

W O R D A T W O R K

VOLUME XXXII NUMBER XI
God's Layered Love IV

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1

Scripture: Matthew 5:38-42

Matthew 5:38-42 is where Jesus began to prepare both the Twelve and the Seventy for a dramatic transition in the law that they had grown up under. He told them that He wanted them to conduct themselves in an entirely different manner to facilitate the message they were carrying. They were going out with an evangelistic message as a preparation for people to hear the Savior. Consequently He told them in verse 39, *"But I tell you not to resist an evil person. But whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other to him also."* This initial dimension of passivity has been appropriated as characteristic by the church and ministered as the core foundation of what it means to be a Christian. Jesus is much more than an evangelist. Jesus represents the fullness of the Godhead. His love killed Herod. Jesus' directive to "turn-the-other-cheek" must be balanced with His directives in other places what He did in different circumstances. We have to deal with the Jesus of Revelation. Jesus is alive and in Revelation, He kills a lot more than He saves – especially when leaders call evil good and good evil. It was only because of the evangelistic nature of their assignment that Jesus taught the Twelve to "turn-the-other-cheek". Unfortunately for today's church, "turn-the-other-cheek" has been taken out of context and is almost always defined as the gold standard for the love of God. The church's understanding of love is so imbalanced that it has effectively neutered most believers. It is time to grow up and look at the **fullness** of God's love. Nations need the fullness of Jesus!

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2

Scripture: John 2:13-17

In the beginning of Jesus' ministry in John 2:13-17, He does something really quite unusual. It is so opposite of "turn-the-other-cheek" that it has to be noted. Everything that Jesus did was love. He was God's love in action. We know that from 1 John. All His actions are manifestations of love. A manifestation of love from Matthew has been given privileged status over the manifestation of love in John 2. This has created a false image of the love of God in the church. Primarily because of the misemphasis, the church thinks of the love of God as always "turning-the-other-cheek." But the core of the matter is, the love of God confronts injustice, dishonesty and perversion almost every time it comes in contact with it. Jesus took the time to weave three cords into a whip and once He had completed the whip, He started to use it! He actually should have been jailed for destruction of property. But He was not. I suspect He was not, because almost everyone knew the money-changers were crooks. Jesus did not "turn-the-other-cheek" in the temple! Where there was dishonesty, stealing, manipulation and the spirit of mammon, Jesus confronted it, rebuked it, whipped it, overturned it and kicked it out. That dimension of the love of God is the one we are looking at this month. Jesus afflicted the money-changers. He overturned their world. I suspect there is another move of the Spirit coming with a wave of affliction that will overturn some money-changers. But it will only come if the church can catch it! If we can perceive what God is saying and if we can embrace the full measure of who God is in the five different manifestations of His love, then we can participate with Him in bringing to pass what He has prophesied for the last days. Those who are filled with evil may very well deserve supernatural affliction!

