

# VOICE OF CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

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## A NEW YEAR PUTTING THE WILL OF GOD ON DISPLAY "The Light of God and the Renewed Mind--Part II" The War For The Mind

The Breath of God. God breathed into the nostrils of man and he became a living being. The Breath of God breathed on the valley of dry bones and an army stood to their feet. The Breath came on the Day of Pentecost and the people were filled with the very life of God. In my Spirit, I saw the Breath of God blowing on His people and their clothes and hair moved as a gentle summer breeze upon them. I asked the Lord what I was seeing and He said that it was the Spirit of Life moving upon His people. The number seven is the number of perfection or completion. Could it be that you and I are going to see a tremendous restoration in the Body of Christ during this year? Restoration, a place of excitement and joy unspeakable. The world seems to be in a survival mode. God never intended for His children to operate as the world does. We were designed by our Master to be victorious in all of our undertakings, to have that extra step in our pace. I don't offer this as some great prophecy but rather as a statement as to what I know God is wanting to do. Could this be the year that we as believers have anxiously waited for? If I'm dreaming, don't wake me. Restoration is needed in all denominations, joy is needed in all believers and vision for our steps is

It's a sad thing to admit, but many Christians are living with unrenewed minds, and it's even sadder when we realize that they are of little use to God. I am not saying that God doesn't love them, of course He does, but the truth remains, they can do little for the advancement of the Kingdom on this earth. Bill Johnson gave an excellent example of this in his book, "The Power of a Transformed Mind": "An unrenewed mind is like a discordant key on a piano. Once you discover that key, you don't use it anymore because it distracts from the music. You skip over it and work around it; in the same way, people who are out of sync with the mind of Christ seldom get used, no matter how available they are, because their thoughts conflict with the mind of Christ." The problem seems to be that they are self-appointed in their mission for God and are not in submission to the primary mission. That mission as already stated is, "on earth as in heaven." As a result, they are working entirely outside God's intended commission. However, on the other side of the coin, when we come into agreement with God's primary mission, our minds become powerful tools in God's Kingdom. This explains why there is such an intense war being waged for the believer's mind, that it should come into agreement with them (demons) and not God.

The simple but yet profound truth is—every thought and resulting action represents your allegiance to God or satan, and both are empowered by your agreement. One of the many benefits of the renewing of our mind is the ability to recognize what comes from the kingdom of hell and what comes from the Kingdom of Heaven, and then agreeing with Heaven.

### "THE RENEWED MIND AND THE MERISMOS"

God has made our minds one of the most wonderful and powerful tools in His creation, but our soul needs to be sanctified and yielded to our spirit person. In order for the believer to complete God's cycle, our spirit person must be yielded to the Holy Spirit in order that we may know the mind of God. The Bible says in 1 Corinthians 2:14, "But a natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God; for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them because they are spiritually appraised." A natural believing man is a man with an unrenewed mind, and in his mind he will, ".....exchange the truth of God for a lie and worship and serve the creature (mankind) rather than the Creator....." (Romans 1:25). The result of an unrenewed mind is found in Romans 1:22, "Claiming to be wise, they became fools—professing to be smart, they made simpletons of themselves." Please remember, in Matthew 17:2, we are told of Jesus' transfiguration: "And was transfigured before them; and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light." The word "transfigured" in Matthew 17:2 is the same word we find in Romans 12:2 when we are told ".....to be transformed by the renewing of your mind ....." The word "transfigured" means a change that glorified or exalts. So the renewed mind is a changed mind that glorifies or exalts heaven's reality. To put it another way, the Word of God through the "merismos" moves the believers into a position where their life is changed to conform with the "light" (heaven's reality). In support of the above, we read John 8:12: "Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that follows me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life." What is the "light of life?" Is it not a "renewed mind" possessing heaven's reality? In Luke 11:34 we see the importance of the light: "The light of the body is the eye; therefore when thine eye is single (sound), thy whole body also is full of light; but when thine eye is evil, the body also is full of darkness." We may also state that the "light of the body" could be called the "light of the mind." Therefore if we think only from the standpoint of heaven, is not our mind "single," and if our mind is "single" are we not full of "light"? This is confirmed by Paul in 1 Thes. 5:5: "Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness." Paul was simply saying that



# THE LIFE OF FAITH

**“Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh, And having an high priest over**

**the house of God, Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering (for he is faithful that promised). And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works. Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is, but exhorting one another, and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.”** (Hebrews 10:19-25) We are confused by the ways of the world many times to think that our faithfulness dictates how much God loves us. Nothing could be farther from the truth. God loves us with an unconditional love, and He desires for us to love Him and serve Him with all of our heart.

