

# W O R D A T W O R K

## Jesus & Justice VII

Dear Friend:

Jesus spent significant time with the twelve to prepare them for a lifetime of ministry. The greatest impartation of all was how He lived His life. He consistently placed others ahead of self. When the disciples wanted to send the multitudes away, Jesus commanded to divide them into groups of fifty and feed them. He prayed over the loaves and fishes and they were multiplied. Miracles manifested after overcoming flesh.

While Jesus carried great power, He never sought recognition but often warned people not to make Him known. Instead of seeking notoriety, He continually ran from it. He knew that fame worked against His mission. He always sought the lowest place not the highest. Ultimate ascension has a price.

Jesus even redefined glory. Glory is sought by many in ministry, but Jesus defined it as that which took His life. John 12:23-26 says, "But Jesus answered them, saying, "The hour has come that the Son of Man should be glorified. Most assuredly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it produces much grain. He who loves his life will lose it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. If anyone serves Me, let him follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also. If anyone serves Me, him My Father will honor."

John 17:20-23 says, "I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one: I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me." I believe the second chance the Lord promised the church includes an outpouring of glory. Are we ready to receive it?

Yours in Him,

Al Houghton

# W H O R D A T W O R K

## Jesus & Justice VII

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1

Scripture: Mark 9:33

Jesus was on a mission to prepare the disciples to function in a spiritual kingdom whose authority depended on character development. Mark 9:33 points us to a principle of character development that every single one of us have to deal with if we're going to grow into the place where we can actually represent Jesus as both Priest and King. This principle may in fact mark the foundational preparation of biblical authority as we embrace it and allow the Lord to work it in us. Verse 33 says, "*Then He came to Capernaum and when He was in the house he asked them, 'What was it you disputed among yourselves on the road?'*" Now the word for disputed is **dee-al-og-id-zom-ah**, and it means to deliberate by thought or by reason or to count oneself above. Once we start counting ourselves above others arguing and fighting to gain position, then we have embarked on an interesting course whose consequences create a casualty.

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2

Scripture: Mark 9:34

Mark 9:34 says, "*But they kept silent, for on the road they had disputed among themselves who would be the greatest.*" The Greek for greatest there is **mide-zown**. We get mega from it and it simply means one who is on top, who has the ascendancy, who rules or who chooses for everyone else. It's obvious that the twelve had started counting themselves higher than their peers and battling each other for position. They were choosing to seek ascension. Now the problem with choosing to seek ascension is that the biblical preparation for ascension is far different than most job qualifications. Achieving great success in the kingdom has a preparational price. This is something the twelve had not considered. If we're going to seek great impact then we would do well to consider the preparational price tag of biblical ascension.

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3

Scripture: Luke 22:19-23

In Luke 19:23 we see Jesus giving a perfect example of the preparational price of ascension. He is there to serve and as He is breaking bread and passing it out He mentions the fact that His betrayer is with them on the table. Verse 23 says, "*Then they began to question among themselves, which of them it was that would do this thing.*" They could not discern who among them was the betrayer. If they were unable to discern the betrayer, were they in any position to go judicial? And the answer to that question is obvious. They were not, not even close. The twelve had some growing to do. It doesn't mean that He is not going to take them through it. And He did take them through it, just as He's taking us through it right now. They had to grow to the place where they could represent the judicial Christ. We have to grow to the same place. God is just as committed to our developmental path as He was to the twelve. Once we accept that, we can actually expedite the process by saying, yes to Him and embracing His principles.

## SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4

Scripture: Luke 22:24

Verse 24 shows us the root issue of why there was no discernment among the twelve as to who the betrayer was. Verse 24 says, *“But there was also rivalry among them as to which of them should be considered the greatest.”* The Greek word for rivalry is **fil-on-i-kee-ah** and it means to contend, to have inner strife or to wage war. So the twelve weren’t just arguing actually they were warring with each other over who was going to gain the ascendancy and exercise leadership and control in the group. No wonder they had problems!