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3

Scripture: Matthew 5:43-48, Mark 11:12-15

In Matthew 5:43-48 we are told to love our enemies and to bless those who curse us. We are told to be good to those who hate us and pray for those who spitefully use us and persecute us. Once again, the context of this passage is that of being evangelistic and winning people into the Kingdom. How does this evangelistic approach fit with the final cleansing of the temple in Mark 11? In Mark 11, Jesus is about to finish His race. He went into Jerusalem, looked at all that was in the temple and retreated to Bethany. The next day, in Mark 11:12-15, Jesus cursed a fig tree and killed it. He killed the tree with His words. He then went into the temple to clean house. He told the twelve that they would do to adversaries what was done to the fig tree. Would their words bring judgment? When their message was not received, they were commanded to release a covenantal judicial curse! They could release it out of their mouth. There is a judicial manifestation of God's love when people resist the Word. One great thing about the Bible is the balance that it brings us when we study both sides of an issue. But this means the way we navigate life has to be by the Spirit. There are times the Spirit will lead us to "turn-the-other-cheek". But there are also times the Spirit will say to slap our sandals together and declare it would be more tolerable for Sodom and Gomorrah in the Day of Judgment than for them. There **are times we will have to say if someone continues rejecting the Word they will face the judgment of the Living God.** But you cannot find that in seminary and often do not hear it from pulpits. Yet Jesus taught it when He sent out the Twelve and reaffirmed it when He sent out the Seventy. But today's Christians seem to pick and choose what they want to do and what parts of the Bible they need to follow. If we do not like a certain section of scripture we omit it or explain it away. Jesus will not go away! His love is evangelistically accepting, pastorally forbearing, prophetically warning, and in a teaching mode, it can afflict. What seminary do you go to, or pulpit can you find where you are taught to walk in this? I am not sure there is one. But every seminary and pulpit in America should teach people how to walk in the Spirit so at the Spirit's direction we can "turn-the-other-cheek" or at the Spirit's direction we can bring the affliction of overturning, just like Jesus. The early church did this. They had no problem following the Spirit. Why have we neglected this realm of God's saving love? Peter's words killed Ananias and Sapphira! Paul walked in it. The early church prayed and Herod died. It is time we walked in it as well! You can do it!

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4

Scripture: Ephesians 4:11-13

Ephesians 4:11-13 states, *"And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;..."* One of the reasons the church is in the condition it is in today is because our pulpits are dominated by pastors and evangelists. This reality excludes three-fifths of what Jesus ordained to contribute to maturity. Consequently, we have infantile Christianity in a world that needs warriors and a strong apostolic input. We do not have the full **tel-i-os** measure of the stature of Christ. We would have it if the Body of Christ was consistent in opening pulpits and distributing ministry time among each of the five-fold ministry. But if our church does not, it does not mean we cannot grow into the full measure of who Christ is! We can get books, we can get CD's and we can grow into this dimension of who Christ is, just not on Sunday mornings. We can grow into Christ's image by learning from people who walk in it, dispense it, pray afflicting prayers and watch the Hand of God bring affliction. Affliction can be the love of God that forces change! If we are going to walk in even a measure of this, we must learn to represent the afflicting Hand of God! Jesus will not change – we must change!

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 5

Scripture: John 3:16, John 3:17-20

Every Christian knows John 3:16. My kids learned it in Sunday School and most of us learned it in the early days of our walk with Christ. It is a great Scripture and we have all used it, *"For God so loved the world that He*

gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.” Watching the church accept John 3:16 while neglecting its context is the consummate example of “pick and choose” Christianity. Those five verses help bring us into knowledge of the judicial Christ. John 3:17-19 says, *“For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.”* The “condemnation” of verse 19 is the Greek Word for ‘judgment.’ Verse 20 continues with the judgment, *“...For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed.”* John 3:16 leads us to the judicial manifestation of not receiving Christ. The judicial manifestation in verse 19 is judgment! If we love darkness more than light, if we love evil and reject Christ, then our judgment is set and it is a fiery one! John 3:16 is a great verse, but what follows it completes the picture. What follows it is pure destruction for those who love darkness. Why has the church taught their kids only John 3:16 and left out the other five verses? Most parishioners can quote John 3:16, but it is much less often they can quote John 3:17-21. Why have we chosen only the pleasant part? If we only grow in the evangelistic and pastoral we find ourselves without the faith to confront evil that assaults our nation. Samuel knew God and his prayers brought affliction on enemies. Do we know this Jesus? Can our prayers reach the White House?

