



VOLUME XXXVIII NUMBER IV  
The Sonship Gifts

SUNDAY, APRIL 1

Scripture: Ephesians 1:13-17

In Ephesians 1:15-17 Paul declares his first priestly prayer by effectively saying, 'I heard that you just put your faith in the Lord Jesus. When I heard you got saved, I began to pray that God would begin the process of revealing Who He is so that you, the church at Ephesus, could understand that He has a developmental path and calling with your name on it. And the only way that you can traverse that developmental path is if you see exactly what it is. May God reveal it to you so that you can allow the Holy Spirit to move you along that path because it is an avenue of growth and development leading to Christian maturity, wisdom, and spiritual vitality.' This path Paul spoke of is relational because we have been adopted by God Himself! Accepting our new family status facilitates growth and development until we achieve the fullness of the purpose that God intended. We have a Friend in the Holy Spirit Who helps us develop spiritual maturity. In verses 13 and 14 God said that we have been sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise. Jesus had a lot to say about the Holy Spirit. Among many other benefits, the Spirit will lead us and guide us into all the truth. He will grow us up and will build our spiritual house within and cause us to stand in all the fullness of Christ. And as we learn to follow Him, He will show us things to come!

MONDAY, APRIL 2

Scripture: Ephesians 1:18-21

Three specific areas of development are highlighted: the hope of His calling, the riches of the glory of His inheritance for us and the exceeding greatness of His power. Just like God is triune, there is a triune process of growth and development that He has ordained. The first area of development is the hope of His calling. In the hope of His calling we are going to discover that we can have the same relationship with the Father that Jesus had. I know that sounds nearly impossible and many of us may not feel worthy but that's a lie from the enemy. We have to develop in these three areas and God has given us nine specific Sonship Gifts outlined in Ephesians that will make relationship a definite and unfolding growth process. The second area of development is, as we get to know Christ and grow in our relationship with the Father, the riches of the glory of the inheritance begins to be revealed. As this happens, we learn to walk in the glory of God just like Moses as he walked in this dimension of His Presence. We cannot fully cultivate the Presence of God in our life without understanding the glory. The glory of God is the manifest Presence of God and as we begin to understand the glory, we participate in what is available and move into a deeper relationship with the King. The third area of development is understanding the exceeding greatness of His power toward His believing family. The exceeding greatness of His power is evidenced by what Christ did in the process of coming up from the grave with the keys to death and hell and all authority in heaven and earth. The goal of Ephesians is to help us develop in the fullness of Christ! It is no wonder that all the Bible scholars agree that Ephesians is the pinnacle book of the revelation of the church in the New Testament. The book of Ephesians is our PhD in Christianity as we learn to walk it out.

TUESDAY, APRIL 3

Scripture: Romans 10:6-13

In Romans 10:6-13 we discover the process that brings all of us into salvation. Verses 9-11 say, "...that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For the Scripture says, 'Who ever believes on Him will not be put to shame.'" We have started the process of salvation, and make no mistake about it, this is the path that every believer has to traverse because Jesus is the Door. There is no other name given under heaven whereby

we must be saved. Jesus is the Door that every individual bound for heaven and God's eternal destiny has to go through. There is only one Door. It is not Buddha, it is not Mohammed. There is no other Door except Christ. Jesus Christ is the only Door! There is salvation in no other and if we do not walk through this Door we do not get the reward. It does not matter who we are, what privilege we were born into or what our pedigree is. It does not matter, either, what our past sins or mistakes have been. Jesus is the Door and the only Door to God. The only Son, resurrected and seated, is God in the flesh. There is no other path into heaven and if we try to go another way, we shall be lost. That is a nail in the wall that cannot be removed! We must acknowledge Him, believe Him and speak His truth out of our mouths.

#### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4

Scripture: Romans 8:28-30

In Romans 8:28-30 we are told, *"And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose. For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified."* In this passage we learn that Jesus is the firstborn among many brethren. *"For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren."* We have a new family! God is our Father, and Jesus died to give us the same relationship He had! Now we find another scriptural witness here that reaffirms the point. Not only are we predestined for that because we are now in the family of God, but whom He predestined He called. We are called to this. We are called to develop the same quality of Father and son relationship that Jesus had. Whom He called, He justified. So we must not ever allow the enemy to tell us that we are not worth it. We must not allow ourselves to dwell on the lies the accuser of the brethren speaks concerning who we are or what God has done for us. We must take every thought captive to the obedience of Christ. When God says in His Word that we are justified, that means we are! If we refuse to accept that and continue to believe lies of the enemy we are effectively telling our Lord Jesus that His blood is not enough for us! Could we look Jesus Christ in the eye and tell Him our sin is greater than His blood? Dwelling on past mistakes or taunts of worthlessness is like ingesting poison. This passage goes on to say, *"...whom He justified, these He also glorified."* We are being prepped to walk in the glory of God. That is why we must go through Jesus, the Door. If we do not enter through Jesus, the Door, we do not partake of these four promises: Predestined, called, justified and glorified - these are endowments we cannot afford to be without. These become ours when we walk through the Door.

#### THURSDAY, APRIL 5

Scripture: Ephesians 1:18-23

We now know what the hope of our calling is! We can now have the same relationship with the Father that Jesus had. Anything less is beneath the birthright of the family we were just born into. Second, we focus on the riches of the glory. To be glorified means we are qualified now to learn to walk in the glory with God. In number three of our developmental path, Paul goes on to say, we are being prepped in order to manifest the exceeding greatness of His power because we have to prove to principalities and powers that they do not rule, only God does. Rulership is the purpose of this new family. *"And He put all things under our feet and gave Christ to be head over all things to the church which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all."* We are now defined as the fullness of God in the earth. That is why we walk through the Door that is Jesus so we can live to demonstrate the fullness of God in the earth. Psalm 110:2 prophesies: *"Rule in the midst of your enemies!"* What a rich and dynamic inheritance! Thank the Lord that He has provided such amazing fullness for us!

#### FRIDAY, APRIL 6

Scripture: Ephesians 1:3-23

The promise of Ephesians 1:17-23 is built on the foundation of nine Sonship Gifts outlined in Ephesians 1:3-4. Christ did some powerful things for us through His blood in building a foundation for relationship. Verses 3-4 say, *"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world..."* The very first Sonship Gift revealed in Scripture is, you and I were **chosen** by God. **Chosen** is the Greek word **ek-lag-on-ah-ee**. It means, 'To choose one out of many, to judge a person worthy to receive, to separate a person for favor.' The very fact that God chose us says that in God's eyes we were counted worthy to receive and that we have been separated for favor. He chose us as one out of many. For some saints this may be difficult to receive, but it is the truth of Scripture! We need to meditate on this truth, embrace it and not permit the devil to torment or

confuse us with thoughts that contradict this mighty and true fact. The Creator and Sustainer of the universe preselected us. Congratulations on being **chosen**!

#### SATURDAY, APRIL 7

Scripture: Daniel 5:18-25

What is it like to be **chosen**? We must study this out in the Word. What does it mean to be **chosen** as one out of many, being separated for favor and being judged worthy to receive? Daniel 5:18-22 gives us a picture. This passage refers to Belshazzar, the son of Nebuchadnezzar who has decided to have a party. He had stolen all the utensils from the temple in Jerusalem which were among Israel's treasures that he had plundered. He and his guests party with God's sacred utensils formerly used for worship. Suddenly a hand appears and writes on the wall: "*MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN.*" Nobody can interpret what was written on the wall until the queen remembered that there was a wise prophet named Daniel and she prompted Belshazzar to call upon him for the interpretation. When he was brought before the king, Daniel does not waste words. He told the king what he had done and he warned the king that he had been weighed in the balances and found wanting. Verses 26-28 say, "*And this is the interpretation of each word. Mene: God has numbered your kingdom, and finished it; TEKEL: You have been weighed in the balances, and found wanting; UPHARSIN (PERES): Your Kingdom has been divided and given to the Medes and Persians. Then Belshazzar gave the command, and they clothed Daniel with purple and put a chain of gold around his neck, and made a proclamation concerning him that he should be the third ruler in the kingdom. That very night Belshazzar, king of the Chaldeans, was slain. And Darius the Mede **received** the kingdom, being about sixty-two years old.*" Darius did not reject what God gave him. The same God who gave Darius a kingdom has given us one too! Do we discount or reject what God gives us? Jesus wants us to receive a Kingdom. The whole purpose of everything He did for us is that we receive and move into the Kingdom that He birthed. We are told first to seek His Kingdom and all these things would be added unto us. Being **chosen** means we were handpicked and selected as one out of many and of being judged worthy to receive the Kingdom! If God deemed us worthy, who are we to argue? However, receiving is a choice. Darius the Mede did not reject the Kingdom that was offered. He received it! Daniel, the prophet did not refuse his leadership position. He received it! Are we smart enough to say yes to what God is offering? Surely we are!

