

VOICE OF CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

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A NATION DIVIDED AGAINST ITSELF

A nation divided against itself cannot stand. That is what the Word teaches. Prior to the installation of the Obama administration, I saw the White House divided in the middle leaning to either side in a dream. The past several months have proven this to be an accurate but alarming dream. There is a force of evil trying to destroy our country from the inside. If it were a force from the outside as 911, then we would unite and defeat it. The force of evil is an abrasive, arrogant and daring one that is laughing at good and embracing all the non-traditional values that this country was founded upon. Jesus has become an offensive word in light of the Islamic faith. Morality has been taken out of the vocabulary and replaced with secular humanism, do your own thing for you are only responsible to yourself. A force is causing a delusion that the Word speaks of and seems unstoppable even against the will of the people. We must unite in faith and use the old fashion tool, PRAY. We can and must make a difference. Stand and believe in this dark hour and believe God to turn things around.

Pastor George Ferrington

PUTTING THE WILL OF GOD ON DISPLAY “Where Do Storms Come From In Our Lives?”

Before we look at being guilt free and forgiven, I want to finish the lesson on storms. Each storm involved a situation where a man was sleeping in a boat, one because of depression and a way of escaping his unpleasant reality, the other because he was on this earth but living in the Kingdom of Heaven, and in the kingdom there are no storms. The question is, which storm are you in? Are you dealing with it the way God wants you to deal with it? Have you let past miracles “tutor” you to a place of faith adequate for your current challenge? Are the “revelations” you are receiving from God being challenged and directed toward “experience”? The disciples’ storm was sent by the devil to keep them from the will of God. Some people are facing storms because they took the wrong road leaving God on the right one. Most believers find themselves in a storm and instantly conclude that their job is to cry out to God to intervene and change their circumstance. That is not the purpose of the storm; if we only cry out, we are relinquishing our role in a miracle. God does not allow a storm in a person’s life without first providing the tools to calm the storm. God wants us to use our authority and His power to bring about a miraculous result. If there is a storm in your life, it’s there for you to defeat and overcome. The tools will be in the boat with us, but remember, the enemy will fan the winds of fear to get us to forget where the tools are. When many believers experience storms they pray what the disciples prayed when

they saw Jesus sleeping in the boat: “**Don’t You care that we’re perishing?**” Jesus got up and answered their prayer. Most of us feel good when God answers our prayer. Religion would even go so far as to applaud the disciples for doing the right thing in the circumstance. But Jesus turned to them and said, “**How come you don’t have any faith?**” Wait a minute! They might have thought; I had enough faith to come and talk with You! And You did what I asked! I thought I was paid to pray, and you were paid to do! Folks, it doesn’t work that way. It’s our responsibility to command that obstacles disappear. Most Christians seem to be trying to get God to fix the problems on earth when they should be commanding the storms to be calm. We must learn to see the situations from heaven’s perspective and declare the Word of the Lord – and watch heaven’s reality replace earth’s reality.

In next month’s article we will be looking at a state of being that Christians should live in. We need to remember that Jesus got what we deserved so that we could get what He deserved! This will lead us into lives of intimacy that will assist us in doing God’s will on earth as in heaven. Until then, may God bless and keep each of you and yours.

Gene R. Brown, Associate Pastor

FOOD FOR MY FELLOWSHEEP: THE HELMET LAW

Think for a minute about helmets. There is a law that helmets are required when riding motorcycles, and highly recommended when on a 4-wheeler. Nowadays kids are supposed to wear helmets to skate, ride bikes, skateboards, or scooters. Of course, the purpose of a helmet is to protect your BRAIN from an accidental injury; brain injuries can be devastating to quality of life...even fatal, at times.

Soldiers wear helmets too, but for a somewhat different reason: protecting the brain from an enemy attack. That is the type of helmet God has provided for us to wear in His army. A brain injury from satan is even *more* destructive to our quality of life—the “zoe” life Jesus came to give us. These attacks can be lethal, as well.

The “helmet of salvation” is part of the complete armor of God Paul describes in Ephesians 6. He also mentions it in 1 Thessalonians 5:8, where he calls it, “the helmet of the *hope* of salvation.” Here I must explain something. Biblical hope is not *wishful thinking*—e.g. I hope it doesn’t rain today; I need to mow my yard. I hope I get approved for that new car loan; I hope I get that job; and so on. Biblical hope is **joyful expectation and anticipation of the good that God has promised** - and not just for heaven, but beginning as soon as we accept His gift of salvation in and through His Son Jesus!

Jesus told us plainly that our enemy is satan, and he attacks our mind more than anything else. Joyce Meyer wrote The Battlefield of the Mind and it is probably her most widely read and studied teaching (although I haven’t read it, I probably should). Why is it such a best-seller? Because all of us, at one time or another, have had our minds directly attacked by the enemy.

