

NOW CONCERNING SPIRITUAL THINGS

an historical record of one man's walk with God

Jim Ash letter No. 148

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

BEYOND THE GREAT COMMISSION

There are many events recorded in the bible which are *beyond the Great Commission*. Here are a few: the rapture, the seven-year tribulation, Armageddon and its conclusion, the millennial reign of Christ from Jerusalem – and that is just for starters.

However, there is an important event described and prophesied by Jesus that will occur beyond the Great Commission but will also occur before all of the above listed events. That places this important event prior to the rapture, and within the time-frame of today, but also places it beyond the Great Commission, or beyond the scope of the Great Commission.

Some of you are thinking that this cannot be, for the Great Commission will remain in force until the rapture of the church that Paul described in 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18. While that is an established fact as recorded in the bible, there is also something else hidden in scripture, hidden within the words of Jesus, that is beyond the authority of the Great Commission, but will soon become a reality in time as prophesied by Jesus. That is the subject of this letter.

Here is the Great Commission as recorded by each of the Gospel writers:

From Matthew chapter 28

18 And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

19 “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

20 “teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Amen.

Frm Mark chapter 16

15 And He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.

16 “He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.

17 “And these signs will follow those who

believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues;

18 “they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.”

From Luke chapter 24

46 Then He said to them, “Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day,

47 “and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

48 “And you are witnesses of these things.

49 “Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you, but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high.”

From 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.”

First, realize that the Great Commission, as recorded by Matthew, Mark and Luke, were the parting words of Jesus after He had spent forty days appearing and reappearing to His disciples as proof of His resurrection. Each of these three records of the words of Jesus were spoken within the same *general* context of time but each one was spoken *at a different specific time* since the content of each is different from the other two.

John's record of the Great Commission is different from that of the other three with regard to time and content. John's record of the Great Commission was spoken on the evening of the day of the resurrection of Jesus when the disciples (without Thomas) were assembled with the doors shut because of fear of the Jews. Jesus then appeared (or visualized) and stood in their midst to speak John's record of the Great

Commission.

This means that the words in the Great Commission, as recorded by John, were spoken by Jesus forty-three days before the Great Commission as recorded by the other three Gospel writers.

A brief comparative review of the Gospels will reveal that this is only one of the differences between the writing of John and that of Matthew, Mark and Luke. Here is one short comment on John's writing compared with the other three Gospel writers:

John's Gospel is slanted more in the direction of love and of the Spirit than the other three Gospels. There are also intimate things in John's Gospel that are unique to his writing. The first chapter of John is classic among the Gospels. The night Nicodemus came to call on Jesus likewise is recorded only by John (chapter 3). For that reason I believe it was at John's home that this "secret" meeting was held with this member of the Sanhedrin.

On one occasion I asked the Lord why it was that He seemed to favor John over the other disciples. His answer was that it was not that He favored John over the other eleven, but instead, that John favored Him over the other eleven. This puts everyone on a "level playing field" with the Lord and proves that He is no respecter of persons.

The same thing is true today. As a believer, if you see something to do, you will do it. If you see something to become, that will occur and if you see and desire the Lord, that likewise will occur. What or whom do you see?

To summarize the Great Commission as recorded by the four Gospel writers, Jesus, with all authority in heaven and on earth, sends believers forth to teach and do things in His name, or to actually represent Him as Savior, to the whole world.

But lurking or hidden in the background is one statement by Jesus that is beyond the Great Commission or that does not come within the purview of those instructions. This statement is often overlooked. I have never heard it used as a sermon text nor have I heard a teacher teach on this one verse of scripture authoritatively. You may have heard that this prophetic word spoken by prophet Jesus has been fulfilled, but I disagree. Here is that one verse of scripture from chapter fourteen of John's Gospel and the three verses following, which I add for clarity:

12 "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who

believes in Me, the work that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to the Father.

13 "And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

14 "If you ask anything in My name, I will do it.

15 "If you love me, keep my commandments."

I have added verses 13, 14, and 15 since those verses, particularly verses 13 and 14, are often used by mature servants of God in teaching and praying for others or for themselves. I have used these two verses effectively in praying for others, but notice that verses 13, 14, and 15 are different than verse twelve.

