

VOICE OF CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

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ABOUT OUR FATHER'S BUSINESS JEZEBEL IN THE CHURCH

(Part 3)

There are certain directives that our Father gives us concerning His work and there are things that are just simply, "Our Father's Business." Sometimes we say, "Let me pray about that," when there is really no need for prayer. When we see a need in a person's life that is legitimate, then we need to act on the situation just as Jesus would have done. If we will be honest with ourselves, we usually end up doing what we want to do anyway without much prayer. When preachers are asked to conduct revival meetings, there is usually much pomp about seeking God's will when in reality they're just doing what they want to do. How do I know? Conducting God's business in our daily lives is really a way of life. The Spirit of God inside of us leads our natural man in our daily walk. At the end of a day, most Christians have conducted the Father's business in an honorable way. The Father's business is a natural process of life that allows His concerns and compassions to flow thru us to attest to His name and will. Please keep in mind that God does have directives that are strongly impressed upon our minds that must be carried out to complete His work on earth. These commands are so impressive that no doubt is allowed to enter our mind. We know that we know that we know. The urgency of the matter captivates us and will not let go. You know what I am talking about. Isn't it exciting to know that we can be used in this manner to accomplish our Creator's will? The next time you are considering what to do in a matter of the Lord's work, please consider the above thoughts to ease your mind as to whether it is, "My Father's Business" or a

JESUS
IS LORD

In this issue, we will further explore the work of the Jezebel spirit. If we go back to our scriptures in 1 Kings, we see that Jezebel used Ahab's authority and power like it was her own. Ahab wanted Naboth's land; Naboth did not want to give it up because it was his inheritance, it was family land. Jezebel discovered what he wanted and arranged to have Naboth falsely convicted of a crime against Ahab; because of his false conviction Naboth was stoned to death. Jezebel was able to acquire the land for Ahab; she had used his royal seat and authority to accomplish this evil deed.

As stated in the first of these articles, Jezebel requires a power source. In our scripture Jezebel's power source was King Ahab; without him she could not have accomplished all the evil deeds she accomplished. The scripture implies that Ahab was evil, but that in taking Jezebel as his wife, he did more evil than the totality of all his other actions. (1 Kings 16:31)

Jezebel is always working to have the most influential person under her control. She must have his power and authority to accomplish her deeds. She does this in many ways; she may use her husband to influence the leader. She will make her idea (really her will) known to her husband, who because he wants to please her will suggest it to the leader. Have you ever heard a man say "something would set his wife off," usually that is because she is pushing her will on the leader through her husband. I will also say that the majority of the time neither the wife nor the husband realize they are being used by the Jezebel spirit; they just want what is "best" for the church, which is usually different than the direction the Holy Spirit is leading. Most of the time what is "best" is what best suits their agenda. Also, because Jezebel means unhusbanded one, usually this one is not truly submitted to her husband in a biblical way even though she says she is.

The Jezebel spirit can be traced back to the Garden of Eden; when Eve was tempted by satan convincing her she would be more spiritual, and that her eyes would be opened when she ate the fruit. This has always been satan's tactic, to usurp authority. Since he was cast out of heaven for trying to usurp God's authority, he has been steadily working to accomplish the same end by other avenues. This would be the ultimate manifestation of the Jezebel spirit; to control the universe. We know this will not happen, but that is satan's goal; to accomplish this end he is using his Jezebel spirits to try to tear down every spiritual leader possible. If he can destroy the praise leader, the intercessory prayer leader, the elder, or the pastor, it is a victory for him.

The Jezebel spirit working in conjunction with familiar spirits can know the past, thereby working in what appears to be a word of knowledge about a past event; and with the same spiritual help can make a "prophecy" appear to come to pass or a word of wisdom of future events appear to have been true. The enemy works to make Jezebel's words come to pass.

To recognize the traits of a Jezebel is to expose this spirit. This does not mean that everyone that has Jezebelis traits is controlled by a Jezebel spirit; some of these traits are by inherent nature. Please remember that Jezebel has rooted herself in power if possible. Therefore, even though we may recognize the traits, it may be very difficult to expose her. We will deal with this in another issue. Just be sure that when you recognize these traits to do your best to separate yourself from them. Ahab did more evil in joining with Jezebel than in all his other evil deeds, and they were many.

Your servant in Christ, Ray Jennings

MORALITY

Jesus Christ, the Son of God, was the most moral person that ever lived on this earth. His Father was the Holy Spirit, and His mother was Mary, a virgin, declared by God to be without sin. Every other person that has ever been or will ever be has the sin nature. This is also part of the human nature. For a nation like ours

that began its existence with such morality, we have gone a long way down the wrong road. But of all the things that have ever stirred up a race or a nation, the biggest is lies. Truth has become a high priced commodity.

