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We, at C.P.R. Ministries would appreciate it very much if you would forward this newsletter to many of your friends. So few today in our churches have ever heard these truths. Allow the Holy Spirit to birth a curiosity in their hearts. Maybe they will join us is getting these truths around the world. "The fields are white already unto harvest; BUT the laborers are few."

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# Heartbeat

Winter Issue 2018

The Official Newsletter



## Greetings from Pat & Joe Webb to our faithful partners:

Pat and I pray each of you and yours will find 2018 to be a year of fruitfulness and blessedness from our Lord Jesus. We pray the Lord will reveal His perfect will for you, and impart to you His wisdom, love and strength. One cannot read scripture without knowing; long term; things will not improve

in the years to come. Only those who keep their eyes on the sky; expecting our Lord Jesus to return, will survive the eventual rejection of all who are godly. This is not pessimism; but the clear teaching of scripture. **II Timothy 3:12-13;** "But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived. BUT continue THOU in the things which thou hast learned and hast been ASSURED of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them;"

You might ask why I am emphasizing such a serious subject at a time like this. I have always told people, "I am not denominational; but a Biblicist. Denominations come and go. Movements rise and fall. A personal; deeply committed relationship with Jesus Christ lasts a lifetime. Daniel, warns however, of a great "falling away, in the last days. A time when the Beast to come will kill and oppress the saints, until only "the very elect" will stand.

Another present day problem is believers consuming one another. Rumors are started and spread throughout a group of believers, and with no confirmation of the facts. Some men of God are assailed with false tales that cause others to forsake that ministry. The Bible also warns of "busybodies, spreading lies, and defiling many."

Someone once told me, "If you receive and spread evil rumors about another, it is evidence others consider your ears, garbage cans." **Proverbs 20:19** says: "He that goeth about as a talebearer (gossipper) revealeth secrets; therefore meddle not (don't associate) with him ..." In **James 4:11,12**; we are told: "Speak not evil one of another, brethren. (James is speaking to saints) He that speaketh evil of his brother, and judgeth his brother, speaketh evil of the law, and judgeth the law; but if thou judge the law, thou art not a doer of the law, but a judge. There is one lawgiver, who is able to save and to destroy: who art thou

that judgest another?

As believers, we need to be discerning about what or who we listen to and be careful of the reputation of other believers. In Mark 10:19; Jesus said: "Thou knowest the commandments, (not suggestions); ...Do not (it is forbidden) bear false witness, When we do, we join forces with the enemy of our souls. Satan is called the "Father of all lies."

#### Now, the POSITIVE MESSAGE:

James 3:23; "But the wisdom, that is from above is first pure, then peaceable; gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruit, without partiality, and without hypocrisy."

Again, in Eph. 4:31-32; "Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamor, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."

This is a vital teaching for the body of Christ today. Because it has been ignored, many are leaving churches; pastors are leaving the ministry; and unbelievers look on with affirmation; saying; "They are a bunch of hypocrites." I Timothy 5:19 says: "Against an elder receive not an accusation, but before two or three witnesses." Again, in Hebrews 13:17, we are commanded to: "Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves, for they watch for your souls, as they that must give an account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you."

"He that hath ears, let him hear what the Spirit says to the Church."

Everywhere I pastored, I felt an awesome awareness of having to answer to God for how I ministered to the sheep He delegated to me. I loved them; encouraged them; corrected them; but refused to fleece them. The greatest joy I know today is seeing the thousands the Lord has allowed me to lead to Him; feed them; mature them; and today, see how they have circled the earth in ministries; and watching their children and grandchildren doing the same.

Pray for Christian leadership; that the Lord will lead them into all truth; and protect them from the devises of the enemy. AMEN!

#### **WHOSE SERVANT ARE YOU?**

It doesn't seem possible, but I was ordained into full time ministry over 61 years ago. I sometimes feel that through many years of following the leading of the Lord in my life, He has allowed me to have a wider perspective in analyzing life's present-day happenings. Most present day denominational leaders do not desire to license "older" pastors for their church pulpits: they want them no more than thirty years old, with 45 years of experience. May we assume this is because they realize most of the more seasoned pastors were exposed to more authoritative standards concerning scriptures, than those graduating today, and such more experienced leaders are harder to convince, a new way is These older leaders were taught to completely believe "all scripture is God breathed, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man or woman of God may be perfect; thoroughly furnished, unto all good works." There is no such thing as a 21st century Bible.