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5

Scripture: Genesis 11:1-4

Man has a long history of desiring ascendancy in almost every situation and in every place. Right after the flood when God said, Go populate the earth, man choose to camp out in a place called Babel and to build a tower whose top went into the heavens. Now the whole purpose was according to verse 4, *“...let us make a name for ourselves lest we be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth.”* God had told them to scatter abroad and populate the whole earth but they said, no, we have a better idea. We want to build our own city with its own system and then the wiser of us can have ascendancy over the others and make our life easier. Rebellion began over the issue of ascension. Would man obey God or would man’s will ascend to primacy? The war was on in Genesis 11. Dramatic biblical events result from God demonstrating ascendancy. When and where we have a right to ask for a demonstration of that ascendancy is the study of covenant justice.

## MONDAY, DECEMBER 6

Scripture: Genesis 11:4

Josephus account of Genesis 11:4 at the tower of Babel says that they chose a height to build the city that was above the highest known mark of water during the flood. So their real intention was to build something that could not be destroyed and was insulated against the highest known judgment that God had poured out. The tower of Babel marked a confrontation over ascendancy of wills. What happens when man’s will ascends over God’s? We see the arrogance of Babel in many judges today. They make an absolute choice that their will is going to ascend over God’s. One federal judge can, through arrogance, open the entire military to sodomy! Which way will we go? Ascension in the kingdom has a preparation path and price tag that goes with that path. Paying the preparational price positions us to demand Babel experiences for those judges who steadfastly refuse to kiss the Son! Psalm 2 warns judges to: *“Kiss the Son or perish!”*

## TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7

Scripture: Genesis 11:5,6

Verses 5 and 6 of Genesis 11, say, *“But the Lord came down to see the city and the tower which the sons of men had built. And the Lord said, ‘Indeed the people are one and they all have one language, and this is what they began to do; now nothing that they propose to do will be withheld from them.’”* What’s really interesting about verse 6 is that God says one language, is the key to agreement. Once they have the same purpose nothing will be withheld from them that they propose to do. That shows us that there is a power released in agreement. The very creative power of God Himself is released in man through agreement. What we envision, we can in fact produce. Is it dangerous when man’s will ascends above God’s? Very dangerous! So dangerous that God may be forced to visit the ascension plans of man when they directly counter His stated, revealed purpose. That sounds like a foundation for divine justice. Perhaps we can participate! What would provoke God to kill all in Sodom and Gomorrah? What provoked God to bring the great flood? Can we ask for God’s visitation on all judges who arrogantly attempt to set America’s policies above God’s Word? That prayer is encouraged!

## WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8

Scripture: Genesis 11:7-9

God said in verse seven, *“Come, let Us go down there and confuse their language, that they may not understand one another’s speech.”* Everyone lived through it but they lost their ability to communicate with each other. And as a result, man was scattered over the face of all the earth. And they ceased building the city. Apparently God was against the ascension plans of man, whenever they directly threatened His revealed purpose. Now if we could apply that principle to the nation of Iran and their stated goal of ascending over the entire Jewish population to eradicate them from the earth would we have a foundation for biblical judgment? If Islam wanted to ascend over every Christian in the United States to destroy, dominate and subjugate would we have biblical grounds for divine justice? Is Islam rising in American because of sin in the land? Which way will this sword fall?

## THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9

Scripture: Isaiah 14:12,13a

Isaiah 14:12, 13a says, *“How are you fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground, You who weakened the nations! For you have said in your heart: I will ascend into heaven.”* I suppose what’s amazing about this quote is that he actually did it. He took the principle of ascension and elevated himself to a position that demanded the judgment of God. And down he came! I suppose we can say from this passage, whenever we choose ascension of our will over God’s will, a fall is guaranteed. What should appropriately fall on judges promoting homosexuality? Why is it some people get a lifetime of acting before they are cut down to the ground? So far this principle of ascension has created as many questions as it has answers. There’s one thing we know for sure, when it comes to the principle of ascension, satan is the author of using it against the will of God. How much of God’s response to Babel or Sodom can we ask in demanding covenant justice?

## FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10

Scripture: Isaiah 14:12-13a, Genesis 12:1

It is interesting to look at the differences between the ‘I wills’ of Isaiah 14 and the ‘I wills’ of Genesis 12. What we discover is that there are five distinct areas where satan chooses to tempt man to pervert God’s purpose through the principle of ascension. The enemy tries to motivate us to first seek our very own destination which means we have to deny God’s purpose for us. How does this conflict work out? Satan chose his own destination. *“I will ascend into heaven.”* The five ‘I wills’ of Isaiah 14 pair off with the five ‘I wills’ of Genesis 12. Each one is contradictory to the other. The first area of battle in the will is whether or not we will allow satan to give us his goal for our life or whether we will submit our future to God’s purpose. Whose destination will we choose? Satan has a destination for every individual and it always embraces a shortcut in the path of ascension. We always get to his goal without having to pay a biblical preparational price. For Abraham the biblical preparational price was, I’m choosing your destination. What if we were not even going to know where it is until we get there. Are we willing to walk with God on that basis because that’s ground level zero? Who chooses our destination? Do we choose it or do we submit to God’s plan? This is the first major test of ascendancy!

## SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11

Scripture: Isaiah 14:13, Genesis 12:2

In the second level, satan said, *“...I will exalt my throne above the stars of God...”*, we see the issue of choosing the degree and magnitude of success that we’re going to have as opposed to the second ‘I will’ of Genesis 12:2 where God says, *“I will make you a great nation.”* Abraham may not have wanted to be a great nation but God said, I’m going to make you one anyway. My choice – not yours! Satan said, *‘I will exalt my throne above the stars of God.’* That almost sounds like the argument that the twelve were having as to who was going to be the greatest. It’s obvious that they had some growing to do in order to qualify for God’s purpose. In the very first level

we have to deal with selfish-ambition. Who's going to choose our destination. In the second level we have to deal with self-will – who is going to determine the degree of success we have or lack thereof? Are we willing to let God choose it? God judges success very differently from the world.

#### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12

Scripture: Isaiah 14:13, Genesis 12:2

In level three we find the enemy saying, *"...I will also sit on the mount of the congregation."* I am going to choose my path of development and reject anything I do not like. In number three God says, I am the one who is going to bless you. You do not get to choose your path of development. I choose it. You have to submit to My developmental path. Jesus told Peter at the end of his life, somebody else will take you by the hand and lead you to a place you do not want to go—John 21:18. Jesus prophesied about Peter's death. There is often a lot to object to on God's preparational path! God has a path that many of us probably will not like. In Galatians 1 Paul talks about – 14 years in the desert. I am sure Paul would have bypassed Arabia if he could have, but God's plan often takes us to places we would not choose. Are we willing to say yes to the Lord in the hard places?

#### MONDAY, DECEMBER 13

Scripture: Isaiah 14:14, Genesis 12:3

In number four, satan says, *"I will ascend above the heights of the clouds..."* Or I am going to choose my doctrine. I will not only choose how I am going to develop but I am going to choose my doctrine and what I want to believe and not believe. With Abraham, God says, Abraham, "I'm going to bless those who bless you. What do you mean....how people treat you is going to be how I'm going to treat them. Well, what kind of doctrine is that? It's called plumblin doctrine 101. You are going to be My plumblin in the earth. How people treat you is how I am going to treat them." Abraham could have said, "I do not like that doctrine. That stinks." But God did not ask him what he thought and rarely seems to be interested in what we think about the different paths He chooses. The battle in area number four is self-righteousness. Either God gets to choose or we choose. When we choose, it often manifests as self-righteousness. When God chooses, we are just a plumblin! Say yes to the plumblin!

#### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14

Scripture: Isaiah 14:14, Genesis 12:3

Satan says, *"I will be like the Most High"* or I choose to limit life's adversity. I will do it by terracing or insulating myself with layers of protection thereby gaining wealth, power and security. Number five deals with self-preservation. Are we going to try to shield and preserve ourselves from adversity? Are we going to try to insulate ourselves through wealth? In Genesis 12 God says, *"Abraham, those who curse you I will curse"* since you are My plumblin. If God leads us into some dramatic adversity, will we be faithful? God leads us into places to reveal the hearts of people and establish a platform for justice. We usually don't like it because it is hard to find God in the circumstances. But that is not our issue it is His! *"I will curse him who curses you,"* makes us a standard over the issue of judgment. How people treat us is how God treats them because of Covenant! Now walk it out! The battle is on. Will we choose the enemy's path or will we choose God's path that ultimately brings true ascension but serves His purposes and often not our own? Every 'I will' of God's Covenant with Abraham declares servanthood. Every 'I will' of the enemy's declares cross-less ascension. Which 'I will' do we choose?

#### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15

Scripture: II Thessalonians 2:1-4

*"Now, brethren, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him, we ask you, not to be soon shaken in mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us, as though the day of Christ had come. Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away*

comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits, as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God." When federal Judges order a clear path for sodomy in the military, antichrist is here! How do we qualify in prayer to move God's hand to cut off that judge? It is obvious that the enemy perverts the principle of ascension in order to gain worship. Opening the military to sodomy worships satan. Demanding covenant justice at the Throne on that judge is the duty of every believer.

#### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16

Scripture: Daniel 11:36,37

Daniel 11:36,37 says, *"Then the king shall do according to his own will; he shall exalt and magnify himself above every god, shall speak blasphemies against the God of gods, and shall prosper till the wrath has been accomplished; for what has been determined shall be done. He shall regard neither the God of his fathers nor the desire of women, nor regard any god; for he shall magnify himself above them all."* In Daniel 11: 36,37 we have a description of the antichrist that is 100% demonic to the core. When a judge or politician has an antichrist spirit, he magnifies and exalts his opinions over everything God says. "He shall magnify himself above them all." It is fairly easy to recognize the enemy at work in the life of a person when we realize that the number one principle he uses to gain advantage is the biblical principle of ascension. We know that when that prevails, justice follows! Why should a judge with an antichrist spirit bring destruction on the whole country? The fruit of their own perversion should fall on them first!

#### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17

Scripture: Mark 9:33-35

In verse 35 Jesus introduces the principle that makes ascension work when He says, *"And he sat down, and called the twelve and said to them, 'If anyone desires to be first he shall be last of all and servant of all.'" The principle that gains us ascension in the kingdom is one of servanthood. The degree to which we are willing to serve determines the height to which God can take us in life. The number one thing we need to learn is how to serve. Learning to serve qualifies us for the full measure of ascension that God can bring!*

#### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18

Scripture: Ephesians 4:7-16

Concerning the resurrection of Jesus we are told in verses 8 through 11, *"But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift, Therefore He says: 'When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive, And gave gifts to men.'* (Now this, 'He ascended'—what does it mean but that He also first descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is also the One who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things. And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some teachers,". Jesus before He ascended, He descended. The willingness to serve all the way to death is what brought the ascension all the way to heaven. When we realize that the path up is dependent on our willingness to walk a path down, then we can begin to prepare to walk with God and finish His preparational school. It follows the very one that Jesus Himself walked. The degree to which we are willing to go with Him on that path determines the height of ascension to which we can walk with Him. Choosing to serve reaps rich rewards in the future!

#### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19

Scripture: Isaiah 14:12

The real question of verse 12 that we have to ask is, *"How you are fallen from heaven O Lucifer son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground, You who weakened the nations!"* Is it not amazing that satan actually weakened the nations! He brought them under by offering a cheap path to ascension—a no cost growth

pattern! It worked to build a tower and gather people. Never underestimate the ability of the enemy to gain ground in the lives of people through no cost ascension. It works well but for a 'moment' for those whose quest is to gain temporal, earthly advantage while completely discounting eternity and eternal principles. We must resist the temptation to be self-absorbed.