Despite the fact that we have no record of Jesus' early life, it is safe to assume that He was a good and obedient son. At age 12, when His parents were on their way home after the registration in Jerusalem, they knew Jesus to be a good and loving son. So it never dawned on them that He was not behind them somewhere in the caravan, and would soon catch up. Knowing what the angel had said and done about Jesus' birth, and how He had been protected as an infant, they panicked when they could not locate Him in the crowd. Fear must have gripped them as they worked their way back to Jerusalem. Mary expressed her fears when they found Jesus in the temple, teaching. Mary and Joseph had fulfilled their place in the life of Jesus, and now He must be about His Father's business. They are now in His presence in sainthood.

As Jesus matured He would walk to the towns and villages and settlements. His heart was torn as He saw the conditions that God's chosen people were living in. When this hurting moved Him, He would pray. He prayed a lot. He saw first hand what the terrible price of sin was doing to His people. Later He would heal their sicknesses and hurts, and He told them of the wonders of God. They had been worshiping idols, stick Gods, and weird pieces of rocks. He would intercede for them in His prayers to the Father. They were a hard nation. But Jesus never stopped loving them. He would ask the Father to forgive them. Then one day, they turned on Him. Their only hope, and they killed Him.

The ancient Hebrews escaped from their slavehood in Egypt, around 1400 bc. They lived in the desert, under the leadership of Moses, then Joshua. When these two leaders were gone, the Hebrews seemed to disintegrate into nothingness. They departed from their God-given worship, and then accepted the worthless gods and idols of other nations. By the time Jesus was born, the Hebrews had divided, had Kings that did wrong things, and they were captured and called Israelites. The sicknesses and poverty that Jesus encountered, and the sheer threat of what prevailed in the name of religion, made Him know that there had to be a drastic change, and He was it. The last two tribes that survived the capture and slavery were then called "Jews" after the tribe of Judah, and Benjamin.

When the priests and rulers realized that Jesus was developing a following, they knew that this could destroy their cushy jobs and high positions. From that time on, until Jesus went back to Heaven, He was their enemy. To Jesus, they were His children, and He never did cease His love for them. One day soon, they too will know that Jesus is the Lord and salvation that they have sought without success for 2,000 years. No matter the sin, Jesus had a kind word for everyone, and that He forgave them. Then go and sin no more. The sick, the diseased, the hungry, and the ungodly, Jesus had words of encouragement for them all.

But more than that, Jesus gave hope to the hopeless. This so frightened the priests that they plotted to kill Jesus. Crowds of street bums that would have committed murder if the priests would have told them to, took up the chant of the priests, "Let Him and His blood, be on us and our children." 2,000 years later, those children on whom the crowd called for Jesus's blood to be upon, are now and in the past, paying that price horribly. Jesus will and has forgiven those who have believed, and they will be saved. A double millenium has expired on those who still would not believe. They are lost. Being lost, is not for a day, or a week, or a month, or more. Being lost is forever! For all time to come. Believing on Jesus is being saved. And we will be with Him also forever.

God bless us all.



OUR THANKSGIVING CELEBRATION DINNER AT THE CHURCH WILL BE ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5TH THIS YEAR. WE ARE HAVING IT EARLIER SO THAT IT WILL NOT CONFLICT WITH OTHER FAMILY EVENTS SURROUNDING THE HOLIDAY. IT WILL BE TURKEY WITH ALL THE TRIMMINGS, SO BRING A COVERED DISH (WITH SOMETHING IN IT) AND JOIN US FOR THE NOON MEAL THAT DAY.

DEAR CHURCH,

I want to share with you a comical experience that happened in my life and my Father used it to teach me a new lesson on “being plugged into the POWER source.” My sister and I have a cleaning service in Vicksburg. We

clean houses. One day she and I both were vacuuming at the same time. I kept going over the same spot but the dirt stayed. I decided that I had better work on the vacuum cleaner because it was stopped up or something was broken. I started to loosen some of the screws and take it apart to see what the problem was and thought about the electricity, so I went to unplug it so I would not be shocked. When I turned the corner into the room where the plug was, I saw it laying on the floor. I began to laugh. Susan, my sister, asked what was so funny. I told her I had been vacuuming and the floor was not getting clean no matter how many times I went over it, so I thought the vacuum was stopped up or broken. As I went to work on it, I decided I had better unplug it to keep from getting shocked. When I turned the corner the plug was laying on the floor. I had been vacuuming with a machine that was not plugged up. I could not tell by the sound that the vacuum was not plugged up because Susan was vacuuming with a machine that is very loud and we were in the same room. We laughed for a while.