Brother Charlie Ray shared with me this week a sign that he saw that said, “GOD IS FAITHFUL TO THE FAITHFUL.” This is actually a half-truth. God loves to see each of His children operate in His kind of faith, but that is not where we all are. Most are faithful in a few things on a few occasions. In truth, we are not really faithful in very much, but He is faithful in all things. Because of His great love, He has purposed to prove His faithfulness to us in every area of our lives, regardless of our position on faith. That means, His promises and covenants have all been fully manifested, they are a completed work, and we have only to believe His Word and receive His promises. Is this easy? Most people find it to be the hardest thing they have ever done in their lives. We will look at the reason why.

**“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. For by it the elders received witness. Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.”** (Hebrews 11:1-3) “.....things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.” That phrase has confused many down through the centuries. They cannot fully believe that God is a God of “creation.” Man’s acts of creation involve taking one element or resource that currently exists, and molding or shaping it into something else. God takes nothing, and creates something. And He has promised that the same power can manifest in and through us toward the world. John 15:7 tells us, **“If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.”** He has not changed His Word to fit a new world. He expects us to use His Word to change the world.

Why is it so hard for people to accept the promises of God? The Word tells us that our Father God is Spirit, and those that worship Him must do so in spirit and truth. There are three parts to each person—body, soul and spirit. The body is the flesh. The soul is the mind, will and emotions, and the spirit is that part of God that gives us eternal existence. The spirit of man is the essence of God’s life, and it is through the spirit of man communicating with the Holy Spirit that we can know and actually be the Father’s will. Creation power is in the spirit realm, and God will release His power through our spirits to perform miraculous works for His glory. Having experienced this power, I can attest to the fact that it represents an “out of body” experience, in which you lose control of your own senses for a brief period. That is the part that the enemy wants to stop, and he will use every weapon at his disposal to do so. He has an ally in the form of our flesh. The flesh does not want to lose worldly control and will war continually through the soul to retain it. It is only by faith and an understanding of God’s promises that we are able to “move in the spirit” and see the hand of God perform creative acts on behalf of His people.

To better illustrate, the flesh cannot see organs healed, sickness destroyed, minds restored, finances materialize, except by physical means or medical procedures. We who are spiritual realize that we must “release” the situation to God, and then “see” the resulting miracle by faith. Perhaps not at once, or even in a week, but holding fast to our faith in a loving God, and the truth of His Word, we know that it is done, and eventually it is done. What about the times it wasn’t? Were you able to release control of the situation, or did you hold back some part, thinking you might have a chance to fix it yourself? Please consider what I am saying. God is able to do all things, and has already done it. If it doesn’t work, it’s not God that failed. We just couldn’t by faith give up control of the problem, which kept the result in the worldly realm. 1 Peter 5:7 admonishes us, **“Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.”**

Very few reach this point of creative power in God. It is not that God has not made it possible for all, but few desire to attain it. We are more willing to struggle with life’s issues, rather than turn control of the problems over to God. He desires to see us operate in the spirit realm. The Holy Spirit is continually drawing Christians to a higher walk with God. Most refuse the offer and are content to dwell in worldly conflicts. I know there is a better way. That is why I teach the Word and share my faith. Ephesians 5:16-26 further explains this walk in the Spirit, **“This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary the one to the other, so that ye cannot do the things that ye would. But if ye be led by the Spirit, ye are not under the law. Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, Idolatry, sorcery, hatred, strife, jealousy, wrath, factions, seditions, heresies, Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revelings, and the like; of which I tell you before, as I have also told you in times past, that they who do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, self-control; against such there is no law. And they that are Christ’s have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in**

# JEZEBEL IN THE CHURCH (Part 5)

Paul, in his first letter to the Corinthian Church, makes the following statement: 1 Corinthians 12:1, “**Now**

**concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant.**) (KJV)

You may ask how does this tie into Jezebel in the Church. Well, I am glad you asked that question. First, let’s look at what Paul said. As you know, words in italics have been added, usually for clarification, so “gifts” is not a part of this verse. The word “spiritual” means the working of the spirit, like when Jesus said those that worship the Father must worship Him in spirit and truth. In today’s verbiage this verse would say, “I would not have you ignorant (unlearned or stupid) about the workings of the spirit (or working in the spirit realm)”.