How does satan attack our minds? Paul says we cannot be ignorant of satan’s schemes, so let’s talk about them for a minute. I came up with 3 categories these attacks fall under, sort of like satan’s maneuvers.

1. Temptation. First of all, God tempts no one; James 1:3 tells us we are tempted by our own

evil desires. But where do the *opportunities* come from to act on those desires? They come from the enemy! And how does he know what our weak spots are? We tell him! From our very own speech and actions, what we say and do, we broadcast our weaknesses. When someone says, "I have a bad temper, that's just me," well, there's his sign! The enemy will set up situations to anger that person, hence he will act out his temper. Even in the privacy of your home....have you heard the old saying, "A little bird told me"? Did you know that comes from the Bible? Ecclesiastes 10:20 says, "Curse not the king, not even in your thoughts, and curse not the rich in your bedroom, for a bird of the air will carry the voice, and a winged creature will tell the matter." I believe this is speaking of dark spirits (as common as angels), who let our weaknesses be known to the enemy. Temptations are designed to make us GUILTY and UNWORTHY, two very negative feelings that directly interfere with our fellowship with Father.

2. Accusations. In Revelation 12:10 Jesus, speaking through John, calls satan "the accuser of the brethren" (meaning Christians), and says that he accuses us day and night before Father. But I submit to you that it is more damaging when he accuses **God** to us! What am I talking about? Remember, we are talking about brain attacks here. Have any of you ever heard the enemy whisper, "If God really loved you...." Fill in the blanks! If God really loved you....Would you have lost your job? Would your house have burned? Would you be sick or suffering? Would your child be going through a divorce? Would your spouse have cancer? On and on...This causes resentment to build up, and then unbelief sets in. Hebrews speaks of "an evil heart of unbelief"...Can you see how destructive this kind of attack can be to our fellowship with Father? Remember, Jesus said satan is a liar and the father of lies and the truth is not in him. Accusations are a form of TORTURE, designed to produce DESPAIR, another negative emotion.

3. Threats. The last attack I mention is threats, or scare tactics. The media is doing satan's job for him in this area. For instance....global warming is going to cause us all to melt. Our economy is collapsing. A meteor will destroy the world in 2012. The world is out of control, and so is our government. But God tells me in Jeremiah that He has plans for me to have a hope and a future! Or perhaps satan is making some very personal threats to you: "You will never recover from that illness/accident/whatever. Your kids are not living for God; I can take them out. Your retirement money will expire before you do." Whatever he can threaten you with, he will use it to make you AFRAID. These threats are designed to rob you of **HOPE**. When you agree with him – by worrying about these scenarios – you have removed your helmet!

These attacks are aimed straight at your MIND and without your helmet they will produce FEAR (the opposite of faith) – anxiety – depression – despair – and finally HOPELESSNESS. Not only have you been robbed of the fruit of God's Spirit (love, joy, peace), but you have left yourself open to become seriously physically sick!

This does not have to happen – because God has provided us with the HELMET of the HOPE of SALVATION. When satan attacks your mind, by whispering his lies to you, tell him who you are in Christ, and remind him of God's promises to you – His promises for forgiveness, that He is your provider, that you are healed by the stripes of Jesus, that you have divine protection....the Bible is so *full* of God's covenant promises! Make it your business to concentrate on good things – remember, the Gospel IS **Good News!** – and your helmet will stay firmly in place.

Be Blessed, Marcia Williamson

DEAR CHURCH,

Hello Church, I had time to write an article, so I thought I would send it to you. I am missing home a lot today. This is my fifth year to be away for Easter. I am excited to be preaching in Singapore at a new place. I know it is the Lord opening the door for something special. I expect something really awesome to happen. I feel like it will be miraculous. I will let you know. Tell all I said hello and I miss them.

I have been blessed by our Father this trip financially. I left home with not enough money to take care of everything—trusting Him because He told me to go. In Alaska, the offerings were enough to take care of most everything but it was close. When we got to India, He had me to give which I do if He says to. We went to get our tickets to Africa and the price had gone up \$500 US dollars. I went to talking to Father. When I got to my room I checked my mail and I had been sent an offering for \$650. Then the next week I gave again, and I received another \$500. We got back here in KL and went to dinner with my brother UE and his investor in his company. The investor is a very wealthy Christian who has started 55 Christian schools in China. He bought us a very nice dinner and gave us each \$500. Today a man came to bring another \$500 to each of us from a man that we ministered to yesterday. I just praise His Holy Name and thank Him for what He is doing for me. He is blessing me so I can bless others. I love you all so much and thank you for your prayers.

Your preachin Lil Sis, Bess Graham 4/1/10

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**CAN'T STOP PRAISIN'
HIS NAME**