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6

Scripture: John 8:1-11

In John 8:1-11, we meet a woman caught in the very act of adultery and the Pharisees determine to stone her. Jesus intervenes and He brings pastoral forbearance. It concludes with the Lord saying, *“Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more.”* Jesus made it very clear that sin has a penalty. Forbearance and the grace of God only goes so far. But if we continue to break God's covenant, then we guarantee His judicial intervention.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7

Scripture: Micah 7:18-20

In Micah 7:18-20, we are told, *“Who is a God like You, Pardoning iniquity And passing over the transgression of the remnant of His heritage? He does not retain His anger forever, Because He delights in mercy. He will again have compassion on us, And will subdue our iniquities. You will cast all our sins Into the depths of the sea. You will give truth to Jacob And mercy to Abraham, Which You have sworn to our fathers From days of old.”* God is a God of mercy, healing and forgiveness but He is also a Judge. We need to realize the Judicial Hand of God will come. He will not forbear forever. Most people think He will forbear forever. We are even taught He will forbear forever! But He will not. And when He comes judicially, everything changes. It is time for the fullness of God's love!

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8

Scripture: Revelation 19:15

Revelation 19:15 says, *“Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.”* The Jesus of Revelation does not exercise forbearance and mess around with people who continually and blatantly transgress His Word. He becomes a Terminator. Is it really fair to people we see in continual rebellious sin, not to let them know that they are rapidly approaching a judicial encounter with the Living God and their eternity is at stake? To just give them blessing and God loves you, loves you, loves you is not God's approach to all sinners. It never has been and never will be. The New Testament approach has a caveat – God loves you, loves you, loves you, but that love means if we reject it, affliction might come our direction. Not to warn when called by the Spirit, makes us violate the principle of the watchman and possibly leaves blood on our hands. It is now time we get serious in molding ourselves into Christ's image. It is time we get serious about learning who God is!

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9

Scripture: Colossians 1:24-28

Colossians 1:28 says, *"Him we preach, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man **tel-i-os**/perfect in Christ Jesus."* When people refuse the pastoral message to turn from rebellion, the next thing God does is warn. His love always warns before He acts. But are we faithful to warn when led by the Spirit? Are we faithful to seek His direction and to warn when led? Do we speak to people about the adversity God is capable of bringing into their lives if they do not turn? Or do we leave that part out? The New Testament does not leave it out. It is loaded with warning. Consequently we need to step up into that dimension.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10

Scripture: Acts 11:27,28, Acts 21:10-14

In Acts 11:27,28 we are told, *"And in these days prophets came from Jerusalem to Antioch. Then one of them, named Agabus, stood up and showed by the Spirit that there was going to be a great famine throughout all the world, which also happened in the days of Claudius Caesar."* Prophets warn about adversity that is coming. That is their job. We see it in the New Testament and see it throughout Scripture. Warning is Layer Three of God's love and we need to listen to the prophets who bring it. Even Paul, in Acts 21 warned for three years that wolves were coming. They could not manifest while he was there, but once he left they showed up in force.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11

Scripture: Hebrews 12:1-11

Layer Four of God's love is called affliction. The entire chapter of Hebrews 12 is devoted to this dimension of who God is in our lives. Verse 5 makes it clear we are not to despise the chastening of the Lord, nor be discouraged when we are rebuked by Him, for whom the Lord loves He chastens and scourges every son whom He receives. So it is obvious in Hebrews 12 that there is a forth layer of God's love and it finds every believer at one time or another. It is called affliction and its purpose is a transformation from the pride of the world into the humility of servanthood. Unfortunately it is difficult to teach because adversity from the enemy for obeying God can resemble affliction for disobeying God. But it is Layer Four of God's love and Scripture has much to say about this dimension and its impact in the last days.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 12

Scripture: Hebrews 12:12-24

It is obvious from this passage, that teaching includes affliction. Affliction, according to this passage, is a lifelong proposition. Not only do people go in and out of it, but there is a fire of God that comes. For those who reject it, affliction is what brings the fear of God and possibly turns them from an eternal loss of their own soul. The God we serve is a terrifying Afflicter. But He is also a Deliverer. The problem with teaching affliction is the affliction that God sends can look exactly like the affliction that the enemy sends for obeying the Lord. What we discover is, that affliction has to be discerned. When affliction comes and we are in righteousness, it is an attack of the enemy. We have to resist it and walk through it toward the victory of Christ. Some affliction comes for the purpose of delivering us from ourselves. Every affliction in our own lives has to be discerned. When we discover the roots are in the enemy's opposition to God's purpose and plan for our lives, then we resist it and command it to flee.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13