#### SUNDAY, APRIL 8

Scripture: Daniel 7:13-22

In Daniel 7 beginning in verse 13 Daniel tells us, "*Behold I was watching in the night visions, And behold, One like the Son of Man, Coming with the clouds of heaven! He came to the Ancient of Days, And they brought Him near before Him. Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, That all the peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion, Which shall not pass away, And His kingdom the one Which shall not be destroyed.*" This, the everlasting Kingdom, is the Kingdom that is our responsibility and privilege to receive. We are to embrace it, we are to possess it and we are to display it. But we have to do it out of relationship with the Father. Out of relationship with the Father we have to believe that we have been made worthy for this, not only to receive the Kingdom but to walk in His glory! We have been **chosen** for this, to manifest the exceeding greatness of His power. Each one of these Sonship Gifts is foundational in being able and equipped to receive and walk out our assignment in His Kingdom. We will never fulfill our call in the Kingdom if we do not accept the fact that we were first **chosen** by God. We are **chosen** as one out of many. Many are called but few are **chosen**. We, each one, have been **chosen, chosen** out of many! We are separated for favor and judged worthy to receive. We must purposefully build that truth into our lives so we can be all we have been called to be. Let's put that up on the mirror and declare it every single day until it becomes part of the fabric and foundation of who we are! We must always keep in mind that this is not about feeling **chosen**. Fickle feelings change with our moods. This is about being **chosen** because God's Word says it is so!

#### MONDAY, APRIL 9

Scripture: Daniel 11:32

Daniel 11 describes the conflict of the end-times, the conflict of the last days and the warfare that rages around us. This verse says, "*Those who do wickedly against the covenant he shall corrupt with flattery; but the people who know their God shall be strong, and carry out great exploits.*" The people who intimately know their God shall be strong and take action. How do we grow into this supernatural strength? The first thing to do is to believe that the foundational pillar is built on accepting and aligning ourselves with the first Sonship Gift, **I am chosen**. Each of us has been **chosen** by the Most High, one out of many, **chosen** and judged worthy to receive and been separated for favor. It does not make any difference what the

circumstances look like! God's Word speaks to the issue of adversity and why that develops around people who are **chosen** and called. In our hearts let's settle the issue! Agree with God that He chose us, and He chose us for a purpose. And we must be determined to fulfill it and then be faithful and resolute to move toward what God has fashioned for our destiny! It is time we acquaint ourselves and get to know the **yah-dah**, the ultimate of intimacy with our God. Those resolute ones are the ones who are strong and carry out great exploits! The ESV version says, "...stand firm and take action." The NASB says "...display strength and take action". The NET Bible says, "...act valiantly." Being **chosen** is the first Sonship Gift, the first stone. There are eight more! This should make us want to diligently seek and explore the depths of being **chosen**.