Second, what Paul did not say is that we are to forsake the Word of God in working in the spiritual realm; in fact, it takes knowledge of the Word to effectively operate in the spirituals. He is saying that a body of believers can not be all Jesus called them to be without knowledge of the spirituals and without working in that knowledge.

The devil knows that a Church working in the spirituals can and will cause him great harm. Jesus made it plain that His mission, and by extension our mission, is to destroy the works of the devil. You can be so full of the Word until you are about to explode, but until you put it into practice in the spiritual realm you will do very little if any harm to the works of the devil.

Jezebel is very aware of this; as we have stated previously, her mission is to keep the spirituals from operating in the Church. One way she does this is to cause division between Word people and spirit people. I will be the first to admit that sometimes spirit people are out of line in what they do. But, I will also say at least they are trying to operate in the spirituals; a lot of Word people are so afraid of making a mistake they will not even try to operate in the spirituals and will condemn those that do. This is a device Jezebel uses to cause confusion in the Church; since God is not the author of confusion normally we will not see His Spirit moving in such a place. If we do not believe the spirituals are operating correctly, we should believe God that they will instead of criticizing and condemning others for trying to do what they are unwilling to do.

When the power of the Word is combining with the power of the Spirit we can and will see great and miraculous movements in the Church (local and universal). Why has the enemy worked so hard to keep Word denominations such as Baptist and spirit denominations such as Pentecostal at odds with each other? He knows their combined power would be world transforming. Why does the Word Faith movement have groups that are powerful in the Word and groups that are spiritually powerful? It is because the enemy has worked to keep a separation of the Word and the Spirit. When there is a unity of the two, the power of God is always manifested.

Paul knew how important the knowledge of the spirituals was to the church, and how hard the devil works to keep us from operating in the spirituals. When Jezebel can cause a division between the Word and the Spirit, she has eliminated the power of God working in the Church.

That my friends is her primary mission!

Your Brother in Christ, Ray Jennings

## DEAR CHURCH,

I am sitting in Alaska in total awe of the beauty our Father has created. There is a blanket of snow on everything here. It is breathtaking. As I look and behold the beauty, I am reminded

of the Word, “Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow.” Oh, the love of our Father, that He sent His Son to shed His blood for us, to cover our sins and make us as beautiful as this fresh snow. I have just cried thanking Him for such love as I see the sunlight glistening on the new fallen snow.

As I meditated on this, my Father revealed something to me. In Alaska, in the winter, there is not much daylight, but just a little light on the snow reflects and overcomes the darkness. You can see the way to go for a long way. God said to me, “In this world, there is a lot of darkness. You were in darkness until you accepted My Son’s blood to cover your sins and make you as white as snow. I am the Light of the world. I reflect from My children when they accept Me and become as the new fallen snow. They glisten with MY SON’S LIGHT. This light goes forth to the ones in darkness and shows them the way to go. So go forth and let My SON’S LIGHT reflect from you to draw those ones from darkness into My marvelous light.

Our God is an awesome God. He has made us white as snow because of His love. I will be leaving this evening for Malaysia, but I wanted to share this with you. I already miss you all and have only been gone a few days. You are all such a part of me. I love my church. I am honored to be on a mission to let the SONLIGHT glisten and lead those ones out of darkness. Church, go forth and let the SONLIGHT glisten from you and lead those ones out of darkness. I will write you again soon.

Much Love,

Your Missionary, Bess Graham

(E-Mail received January 4, 2007)



CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP  
994 Willie Hill Road  
Gilbert, La. 71336

THE  
STEADFAST  
*Love*  
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LAMENTATIONS 3:22, NRSV