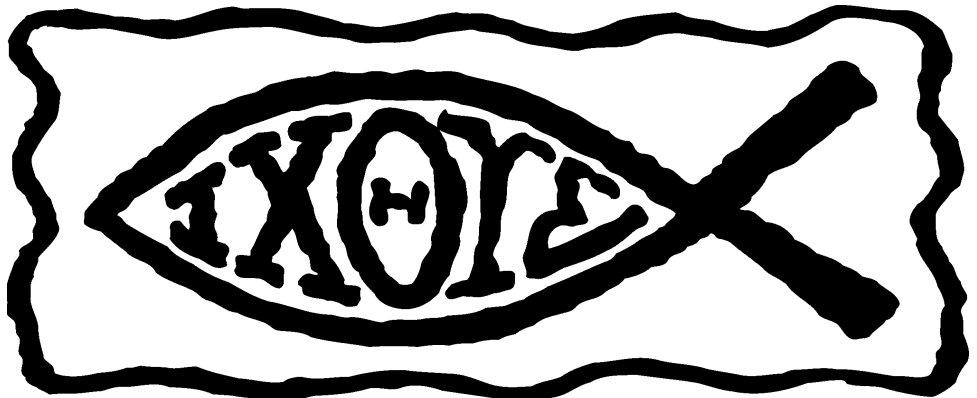
After our laugh, I went back to work. My Father started teaching me from that moment. He said, “That is the way my children are. They try to clean up, to go about doing what is right and good, but they are not plugged up to the power source. You can make all the right movements, say all the right things, have all the right actions, just working away but nothing is changing. The dirt stays in the same place or is pushed over to another area because you are not plugged into the POWER SOURCE.” Just like with the vacuum cleaner, before I plugged it in, no matter how many times I went over the dirt, it stayed the same or moved to another area, but it was not removed. After I plugged it into the power it cleaned the floor completely.

So many times we get so busy and there is so much going on around us making noise, we do not realize we are not plugged up to the “POWER SOURCE.” We begin to get frustrated because things are not changing. When this happens, before you get bent out of shape, so to say, STOP! Go around the corner and see if you are plugged into the POWER SOURCE! Are you plugged in to what God says in His Word or are you being moved by what you see, hear, feel, taste or touch. Our POWER SOURCE is spiritual and we must worship Him in Spirit and in truth. In Romans 4:17, He says we serve a God Who gives life to the dead and calls those things which be not as though they are. When we are plugged into the right power source, we are not moved by what we see but we by faith see things change and line up with the Word of God. If we are not plugged up, there is no power and things do not change. They stay the same no matter how hard you try. This will cause doubt and we will waiver. We think it is God and He is not hearing us. He always hears us but His power is activated by faith and believing. In James 1:6-7 we read where God says if we waver we are like the waves driven by the wind and tossed, and to think not that we will receive anything of the Lord. When we are plugged in to the POWER SOURCE we do not waver because the power of His love is very evident. To be plugged in to that power you must be in Him. We must be in His presence, loving Him and feeling His love come to you. It is an awesome feeling to experience His loving arms around you.

When we are plugged in to the POWER SOURCE of all heaven and earth, our Lord says in His Word we can ask anything in His name believing and we can have whatsoever we ask (John 14:13-14). He says in John 15:7, “**If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be given to you.**” Key word is abide, be plugged in. We have to be in Him, full of His love and His Word, so when the devil comes, we are not moved because we are plugged in to the Power Source. Our Lord was not moved by the storm because He was plugged in to the source. He spoke peace to the storm and it stopped because He was plugged in. The same power that raised Christ from the dead dwells in you. Jesus said in His Word in John that it was expedient for us that He go so that the comforter could come to us. The Comforter is the Spirit. Glory!


Church, our Father wants us to be plugged in to the POWER SOURCE. He loves us so much He gave His Son for us that we might have victory in this life. Stay plugged in to the presence of your loving heavenly Father. He wants us to be so full of His Power, His love, that it flows freely from us to those in need. Remember when things are not changing into what God says, look around the corner and see if you are plugged into the right POWER SOURCE.

THE FISH—in the early days of Christian persecution, the fish symbol was used by believers as a secret sign. One person would draw an arc in the sand. The other would complete the sign to show his shared faith in Christ. The initial letters of the Greek phrase “Jesus Christ, Son of God, Savior” from the Greek word “*ICHTHUS*,” which means “fish.”





CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
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“I KNOW THAT
you can do all things,
AND THAT NO PURPOSE
of yours
CAN BE THWARTED.”

JOB 42:2, NRSV