#### TUESDAY, APRIL 10

Scripture: Joel 2:17-19

Why is Joel 2:17-19 important? It is important because there is a very specific purpose for which we've been **chosen** and live in this particular season. We can make a difference in what is unfolding in front of us right now, but we have to understand God's Hand in our circumstances. In Joel 2:17-19 begins a prophetic pattern that started with the election of Donald Trump. Forty plus years of shedding innocent blood demanded spiritual intervention. The spirit of Ahab and Jezebel sacrificing innocent blood had to be stopped! Fullness of intercession overcame fullness of iniquity allowing mercy to triumph over judgment. Mass murder of innocent children through abortion reached its apex and had to be judged. America could not survive one more year of innocent blood sacrificed by runaway government. Several prophetic events are emerging to signal God's Hand moving dramatically to restore the church and the nation. The death of Billy Graham, America's pastor, also signals a dramatic seasonal change. God always waits to pour out His Spirit until the leading General of previous moves goes home! If we look at the paradigm of Ahab and Jezebel as outlined by Jonathan Cahn, only one element is left for God to restore for a culmination of harvest and that is the prophetic anointing of Elijah and Elisha! God has a purpose for America in the end-time harvest! Only the church can rise in the spirit of Elijah as prophesied by Malachi and restore the nation for the preservation of the Jewish harvest in the last days. If America is the eagle of Revelation, our greatest days in the church are just ahead! We have a job to do as outlined in Joel 2 as this prophetic transition unfolds! The prophetic paradigm of Joel 2 has started. In Cahn's paradigm Trump is 'Jehu' who terminates Jezebel's sacrifice of children. This closes one paradigm as God opens another. Billy Graham's promotion to glory signals the transition as one ends and restoration begins. The Joel 2 paradigm has started and a new wave of the Spirit for restoration and harvest is close at hand!

#### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11

Scripture: Matthew 25:1-13

America's harvest has 62 million less to draw from because of abortion signaling the spiritual importance of the parable of the virgins for ministries in America where one will have to do the work of two or three. All the giftings and callings are greatly intensified because we are short 62 million to choose from! In the parable of the virgins five were wise and five were foolish. The wise traded time for more oil. They bought extra oil in case the bridegroom was delayed! As the delay unfolds, the foolish ran low on oil so they asked to buy from the wise. The wise said, 'No! Go buy for yourself,' which in effect means to develop your own relationship with God so that oil continually flows lighting our personal path. Timothy had to develop his own relationship with God, apart from his mentor Paul, so ministry would flow like oil to bring light to those in darkness! As we build the Sonship Truths into our life, faith will grow drawing oil from the Throne to light our path in the Kingdom!

#### THURSDAY, APRIL 12

Scripture: Joel 2:20

In Joel 2:20 we have the Lord promising this, "*But I will remove far from you, the northern army, And will drive him away into a barren and desolate land, With his face toward the eastern sea And his back toward the western sea; His stench will come up. And his foul odor will arise, Because he has done monstrous things.*" Our leading adversaries are being warned. There is a new sheriff in town reversing the former appeasement and alerting all nations, America is once again standing for freedom and refusing to bow to evil, corruption, intimidation and darkness. We have endured great darkness for many years but restoration is all around for the nation and especially for the church! God is preparing for the great end-time harvest!

#### FRIDAY, APRIL 13

Scripture: Joel 2:21-22

As this prophetic pattern unfolds verses 21-22 declare, *"Fear not, O land; Be glad and rejoice, For the Lord has done marvelous things! DO not be afraid, you beasts of the field; For the open pastures are springing up, And the tree bears its fruit; The fig tree and the vine yield their strength."* The first thing we address is fear. We must move fear out of the way! God is bigger than our adversary; God is mightier than our enemies. God is at work putting our enemies under our feet! We must actively trust God to put our enemies under our feet including all those in DC who are deep state enemies. Every single one of them need to be under our feet. Pray them into submission! Pray them into collapse! Pray them into unraveling and implosion! Pray as King David did in Psalm 55:15 of his enemies who had taken Jerusalem, *"Let death seize them and take them alive into hell."* Put this passage on a 3x5 card and hang it on the mirror. Pray that in the morning and pray that at night and watch what God does! *"God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power, love and a sound mind."*