Many schools of higher learning today have shifted from God wants us holy, to God wants us happy and prosperous. The evidence of spiritual success, in most denominational groups today, is to have a large church, at any cost. To accomplish this, they try to make people feel good about themselves and believe New testament Christianity is a pleasant path.

How many times have you heard a pastor say: "come to Jesus and he will cause all of your problems disappear:" or, "If you will give a gift; (even if you must use your credit card); to this ministry, God will open the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing you cannot contain." These millionaire leaders intimate, following Jesus is like playing a lottery that has been rigged in your favor. "You can create riches out of the air. If you can't; you don't really have the God kind of faith."

You may be wondering; why I would start a message on such a negative note. The longer I live and counsel people, the more I see how the emphasis of following Christ has been distorted.

I have had the privilege of counselling individuals and couples for many years now, and have noted a new theme expressed by professing Christians, that makes me wonder where they began to misunderstand the true calling of God in their lives. When trials come, they begin to think they must be out of the will of God. They seem to have never learned: John 16:33; "In the world ye SHALL have tribulation; but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." Tribulation is NOT a sign of failure; but is part and parcel of the Saint's learning to praise the Lord in the midst of your trial, until HE brings you out of it. Paul tells us in I Cor. 10:13; "There hath no temptation, trial or test, taken you but such as is common to man; BUT GOD IS FAITHFUL, who will not suffer you to be tempted, tried, or tested above that ye are able; but will, WITH the temptation, test or trial; make a way of escape, that ye may be able to bear it."

This is the way the Lord prepares us to serve Him in contentment and faith. He isn't mad at us, or sadistic. As we submit to every trial of life, with complete trust and patience; believing; "it is God who is working in us, to will and to do of His good pleasure." By enduring, we glorify our Master and King. We manifest to those around us; we truly do believe; Romans 8:28; "and we KNOW that ALL THINGS work together FOR GOOD, to them that love God, to those who are THE CALLED, according to His purpose."

If you are going through a test or trial right now; may I encourage you not to try to get out of it; but to heed James admonition: James 1:2-4; "My brethren; count it all JOY when ye fall into divers temptations, knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye might BE PERFECT AND ENTIRE, wanting NOTHING."

I hear statements like: "I am so lonely; does God expect me to be alone for the rest of my life, while my former or Ex partner is remarried, and living the life. My church tells me to go on with my life, and they shun me. Doesn't God want me to be happy?"

This is the clear evidence of the fruit of The false expectation today: which says: "God wants me happy at any cost." If anyone is taught this teaching, and prosperity and healing doesn't come; they become disillusioned and go away in defeat.

I would like to dissect this idea in the light of scripture.

In **Job 1:1**, it says: "There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was perfect and upright, and one that feared God, and eschewed evil."

Can the same thing be said of us? "Perfect and upright." Wow, this man should really prosper. What happened? Do you think Job expected this to happen? Of course not. In fact, Job told God what for. Job suffered as few men have ever suffered. He lost all of his children; crops; farm animals; finances; and was covered with boils. Then his wife told him; "Why don't you just curse God and die."

Job had a different expectation than what he experienced: and complained about his circumstances, declaring it was happening to the wrong person; because he had not sinned against the Lord. Job thought he deserved better. Job soon learned, however; "God's ways are so far above our ways, and his thoughts above our thoughts." The thing Job had to learn was; "HIS WAY IS PERFECT!"