Scripture: Hebrews 12:25-29

We are all warned in verse 25, *"See that you do not refuse Him who speaks. For if they did not escape who refused Him who spoke on earth, much more shall we not escape if we turn away from Him who speaks from*

heaven, whose voice then shook the earth; but now He has promised, saying, 'Yet once more I shake not only the earth, but also heaven.' Now this, 'Yet once more,' indicates the removal of those things that are being shaken, as of things that are made, that the things which cannot be shaken may remain." There is an affliction coming to earth that is going to shake everything. It will cause people to reevaluate what is really important and turn loose of everything that is not. God is the One true thing we need to survive in the last days. He is more important than anything else. It is time we made that decision and acted accordingly. If we do, it will put us in a small minority of people.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 5:1-5, Matthew 23:15

Paul warned the Corinthians that he was coming with a rod. He showed up to deal with sexual immorality in which the individual would not repent. The end result was Paul released Layer Four of God's love and delivered the individual to satan for the destruction of his flesh. He did it in the hope the individual would repent under the weight of the affliction. Paul made it clear that this was standard procedure. It is part of carrying the Rod of God and this should be normal Christian life for those in leadership. Where is this in today's church? Where is this in the leadership that give people only acceptance and forbearance? Where is this in churches that undertake marketing surveys to discover what people want and give it to them? Under the guise of ministering to the lost, much of today's church leadership has abandoned truth. Often a desire to build a large congregation demands the watering down of the Gospel where a choice is made to never talk about sin! When we compromise God's Word winning the lost can make them twice the son of hell, according to Jesus in Matthew 23:15. We want every believer to be empowered to act just like Jesus whether raising the dead or making them dead. In today's church, many get a form of religion with little godliness and no power. Jesus said in Matthew 7, *"Depart from Me, you worker of iniquity, I never knew you."* We are beginning to see church leaders so full of compromise, they may hear these words on Judgment Day!

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15

Scripture: 1 Timothy 1:18-20

The New Testament is very clear about the apostle's reliance on Love Layer Four/Affliction to deal with wayward believers and their resistance. 1 Timothy 1:18-20 state, *"This charge I commit to you, son Timothy, according to the prophecies previously made concerning you, that by them you may wage the good warfare, having faith and a good conscience, which some having rejected, concerning the faith have suffered shipwreck, of whom are Hymenaeus and Alexander, whom I delivered to Satan that they may learn not to blaspheme."* Paul made it clear that he had two serious contenders that were attempting to destroy his ministry. He was at war with Hymenaeus and he was at war with Alexander. There was no hesitation to turn them over to satan for the destruction of their flesh that their spirit may be saved and purpose that they learn not to blaspheme. That means Paul had a confrontation with both of them over the issue of blasphemy. They refused to repent and he had no choice but to act. I trust today's leaders will empower people to grow to the place where we can act like the early church. Then and only then will the fear of the Lord return to the church. It is desperately needed!

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16

Scripture: 2 Chronicles 33:9-13

In 2 Chronicles 33:9-13 we find possibly the most perverse King in the Old Testament, although he was neck-and-neck with Ahab. Verses 9-12 state, *"So Manasseh seduced Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem to do more evil than the nations whom the Lord had destroyed before the children of Israel. And the Lord spoke to Manasseh and his people, but they would not listen. Therefore the Lord brought upon them the captains of the army of the king of Assyria, who took Manasseh with hooks, bound him with bronze fetters, and carried him off to Babylon. Now when he was in affliction, he implored the Lord his God, and humbled himself greatly before the God*