In verse 12 Jesus refers to "works" that He did. By definition, this means that the miracles that Jesus did will be done by believers. Then He "lowers the boom," or "drops the other shoe." Believers are also to do "greater works (*or greater miracles*) than Jesus did, "because I go to the Father."

He has been to the Father as believers know. That's where, or from Whom, He got "all authority in heaven and on earth." So the next thing is, what are the greater works (*miracles*) than Jesus did that believers will do as prophesied by Jesus?

Greater than walking on water. Greater than calming the sea, the wind, the waves and the storm. Greater than translating a boatload of disciples, (including Himself) on Lake Galilee to their destination instantly. Greater than multiplying small quantities of food to feed multitudes. Greater than three resurrections. Greater than virtue flowing through Him to the multitudes when everyone was healed without His touching them individually or without His saying a word, just for starters.

Now some of you will say that in a selective way, you know of creative miracles, healings and in some instances, resurrections, that have occurred as a result of believers who have prayed by faith in the name of Jesus. I fully understand and accept this. But they are the exception to the rule and may occasionally occur within the "Spirit filled" community of believers. But what I wish to call to your attention is that Jesus had no failures. Secondly, He did not pray and ask the Father to do these things, but instead simply spoke them or acted them into existence without failures. That is what John 14:12 means.

Now fasten your seat belt.

The time is nearby, or is at hand, as Jesus would say, when the prophecy of John 14:12 will be fulfilled by twelve men who have been in training for many years. They will not come from the pulpit but from the pew. When their training is finished, they will be commissioned and sent out as apostles within whom will dwell all the fullness of the Godhead bodily, as it is said of Jesus in Colossians 2:9. They will not pray in the name of Jesus to perform greater works than Jesus did. Since all the fullness of the Godhead bodily will reside within them, they will do the greater works than Jesus did *in the same manner as He did*.

To fulfill the Great Commission, you represent Jesus. As the twelve new apostles are released to fulfill John 14:12, they will go forth as God Incarnate and that is beyond the Great Commission.

These twelve new apostles will be violently criticized and opposed verbally by influential pastors. They will be received as Jesus was received when He went to Judea. There the Jews wanted to kill Him soon after John's baptism.

These twelve new apostles have been in training by the Lord, Himself, to close the two-thousand year window of the church age.

They will be sent first to what God calls "His precious prodigals." Let me explain.

The Lord has said to me that a prodigal is one who has been deceived by the enemy. Eve was the first prodigal on Earth Two, but not the first prodigal. The Lord has also said to me that some of His "precious prodigals" would have exceeded some of His most noble ones had they not been deceived. He has also said to me that He has *empathy* with His *precious prodigals*. Here is why:

Since a prodigal is one who has been deceived by the enemy, recall what happened on Earth One. For millennia, Earth One, God's perfect model, thrived and in the absence of sin, there was no death and the population increased rapidly. Lucifer and his contingent of angels ruled with love over God's perfect creation that was intended to last for eternity. Then something happened. Since I have written in some detail on this previously, I will treat it only briefly in this letter.

Lucifer realized that he was in an unusual position – and he was. He realized that because God created Earth One as His perfect model, His spoken words of creation could not be rescinded. He further realized that he (Lucifer) was given authority to rule the earth which could not be rescinded, and he was right

because the gifts and call of God are without repentance (or irrevocable) to both angels and to man. He also knew that God could not create replacement angels to rule the earth because His previously spoken words of creation of Earth One were intended as His final, finished, perfect creation. And Lucifer was right again. This was the basis of the rebellion of Lucifer. Because of the circumstance of his creation within God's perfect order, Lucifer realized that he could rebel against God about which God could do nothing but stand by and watch. And he was right.

Lucifer's failure, or his rebellion against God who created him, *was not foreseen by God*. This is evidenced by the fact that, as a substitute for Lucifer to rule the earth, by God's foreordained word, since He could not create another angel to take the place of Lucifer, he chose a man. The reason He chose a man is because through man sin, death and failure entered the earth (through Adam); through man, therefore, restoration of the Earth would have to come.

Lucifer did not foresee that that man, through death and resurrection, could become an "angel" to replace the angel Lucifer, about which I have written previously. But that is exactly what happened because the Creator is smarter than His creation.