#### MONDAY, DECEMBER 20

Scripture: Numbers 22:1-6

In this passage we read that Balak hired Balaam to curse Israel and Balaam was willing to do it for the money but God would not let him. He taught Balak to entice Israel with compromise to nullify covenant authority and the doctrine of Balaam was born. The doctrine of Balaam that we see in the book of Revelation is this principle and it was held by some of the churches as they accepted compromise. An example today would be ordaining homosexual priests! We better make sure that where we go to church does not hold the doctrine of Balaam. No cost ascension with no price and no preparation – 'just get your very best life right now' is a popular message. The demonic doctrine of Balaam is alive and well and it is being sold every week in some churches. Make sure you are not buying! Balaam saddled his donkey, took the deal and did his best to get there. Three times the donkey saw the angel and turned aside. Three times Balaam beat the donkey to gain profit. The angel of the Lord would have killed Balaam if the donkey had not turned aside. No cost ascension will kill you eventually! Balaam's gain was perverse to God and worthy of death! The problem is that every single no cost ascension offered takes us closer to the origin of no cost ascension and that is right back into the very hands of Satan himself. The only one that offers no cost ascension is the original author. And he offers it always in order to gain a goal and that goal is the destruction of the righteous. When we buy no cost ascension, we end up selling our souls! That is the price of no cost ascension. When we sow into an altar that champions the low-cost approach, we participate in advancing hell! Imagine advancing Satan's kingdom by going to church!

#### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21

Scripture: Numbers 25:1-9

The fruit of no cost ascension came in to the lives of the Israelites who joined themselves to the false god as Balaam taught Balak to do and he gained a temporary victory over Israel, but it did not last. Every no cost ascension is temporary. A temporary gain ultimately takes the life of the person and is very, very costly in the history of nations. Even when we elect someone who obviously has never paid the developmental price, what we get is utter destruction. No cost ascension is demonic and it is the doctrine of Balaam and every time you see it, it leaves a trail of destruction. It is time to repent for walking that path!

#### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22

Scripture: II Kings 15:17

Isn't it interesting that throughout the history of Israel the one thing that was not removed or very rarely removed were the high places. Why is it that the high places remained and people were allowed to sacrifice there. The issue was convenience. No cost ascension is convenient. Convenience has a hidden price both now and in eternity!

#### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23

Scripture: II Chronicles 18:1-6

Under King Jehoshaphat finally the high places were addressed and they were removed. Did God reward removing the high places? Jehoshaphat according to II Chronicles 18:1 "*had riches and honor in abundance.*" Apparently God blesses those who say no to the high places. He certainly did for Jehoshaphat and I think we can

expect Him to do that for us. High places in America extend from denominations to courts. Matthew 7:1 is a great Scripture to pray over every judge advancing a high-place agenda. Let what you judge now come on you!

#### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24

Scripture: Deuteronomy 33:29

Deuteronomy 33:29 is an awesome promise for those who are willing to walk in covenant obedience. It says, *“Happy are you O Israel! Who is like you, a people saved by the Lord, the shield of your help and the sword of your majesty! Your enemies shall submit to you, and you shall tread down their high places.”* What is the promise to those who walk in covenant obedience? You will walk over, tread down, ascend above, ascend above, step on, and ultimately destroy everyone who says yes to no cost ascension. Let God arise and His enemies be scattered!

#### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Scripture: I Samuel 9:12-14

Saul was told to meet Samuel at the high place for a season. At that high place he would be transformed into another man. Saul became another man at a high place and the transformation did not last. What is the difference of the high place in this passage and what we have been referring to in the last few days? God knew it would not last. Is this a picture for us? The difference is that he was told to go, God said go up! When God says go up then there is business to be done. The high place was a perfect spot for Saul. Are we becoming other people in high places? Will it last? Compromise through convenience becomes a life pattern!

#### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26

Scripture: I Kings 3:3

I Kings 3:3 tells us that Solomon loved the Lord and walked in the statutes of his father David, except that he sacrificed and burned incense at the high places. Perhaps that exception for Solomon and the issue of his own will rather than yielding to the Lord is what opened the door that eventually led to his destruction. Solomon did not end well. In order to end well we have to choose God’s path and God’s path is often very different from the way the world goes. Consistently choosing compromise through convenience guarantees ending poorly

#### MONDAY, DECEMBER 27

Scripture: Micah 1:1-5

Micah announces judgment. And the judgment he announces for both Samaria, the northern kingdom, and Judah, the southern kingdom, are that the people have turned their cities and places of worship into high places. How could that be? They chose to worship God but they also chose the path to what they wanted. It did not include God’s ways. They tried to unite worship of the Lord with no cost ascension. God said, no, it doesn’t work that way. You are bringing destruction to your very cities. Their cities were ultimately destroyed. No cost ascension is very prevalent in the earth. The question is, can we discern it and say no to it and go God’s way?

#### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28

Scripture: Numbers 13:21,22

Verses 21 and 22 state, *“So they went up and spied out the land from the Wilderness of Zin as far as Rehob, and near the entrance of Hamath. And they went up through the South and came to Hebron: Ahiman, Sheshai, and Talmaj, the descendants of Anak were there, (Now Hebron was built seven years before Zoan in Egypt.”* There were three generations of five giants. Each of their names indicating the first five no cost ascension paths offered by the enemy. Arba means selfish ambition or to claw your way ahead of others. The best New Testament example is Matthew 20:21 where James and John use their mother in an attempt to surpass Peter, *“And He said to*

her, 'What do you wish?' She said to Him, 'Grant that these two sons of mine may sit, one on Your right hand and the other on the left, in Your kingdom.'" How is that for seeking no-cost ascension?

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29

Scripture: Matthew 20:22

In Matthew 20:22 we are told, *"But Jesus answered and said, 'You do not know what you ask. Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?'* And they said to Him, 'We are able.'" Jesus was going to possess the ultimate ascension becoming the ultimate authority and the ultimate power. By paying the price Jesus became the Judge of all the earth. It's obvious and Jesus made it clear to James and John that the ascension path He was on had a parallel price tag of preparation and it was not to be embraced lightly. The end-time church has a place to walk with Jesus that is no light matter in its preparation. It is certainly not about achieving our very best in a short period of time. It is about character development! It is about becoming like Christ! Anything else is just a shortcut and authored by the enemy.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30

Scripture: Matthew 20:23

In Matthew 20:23 Jesus continued with James and John by saying, *"So He said to them, 'You will indeed drink My cup, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with; but to sit on My right hand and on My left is not Mine to give, but it is for those for whom it is prepared by My Father.'" When James and John asked for a very high position and were told that there was a definite, parallel price-tag, Jesus said to them that their agreement for the price-tag would be honored. In honoring their agreement to walk out the price tag, they would achieve their destiny in God. The only way to achieve our destiny in God is to walk the preparational path that God has ordained. That is not easy! It is not ever easy. There is usually dying to self and crucifixion involved. How is it that so many can have it so easy and others can have it so tough? Surely there is a God and there are two paths. One is the path that Balaam took and the other is the path that the disciples ultimately took. But they had to be helped to find it! We have to be helped to find our path as well! Let us make sure we ask God for the help to find His path for our lives so that we can achieve our destiny!*

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31

Scripture: Matthew 20:24-28

Jesus forced the twelve to face their giants! Look how He ministered to the ten when they were so very angry with James and John for attempting to ascend beyond them. Jesus said in verse 25 that the rulers of the Gentiles always function this way. So if the church functions like the rulers of the Gentiles and exercises authority against people instead of for them, then we know they cannot help us achieve our destiny. Jesus said to the twelve, *"Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant."* Jesus was very clear about God's preparational path to ascension. It is marked by an attitude of servanthood. Anything else would never get us where God has ordained us to go. We have a New Year ahead of us and it is time for some decisions! Embracing servanthood could be the best decision we have ever made!

ITINERARY

12/3 – 12/4	Nashville, TN	Hillside Church of Ministry 1906 Old Shannon Rd Lebanon, TN 37090 Friday and Saturday PM services, call for times	Jerry and Pat McBride 615-218-5220
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