebooks  
than there are total words  
in the bible.

These blessings have occurred in my life  
by learning to live  
in the Listening Method  
of spiritual maturity 24/7.

You have that same spiritual potential.

All praise, glory, and honor,  
to our Lord Himself  
for making all of this possible.  
Amen.

<sup>12</sup>See Luke 8:31; Revelation 20:1-3.