When Jesus speaks of Job, He doesn't grieve over what Job experienced: He said; "Remember the end of Job." God allowed Job to suffer for our benefit; to teach us He is with us in our suffering; to teach us how to trust Him, in all situations. In Phil. 3:10; Paul said: "That I might know Him, and the power of his resurrection, (Today's believers say AMEN to this.) Please note: there is no period at the end of that statement, so Paul's thought isn't complete. Don't stop reading so you can rejoice over this positive truth. Go on! "AND the fellowship of His SUFFERINGS, (Don't stop reading yet! There is another comma here.) being made CONFORMABLE UNTO HIS DEATH." Paul identified with the death of his Lord and Savior. In Gal. 2:20' he gladly placed himself on the cross with Jesus. He said; "I am CRUCIFIED with Christ, nevertheless, I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me." When trials and suffering came to Paul, he "gloried in tribulations." Romans 5:3-5; "...We glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; and patience, experience, and experience, hope; and hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given to us." If we live for our own pleasure, we lose all peace. If we die to our own desires and allow the Lord Jesus to be all we need; we will have peace.

When people tell me they are "so lonely," I have to tell them to stop calling Jesus a liar! If you are truly saved and filled with His Spirit, Jesus said you will NEVER BE ALONE AGAIN! He said: to true believers; "I will NEVER leave

thee, nor forsake thee." If we truly "trust in the Lord; and lean not to our own understanding; in all our ways acknowledge Him, He WILL direct our paths." Is this true? Or did Jesus lie to us? Scriptures tell us: "I am The Lord God, I LIE NOT!" If God does not lie and tells us He will never leave us or forsake us; when we confess the opposite; who is lying, and denying their faith?

In contrast to doubt and unbelief; I have a friend whose wife left him over thirty years ago, with four children to raise. She went on with her life, like nothing happened. This man determined he would never take off his ring; He believed it was a symbol of his covenant. This brother didn't moan or groan, or resent this experience, but raised his children to fear the Lord. This man teaches the covenant message; never complaining that he was cheated; or God didn't love him. Today, God has taken his marital MESS and turned it into a message and a ministry. He is teaching scores of others who are going through the same mess, that God is sufficient. He knows the Lord loves him, and he is a faithful servant, in the midst of his trial and test.

One sermon I have preached for many years is titled: "As the eagle, So the Lord." **Deut. 32:11,12;** says; "As an eagle stirreth up her nest, fluttereth over her young, spreadeth abroad her wings, taketh them, beareth them on her wings: SO THE LORD." What can we learn about the Lord's dealings with believers, from these unique characteristics of eagles?

First of all, a pair of eagles build a huge nest. (Sometimes up to 2000 lbs.) They line the nest with moss and the fur of many animals. The branches they use to build the nest however are composed of very long and very sharp thorns.

When the eaglets are hatched, they are protected and cared for day and night by both parent birds. When the eaglets finally get feathers enough to fly; the parents do something horrible to them. They try to lure them to the edge of the nest to get them to learn the purpose of their wings. Most of the time, the eaglets

don't want to leave their comfortable home of moss and fur. Who of us would? They are content to stay where they are. The parents however know, if they stay in the nest, they won't survive very long. They must learn to fly. To fly, they must get out of the nest; so they make the nest uninhabitable.

After several futile attempts to get them to attempt to fly, the eagles begin to throw all of the moss and fur out of the nest; leaving only the sharp thorns. Now the eaglets are very upset. "How can you do this to us?" "You must hate us!" The eaglets are forced to the edge of the nest to avoid the thorns and thistles. (Do you ever feel you are in a nest of thorns?)

After the eaglets are on the edge of the uncomfortable nest, the parents urge them to jump out of the nest, built very high up. If they refuse; the parents urge the eaglets to get on their back. Once there, the parents fly very high with the eaglets on their backs. The eaglets are thrilled to experience such an exciting, safe event.

Then suddenly; without any warning; the eagles dump the eaglets off their backs, allowing them to plunge toward earth from several thousand feet. They screech and tumble toward earth, wondering how their parents could hate them so much. As they near the ground, the parent eagle swoops under the eaglet and carries them back up even higher, to repeat the same exercise again.

Do you think the eagles do this to kill their offspring, because they hate them so much? Of course not. The eaglet parents know no eagle can survive if it cannot fly. They do it because they love their offspring. "As the eagle, so the Lord."

Those who study eagles, tell us, there has NEVER been an eaglet killed, while being taught to fly. The parent eagles flutter over them; lift them up high; dump them; and recover them until they learn how to use their own wings. "As the eagle; so the Lord."