of his fathers,..." The power of affliction is the only thing that could turn a king like Manasseh around. Now the stunning thing about this passage is what we discover in verse 13 – that God's mercy was there for Manasseh if he would turn. God's mercy was there if he would turn and he did. It was affliction that broke the arrogance and brought him into repentance. God responded to that by putting him back as leader of Israel – only this time with a very different heart. There is an answer here for senators, representatives, governors and most definitely for presidents. The afflicting Hand of God can break the arrogance, pride and commitment to sin and perversion when they face Jesus the Judge if they will bow in order to escape burning. Manasseh did and he was called the worst in the Old Testament. Just as God knew what it took to deal with Manasseh, He knows what it takes to deal with our leaders today. And by the Spirit we can participate in praying this into action! That is one responsibility of teaching ministries and apostolic ministries in the last days – to demonstrate the judicial Christ and to impart it to the church. Otherwise we will not be prepared for the end-times. Are you prepared?

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17

Scripture: 1 Samuel 3:11-14

1 Samuel 3:11-14 says, *"Then the Lord said to Samuel: 'Behold, I will do something in Israel at which both ears of everyone who hears it will tingle. In that day I will perform against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. For I have told him that I will judge his house forever for the iniquity which he knows, because his sons made themselves vile, and he **did not restrain them**. And therefore I have sworn to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be atoned for by sacrifice or offering forever.'"* It is interesting the price Eli paid. The chief issue God had against him was in verse 13 – he refused to restrain the evil. He refused to confront, rebuke or raise up a plumbline. Eli was the second seeker-sensitive priest in Scripture. The first seeker-sensitive priest who refused to restrain evil was Aaron. When Aaron's hands helped fashion what the people wanted – the golden calf emerged, costing 3,000 people their lives. Do we recognize today's golden calves? We may well be parking our car and walking into one on Sunday morning. It is the compromise in refusing to confront sin and restrain evil that transforms the altar of a church into a golden calf. The gold of the calf is the size of the church that looks successful and instills great pride! "Look at our huge church", we have all heard people say. If the pulpit never restrains sin, you may be sitting in a golden calf. If where you visit every Sunday morning, or what you watch on television gives mostly happy messages rarely restraining evil, then you are in a golden calf! May God, help us! This abomination is neutering the church. Where are we spending our Sundays? Are we parked in a golden calf or are we getting the Word coming from a pure altar?

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18

Scripture: 1 Samuel 4:6-10

1 Samuel 4:6-10 states, *"Now when the Philistines heard the noise of the shout, they said, 'What does the sound of this great shout in the camp of the Hebrews mean?' Then they understood that the ark of the Lord had come into the camp. So the Philistines were afraid, for they said, 'God has come into the camp!' And they said, 'Woe to us! For such a thing has never happened before. Woe to us! Who will deliver us from the hand of these mighty gods? These are the gods who struck the Egyptians with all the plagues in the wilderness. Be strong and conduct yourselves like men, you Philistines, that you do not become servants of the Hebrews, as they have been to you. Conduct yourselves like men, and fight!' So the Philistines fought, and Israel was defeated, and every man fled to his tent. There was a very great slaughter, and there fell of Israel thirty thousand foot soldiers."* Attending a church that looks like a golden calf has fruit – death. Aaron repented, but Eli continued. Refusing to restrain evil does have fruit. You think you have the power of God so you can go out to battle and you are so deceived that you become utterly defeated. The Philistines defeated Israel with a great slaughter and took the ark. Eli's pastoral fruit brought death. The ark was taken captive! Is the ark captive today to market-surveys identifying what people want? Is what we call church starting to resemble a golden calf? When did we last hear a message on holiness? 30,000 Israelites died due to Eli's choices. Will that be the fruit of seeker-sensitivity? The same compromises are

alive and well, being perpetrated again in today's pulpits. Look at the massive number of Christians who go to what probably qualifies as a golden calf and think it is a wonderful thing. They are proud of the "success" of their church! They are so proud of their golden calf because they have so many people attending. "Look at what God is doing!" they say. But it is unlikely it is God when the compromise and defilement are so evident. Grace that refuses to restrain evil and seeker-sensitivity resemble Eli, not God. What is most tragic is the people who are deceived into believing they are OK while all along, the enemy is taking their spiritual strength and effectiveness. Their discernment is the first thing to go. They can no longer discern between good and evil because they are sitting under the compromise of good and evil. When the church has impaired discernment, they accept antichrist politicians because they sit under undiscerning pastors! A nation's descent into darkness starts in the pulpits of a land. A nation's salvation also starts in the pulpits of a land!