Since God did not foresee Lucifer's rebellion, He was deceived by a fallen Lucifer *and became the first prodigal*. He is *empathetic* toward what He calls His *precious prodigals* because "He has been there." He knows what it is like to be deceived by the deceiver. And that is one reason why the special twelve apostles, supernaturally armed to do greater works than Jesus did, will be sent first to His *precious prodigals*.

Because the new apostles will minister to prodigals first, as those prodigals see with their own eyes, signs, wonders and miracles confirming the ministering of the word, there will be an abundant harvest of souls entering the kingdom. That harvest will be greater than anything that has thus far happened on planet earth. In time, faithful pastors will begin to hold multiple services just to take care of the crowds.

Here are some prophetic rhema words given to me on the dates as indicated, concerning the Lord Himself as the first prodigal and also concerning His *precious prodigals*:

Wednesday, April 13, 2011

"Yes, My son, it is important to write about My precious prodigals. No one else has been given that

information about Me except Jesus. He alone, prior to My special twelve, knew of My weaknesses – My failures.

“Remember – confession of one’s faults endears each to the other as in no other way. That is because of Me. I had to discover that about Myself first in order to share that with someone else – with Jesus first and now with the special twelve.

“Weaknesses, when made known, may be dealt with. Until then the enemy maintains his grip. The enemy wants you to hang on to anything that will make you feel insecure or revengeful.

“I am your security and vengeance is Mine in a fallen world, says the Lord.

“*So My precious prodigals are something you should write about.* That will get to the root of something My church needs to know. Remember, I had to deal with Myself before I could deal with others.

“Every time Jesus talked about sins, faults or righteousness, those words came from Me for Myself first.

“My son, believe that I know of Satan’s supernatural power and authority because I gave him those attributes. So I am the only one who knows how to be relieved of his grip on the world.

“It is essential that both the world **AND** the church know about My weaknesses in the few remaining years before the rapture. *This will help both groups to identify with Me and therefore to accept Me.*

“You will recall that when I first told you of My failures, you were endeared to Me and I was endeared to you as never before. This is something that Satan does not want known.

“This is something that I, Jehovah God, want you to proclaim to the world **AND** to My church. This is one of the things My special twelve will be able to share that Jesus could not do – just one of the things He could not do. That would have been entirely inappropriate to do in view of the mission He was sent to accomplish.

“So enjoy writing about ‘God’s Precious Prodigals.’”

Thursday, April 14, 2011

“Just go about these things as I have suggested and remember, what you are writing will be new to the world **AND** to the church. That’s how exclusive your writing is.

“So look not on your writing now as a chore. Look upon it as something you are doing for Me, for I

will see to its distribution world-wide.

“Again, by way of enforcement, **HAVE NO CONCERN** about your perfection upon being released. Let that be My problem because I already have the answer.

“In this manner We may now walk together in perfect agreement.

“My son, as you write, know assuredly that **NO ONE** will duplicate what I have told you to write.

“A good example is that **NO ONE** *has ever remotely understood that I was the first prodigal.* That writing is a must!

“All of the things Jesus said about sin, righteousness and judgment were said with Me, the Father, in mind. **NO ONE** will understand that but you, the eleven and Jesus.

“Your writing about Jesus is right on.

“I had to take a man like the first Adam to defeat Satan. It could have happened no other way since, by man, sin entered into the world; by man, therefore, sin had to be conquered.

“That is what caused My delay in conquering a fallen Lucifer. It had to be done within the framework of My creative words of Earth One. That was My challenge and that is why it took so long.

“I had to work through waves of anger and grief before I could ever begin to work on and to work out the problem. That required vast preparation, all of which should have been unnecessary, and that was part of My problem.

“I knew the sacrifice of countless numbers of lives it would take to defeat Satan, but it had to be done, for I would not allow My creation to steal the earth and its possessions.

“Thwarting the thwarter required all of My attributes. That is why (1) the long gap between Earth One and Earth Two existed and why (2) beginning with Genesis 1:3, it has taken another 6,000 years to secure the victory.

“You have said it correctly. Man has no way of ever comprehending My gargantuan task of correcting Lucifer’s failure until he removes his earthly cloak. Only then may that be revealed. And therein will the accomplishments of Jesus loom greatly before all.

“*My son, the fact that the Listening Method eliminates doubt and allows one to walk in My will for him is reason enough to learn to listen.*”