If you are going through a trial or test; **REMEMBER**: "It is God working in you to will and to do HIS good pleasure." This is why the true believer can pray: "Thy kingdom come, thy

will be done, in earth, as it is in heaven." If we cannot pray this prayer; we need to reevaluate our relationship to Jesus Christ; for "Without faith, it is impossible to please God."

When God called Stephen; had Stephen known he would be martyred, do you suppose he would have responded? When the Lord called Paul; he said: Acts 9:16 "I will shew him how great things he must SUFFER for MY name's sake."

Does that sound like a good prosperity message? Paul's life was FULL of suffering. When Paul asked the Lord to remove one "thorn in his flesh," the Lord replied: "My grace is sufficient for you." If that was Christ's answer to Paul, you and I couldn't bind enough demons, make enough positive confessions; or give enough gifts to remove these thorns. The Lord was removing the moss and fur to help Paul learn to fly.

The Lord says: "The steps of righteous men, are ordered of the Lord." "There is a way that seemeth right unto man; (stay in the nest) but the end thereof are the ways of death." Jesus Christ did not call us to blessings in this life, but to total surrender to His perfect will and way; so that we will hear Him say; "Well done, good and faithful servant, enter into the blessing of the Lord."

Hebrews 11 is titled: The Faith chapter! In the first part it tells of many who did many mighty works, and experienced great victories. These are the verses the prosperity preachers like to have you put on your refrigerator door. For some reason, they seem to leave out the other "Faith filled and faithful," who didn't experience miracles in their lives; but were still called people of great faith. (Please don't think I am belittling God's ability to perform miracles, provide abundantly, and set free those bound by demons, as not for today. I believe it, but I also remember: "ALL ERROR; IS TRUTH, TAKEN TO AN EXTREME."

Notice if you will, **Hebrews 11;36-40**. These were also heroes of faith. They suffered horrible experiences; lost their possession; loved ones; and their lives. BY FAITH!

You and I have no right to tell God he is not fair. How can a dead person say such a thing?

Paul lived with the thorn, because he KNEW he "was crucified with Christ, nevertheless he lived, yet not Paul; but Christ, who lived within him, and the life Paul lived in the flesh, (HE didn't have any choice in deciding.) he lived by the faith of the Son of God, who LOVED him and gave Himself for him."

If you and I truly believe Jesus Christ is alive and coming back; we must also realize Christ demands we perform a funeral service on our own lives, every day. Many today are looking for blessings; while Christ is looking for funerals. This is why scripture says: "In ALL THINGS, give thanks; for this is the will of God, in Christ Jesus concerning you." Because Paul knew this; he said: "I therefore GLORY IN TRIBULATION, for when I am weak, then am I strong." "In all things; give THANKS! Why? Because "it is God who is working in your very unpleasant situation, to will and to do of His good pleasure."

You and I may be uncomfortable; stressed; confused; even overwhelmed. Allow God to do the work He needs to do, to teach you how to soar. No more murmuring or grumbling; but trust; faith; and praise, in the midst of your trials and storms; knowing the Lord loves you with an everlasting, perfect love.

Let me take you back one more time to the testing of **Job 13:15**; where Job responded to all he experienced. Notice; he didn't say, "forget it, or woe is me, or this isn't fair." Instead, he said: "Though He slay me, yet will I trust him."

You and I are not the only ones who have paid a price while serving the Lord. Paul said, in I Cor. 10:13; "There hath no temptation taken you, but such as is common to man; BUT GOD IS FAITHFUL, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it." This is God's promise to you. In I Thess. 5:18; Paul concluded: "In EVERYTHING GIVE THANKS; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus, concerning YOU!"

Always remember, however, His answer to your trial is NEVER contrary to His word. As the eagle, SO THE LORD." AMEN



#### A praise update from Rebecca, in Bogotá, Columbia, So. America:

Brother Webb. I appreciate every book sent to us for distribution; especially when I realize how much they have cost others to put them in this distant country; it motivates me to treasure them highly.