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 5:6-13

It is obvious in what Paul said to the church that he was fully versed in Love Layer Four. It was not new to him. Affliction is what brought him into the Kingdom. It was the affliction of blindness that turned him from destroying the church to leading it. Paul was very well versed in the area of affliction, both from an Old Testament standard and a New. Both in living it and in releasing it. Paul acted like it was second nature, and his question to the Corinthians was, "Why are you not judging what is in your house?" In verse 12 he said, *"...Do you not judge those who are inside?"* I have had many people say, "Jesus did say we are not to judge." Paul said just the opposite – "Why are you not judging?" Was Paul wrong? Jesus warned the Pharisees not to judge if they could not stand in what they called down! The condition of the culture requires we judge. If we must use Layer Four of God's love, use it! That is what it is there for. Holy Spirit-led judicial prayer is evident frequently in the Psalms!

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 20

Scripture: 2 Chronicles 33:9-13

Perhaps one of the most abominable kings in the Old Testament was Manasseh. His sin is well noted in Scripture. In 2 Chronicles 33:9-13 we are told, *"So Manasseh seduced Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem to do more evil than the nations whom the Lord had destroyed before the children of Israel. And the Lord spoke to Manasseh and his people, but they would not listen. Therefore the Lord brought upon them the captains of the army of the king of Assyria, who took Manasseh with hooks, bound him with bronze fetters, and carried him off to Babylon. Now when he was in affliction, he implored the Lord his God, and humbled himself greatly before the God of his fathers, and prayed to Him; and He received his entreaty, heard his supplication, and brought him back to Jerusalem into his kingdom. Then Manasseh knew that the Lord was God."* Verse 12 is very interesting in declaring what changed Manasseh's heart, *"Now when he was in affliction, he implored the Lord his God, and humbled himself greatly..."* And God brought Manasseh back to Jerusalem. And it says that when the Lord brought him back into his kingdom, Manasseh knew that the Lord was God. We have presidents, senators, judges and representatives that need to know that the Lord is God because of His afflicting Hand. No fear of God in the land is the fruit of the church not stepping into the authority that Jesus bought and paid for. We should be loving our judges and senators and presidents – with all the affliction that the Spirit leads us to in prayer. When the wicked deeds they execute in the land begin to threaten a harvest, the Spirit will not hesitate to lead us into that place. But we can only walk there if we have prepared ourselves to stand in the fire we need to call down. When we are released to pray on them what they are weighing to the nation, I suspect we will see some Manassehs that return to the Lord. The reason our politicians blatantly defy God is because our pastors blatantly defy God! Unsanctified "turn-the-other-cheek" love has neutered the church! It is time to pray Holy Spirit initiated affliction on wayward politicians! God is ready, are we?

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 21

Scripture: 1 Samuel 3:11-14

1 Samuel 3:11-14 says, *"Then the Lord said to Samuel: 'Behold, I will do something in Israel at which both ears of everyone who hears it will tingle. In that day I will perform against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. For I have told him that I will judge his house forever for the iniquity which he knows, because his sons made themselves vile, and he did not restrain them. And therefore I have sworn to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be atoned for by sacrifice or offering forever.'"* God lets Eli know that judgment is coming. His sin was that he did not restrain his sons when they started down an evil path. To rebuke is to state, "You cannot continue to do this because if you do it will bring afflicting consequences." But Eli could not bring himself to go beyond words and remove his sons, so he and his future generations were banned from representing God. God does not play around – He is serious. We must realize these principles are just as real in the New Testament as they are in the Old. Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever!