#### SATURDAY, APRIL 14

Scripture: Joel 2:23-24

Verses 23-24 state, *"Be glad then, you children of Zion, And rejoice in the Lord your God; For He has given you the former rain faithfully. And He will cause the rain to come down for you—The former rain, And the latter rain in the first month. The threshing floors shall be full of wheat, And the vats shall overflow with new wine and oil."* If the vats overflow that means that there is more than enough. Is it possible that we could see a season like Moses saw with the very first offering he ever took to build the tabernacle. Moses asked for an offering to build a tent for God. Three days later Moses had to come before the people and say, it is 'too much'. Is it possible that in our lifetime we could see God become 'too much'? That is certainly the promise we see here in Joel 2:24. When the vats overflow that is 'too much'! Should we begin to use our faith for a season of too much? It is prophesied, and it is part of God's pattern. If the early church could pray their adversaries into submission and defeat them, we should experience the same. Are we ready to undertake that one? To see 'too much' unfolding in today's church would be an astounding blessing?

#### SUNDAY, APRIL 15

Scripture: Joel 2:25

Joel 2:25 says, *"So I will restore to you the years that the swarming locust has eaten, The crawling locust, The consuming locust, And the chewing locust, My great army which I sent among you."* So in the prophetic process God promises to restore the losses that occurred during our developmental period. This is a Holy Spirit inspired Biblical covenantal insurance policy from God to cover every loss that we incurred in the process of growth and development to be the warrior He has ordained us to be in the last days. God has insured those losses and the day will come when we can cash in that insurance policy. We cash it in by faith. We cash it in by declaring it. Confession brings possession when our words agree with what God says about us! It is time to declare it for it is ours! 'God, You promised you would restore. Bring it back now in Jesus name!' That is part of what is on the table. Let's accept it and believe for it!

#### MONDAY, APRIL 16

Scripture: Joel 2:26

*"You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, And praise the name of the Lord your God; Who has dealt wondrously with you; And My people shall never be put to shame."* The word 'wondrously' is the Hebrew word **paw-lah**. Moses said 'Lord, go with us. If you don't go with us, I'm not going up from here. I'm done.' Moses is saying, 'How will all the peoples know that You are with us unless You are seen? You have to be seen. People have to see Your Presence. I want Your Presence.' This encounter with God is in Exodus 33. After God agreed to go with Moses, then Moses said in verse 18, 'Show me Your glory.' And God did just that! Moses' response after seeing the glory was, 'Take us as Your inheritance. Make us Your family!' God's answer to that was, 'Behold I make a covenant with you this day before all your people I will do **paw-lah**.' God obligated Himself by covenant to judicially intervene so that judgment can be seen. The promise by God, 'I will do **paw-lah**' speaks volumes. It means that which no man can do except God, that which is beyond all human agency. God says, 'I will show up for you and I will give you signs and wonders that only I can do.' That is quite a promise. In Joel 2 God says 'I will give you a **paw-lah**.' In Exodus 32:10, God says, 'In My covenant I will give you **paw-lah**.' In Exodus 3:20 we have the definition of **paw-lah**, *"So I will stretch out my hand and strike the Egyptians with all my wonders (**paw-lah**) that I will perform among them. After that, he will let you go."* Those are judgments, those are all the judgments of Egypt. That is exactly what they are. Is it

possible that this prophetic progression has now been initiated in our nation? I believe that was the Word of the Lord to me last year. Joel 2 unfolds a restorative prophetic progression that fills our nation. The judgments of Egypt are available to us! Verse 26 says, *"You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied and praise the name of the Lord your God who has dealt wondrously (**paw-lah**) with you."* What does a **paw-lah** look like for you? Is it the healing of a child? Is it the restoration of a broken marriage or being debt free? Is it freedom from our own personal 'prison'? Is it crushing the enemy under a thousand feet of water after we walk through the Red Sea, our own 'Red Sea'? What does it look like? Does it look like hail stones that kill all the cattle for those who didn't obey the prophetic word to get them back into the safety of the barns? What does it look like? Does it look like turning water into blood, or bringing forth frogs or lice or covering the sun so there is darkness for three days. It is all on the table. It is all available. God said, I will do **paw-lahs**! Wouldn't it be amazing to walk through DC with that anointing. **Paw-lah, paw-lah, paw-lah** and let all the Jezebels of DC get to know the personal **paw-lah** of the Living God. Business might possibly boom and jobs would skyrocket as darkness is removed. God would create an economic boom in the nation. What does a **paw-lah** look like? Tell God that He is the One Who promised it, Who has dealt wondrously with us. It may look like the gift of a suddenly or of freedom and the breath of the Spirit that catapults us out of captivity and into the next level of growth, perhaps even a supernatural surge bringing freedom through the removal of enemies!