It is a great privilege and opportunity to give them out, in this culture, where such a gift is valued highly. Specially to pastors who do not know me, it is helpful to give them the books as a resource. SO VERY MANY are unknowingly caught up in the spirit of the day and see divorce and remarriage as the most normal of matters.

The 33-year-old girl who accompanied me up the mountain today told me how her pastor has been motivating her to relate to a divorcee in her congregation. The excuse used, of course, is that he divorced before his conversion.

She wanted to know my opinion. I said mine did not count, but it DOES count that Jesus never mentions such a convenience. And HIS is the final word: not that of a pastor.

So the war continues, huh! But Who wins in the end??

You also motivate me, Pastor Webb, though you are so far away. You have been a godly mentor for me.

Joyfully, Rebeca

### **Quotes by**

#### Leonard Ravenhill: Evangelist 1907-1994

- 1. "Are we sorry for grieving the heart of God...for denying God the right to own our personality...to own our mind...to own our thoughts...to own our emotions? (If not) we're robbing God."
- 2. "One said: "If I lead somebody to Christ on the street, which church should I send them to?" Sending someone to church today is like taking a newborn baby and putting it in a refrigerator. I want a place that vibrates with God, vibrates with eternity."
- 3. "I want to see the house of God where it's open 24 hours a day, so people can come. We don't close the hospitals after eight hours a day, or the police station. Why should the churches be locked up tonight?"
- 4. "Sunday morning (attendance) shows how popular the church is; Sunday night shows how popular the preacher is; (Wednesday) prayer meeting, shows how popular God is."
- 5. "Do you go to church to meet God, or to hear a sermon about Him? How many come to church expecting a confrontation with Deity?"



#### Dear Joe & Pat Webb;

I just finished listening to your two tapes, "What the Bible really says about Marriage & Divorce" and Peacekeeper or Peacemaker, Which Are you?"

I must say, that is the very best, straight forward and needed message I have ever heard. I agree 100% with you, and I thank God for you. I am now 87 years old and I would like to share with you something that I will never forget that happened about 50 years ago.

God had used me to win a young married neighbor, who had two young children, to Christ. She really went all out for the Lord and was a great testimony in the Baptist church that she began going to. But, I began hearing from my friends she was seen going out with the pastor. People were talking, but no one had the courage to confront her.

It broke my heart. I loved her too much to let her destroy her walk with the Lord, so I talked really strongly to her. She didn't accept it too well and she accused me of being vicious. I thought I had lost my Christian friend.

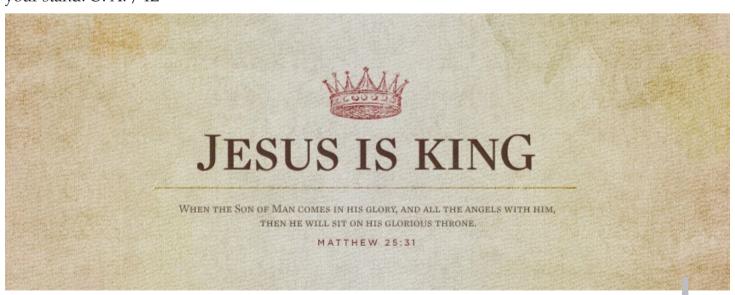
She went to the pastor's wife and confessed; to the church board and confessed; and they fired the pastor. Her husband got saved and now, 50 years later, she died after they had been married 56 years. Her husband died a couple months later and they are now both with the Lord.

How different the story would have been if she had not repented and if I had not loved her enough to go to her and tell her she must repent and do what was right.

Also about 13 years ago, my grandson's wife left my grandson. She took her two little girls and went to her parents in another state. I did not know she had left and I called their house to talk to her. My grandson said, "Grandma, my wife has left me."

I called my granddaughter in law. I knew she knew I loved her. I said, "You come right home, right now. You can't do this. It's wrong. There will be nothing but grief and sorrow. You must come home right now." And she did, she came right home, and now, the other day she told me she and my grandson have been married 19 years and have more love for each other than they ever have.

Well, I am not giving up. I will stand against this ungodly sin as long as I live, and I thank God for your stand. O. A. / IL



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