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 22

Scripture: 1 Timothy 1:18-20

In 1 Timothy 1:18-20, Paul is recounting the warfare that he had regarding Alexander the coppersmith. Paul delivered two men to Satan for the destruction of their flesh so that they would learn not to blaspheme. It seems like we have quite a few blasphemers around today. They seem to populate certain television networks. Some are atheists, and some are just malicious. Their words and actions declare they are blasphemers. Where is the affliction that goes with their actions? Jesus has not changed. The example Paul set has not changed. The problem is us. We are not seeking the Spirit's release to pray it and we should! The Body of Christ is innocent – they did not know they could. Most leaders are innocent because they have been bound by tradition. Who is guilty? Demons, Eli's and Aarons? Repentance and forgiveness are available to Eli's and Aarons!

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 11:26-30

We are told in 1 Corinthians 11:26-30 concerning communion, *"For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes. Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body. For this reason many are weak and sick among you, and many sleep."* What does it mean to be guilty of the body and the blood of the Lord? We are told to examine ourselves and he who eats in an unworthy manner eats judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body. And for this reason, many were weak, sick and dead. Weakness and sickness are certainly afflictions and death is terminal. Paul preached that even when we take communion, we are facing the Judicial Christ. We must make sure we are fully under the blood and accepting of His forgiveness. When we fully accept His forgiveness, we can forgive ourselves and are free to walk with Him in the Spirit.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24

Scripture: Psalm 89

If we ever find ourselves in affliction, our first prayer should be, "Lord, show me your path through. Show me what I can gain in the process." Our second should be Psalm 89. It is a Psalm that we can pray that speaks God's promises to carry us through a season of affliction. Psalm 89 was given for that purpose. When we find consistent, ongoing affliction, we should pray Psalm 89 and live in it until God brings us out.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 25

Scripture: Psalm 102

Discerning affliction begins by asking the Lord to reveal the root! “Why am I facing this? How should I respond?” When I ask these questions, I expect chapter and verse answers. Psalm 102 is another prayer for overwhelmed, afflicted saints. It is given to carry us through devastating circumstances where we are in an ongoing spiritual battle and find little relief. Psalm 102 is written specifically to carry us through affliction. We need to use it for just exactly that. Whether God or the enemy, 2 Corinthians 4:17 encourages with an eternal perspective of affliction – compared to eternity, it is temporary and light!

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 26

Scripture: Luke 4:5-7

In Luke 4 satan brings perhaps the greatest temptation that was brought to Jesus. He offered Jesus everything that He came to redeem without going to the cross to get it. Luke 4:5,6 says, *“Then the devil, taking Him up on a high mountain, showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. And the devil said to Him, ‘All this authority I will give You, and their glory; for this has been delivered to me, and I give it to whomever I wish.’”* Everything that Jesus came to redeem – all the kingdoms of the world – was offered in a moment of time if He would do one thing. And that temptation was **pros-koo-neh-o**, which means, ‘to bow the knee and lick the hand.’ **Pros-koo-neh-o** essentially means, ‘as the puppy comes to the master for its food.’ What we find in this passage is the number one thing that motivates satan – he has to have worship from man. He was trying to get it from Jesus. But Jesus knew He could not go there. He would have to pay the price to take everything away from the enemy. The one single thing satan is after more than anything else is worship.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27

Scripture: 2 Thessalonians 2:1-4, Revelation 13:14-17, 14:9

In 2 Thessalonians 2:1-4 we are told, *“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.”* Satan ultimately has to sit in the temple, showing himself he is god. The only way he can show himself that he is god is that he has to gain worship from man. It is only in the gaining worship from man that he demonstrates to himself that he is god. He has to have worship from man. So now the question is, how does satan gain worship from man? The answer to that is Revelation 13:14-17 and 14:9. Revelation 13:14-17 says, *“And he deceives those who dwell on the earth by those signs which he was granted to do in the sight of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who was wounded by the sword and lived. He was granted power to give breath to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak and cause as many as would not worship the image of the beast to be killed. He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads, and that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.”* Satan gains worship when everyone takes the mark because they cannot buy or sell without it. That means it is a mammon-mark. Primarily how satan gains worship from man is through the spirit of mammon. He draws leaders to manipulate people for money. Special project presentations showing suffering children and even animals touch the heart and draw money! The top ten money-raising charities in the US all present suffering children. Ministries present a need and keep collecting when the original goal has been met. The mammonite manipulators for money are alive and well, and every time they step over the line to enrich themselves, satan gains worship. But God has a judgment for that in the last days.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 28

Scripture: Isaiah 53:12

Isaiah 53:12 tells us Jesus paid the price for something we have yet to see, *“Therefore I will divide Him a portion with the great, And He shall divide the spoil with the strong, Because He poured out His soul unto death, And He was numbered with the transgressors, And He bore the sin of many, And made intercession for the transgressors.”* Jesus died and shed His blood for an anointing to spoil. Jesus bought the anointing to take from the enemy what he requires to gain worship. Jesus bought and paid for the authority to take it away from him! The disqualifying issue is manipulating to gain wealth because it gives satan worship. What kind of judicial action could we expect God to take? I wonder if Layer Four of God's love could be involved.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29

Scripture: James 5:1-4

James 5:1-4 says, *“Come now, you rich, weep and howl for your miseries that are coming upon you! Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are moth-eaten. Your gold and silver are corroded, and their corrosion will be a witness against you and will eat your flesh like fire. You have heaped up treasure in the last days. Indeed the wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, cry out; and the cries of the reapers have reached the ears of the Lord of Sabbath.”* It is interesting that what is hoarded becomes witness against the hoarders and it starts to eat their flesh like fire. I expect that this affliction might be so great that when it hits, people who have hoarded, manipulated, lied or stolen will be under such flaming agony that they will quickly unload it. Jesus died for this anointing. This is what He bought and paid for. But we have yet to see it in action. So the real question is, where are the men and women who are established in Layer Four of God's love so they can pray James 5:3? That fire may be fast approaching. That fire is God's. Jesus bought and paid for it. Are we prepared to walk in that dimension of who Jesus is? These are all prophecies that have to be fulfilled before the Lord can return.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30

Scripture: James 5:5-9

James 5:5-9 tells us how to qualify. This coming of the Lord we have always assumed to be the final one, but that is an assumption. I believe this speaks of the anointing of the Lord to afflict over the issue of finances. It is the anointing of God to pray that what is hoarded will eat their flesh like fire. The problem is we cannot pray it over the mammonite worldly billionaires until we pray it over what has been hoarded by the church. The first judgment must come to the House of God. The ministries who have hoarded by manipulation will find fire burning their flesh. The season has arrived. I trust we are getting fully prepared and building our faith to walk with the Lord in this dimension. It is here and it is time! God is ready – are we?

ITINERARY

11/2-11/5	Summerville, SC	Daystar Ministries 75 Old Trolley Rd, Summerville, SC, 29485	Pastor Jerry Ashley 843-875-4370
11/9-11/11	Oak Ridge, LA	Common Denominator Ministries Cross Walk Ranch 76 Sunset, Oak Ridge, LA 71264	Curtis & Tabitha Wilson 318-381-9151
11/16-11/19	San Juan, PR	Ministerio De Casa Restauracion Locations vary, call or check our website for details	Ap. Hector Melendez 787-231-062
11/30-12/2	Waco, TX	Sun 11/18 AM Centro Cristiano Ciudad de Refugio Fire and Lightning Ministries 630 Texas Central Pkwy, Waco TX	Ap. Ivan Garcia 787-874-7070 Mark & Patty Short 254-761-9900

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PO Box 366, Placentia CA 92871. 714-996-1015. www.wordatwork.org info@wordatwork.org