#### TUESDAY, APRIL 17

Scripture: Joel 2:27-32

Joel 2:27 says *"Then you shall know (**yah-dah**) that I am in Israel that I am the Lord your God, and that there is no other, never again will my people be shamed."* The promise is that in our preparation for the end-time harvest God does a personal **paw-lah** so that we have a personal **yah-dah**, a personal testimony of His healing, and His deliverance, and His freedom. A personal testimony! We get to inspire people to ignite others toward their own miraculous blessing from God because we have a personal testimony of His deliverance and freedom! He does a **paw-lah** for us so that we have an ultimate glory encounter in order to persuade people they need to know the God we know. He empowers us for the end-time harvest. That is the promise. The judgments of Egypt turned slaves into an army. God's people left Egypt with great boldness because the fear of the Lord had been restored—where is it now? I trust it is soon to be fully restored to the church. This is our season. It is time to believe. As our personal **paw-lah** releases a personal **yah-dah**, we will know God in a new and deeper way. The fruit of paw-lah is in a faith seed that empowers us for the harvest. One single **paw-lah** can give us a testimony that lasts a life-time. Walking through the Red Sea was just such an event! Escapes from death accomplish the same thing. One **paw-lah** can impact us forever, transforming our life! Wherever we are personally, let's be life-seekers and life-bringers that enter the harvest field primed to pursue our assigned destiny! That is the process. This process of restoration in the church has begun. Believe it, receive it, act on it and pray accordingly, stand in faith, call it down, call for it! Call for our personal **paw-lah** so that we are prepped and ready and have a testimony that will bring people to Christ! God has already started it, He will complete it. Rest assured!

#### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18

Scripture: Mark 10:13-16

Mark 10:13-16 says, *"Then they brought young children to Him that He might touch them but the disciples rebuked those who brought them. But when Jesus saw it He was greatly displeased and said to them, 'Let the little children come to me and do not forbid them for of such is the kingdom of God. Assuredly I say to you whoever does not **receive** the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it'. And he took them up in his arms and put his hands on them and blessed them."* This passage signals exactly how we are to receive the Kingdom. How do we **receive** the Kingdom? We accept that we are **chosen** and that we are **chosen** for a purpose and the purpose is to **receive** the Kingdom. We have to **receive** it like a gift, like a gift that a child gets. Children don't question gifts, but instead say, 'Thanks dad, appreciate it!' They receive the gift. And that is what Jesus is saying. Kids have no problem receiving gifts. They don't complain. They say, 'thanks,' tear it open and away they go. They receive it and run with it! That is precisely what God is looking for in us, to receive it and run with it. He wants us to fully embrace the fact that we are **chosen** and then run with what He has provided! This is the time for a supernatural surge!

#### THURSDAY, APRIL 19

Scripture: Luke 18:15-17

Luke 18:15=17 says, *"Then they also brought infants to Him that He might touch them, but when the disciples saw it, they rebuked them. But Jesus called them to Him and said, 'Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of*

*such is the kingdom of God. Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not **receive** the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it."* Here again we find in Scripture the very same exhortation. If we want to **receive** this, and this is what we were **chosen** for then let's go after it! Let's **receive** it like we were five years old and our loving Father brought us a birthday gift. We tear it open, find out what is in it and go 'play' with it! That is the full measure of what God is trying to bring us into and we can receive it just as we would a birthday present!

#### FRIDAY, APRIL 20

Scripture: Luke 19:11-15

Luke 19:11-15 tells us, *"Now as they heard these things, He spoke another parable, because He was near Jerusalem and because they thought the kingdom of God would appear immediately. Therefore He said: 'A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom and to return. So he called ten of his servants, delivered to them ten minas, and said to them, 'Do business till I come.' But his citizens hated him, and sent a delegation after him, saying, 'We will not have this man to reign over us.' And so it was that when he returned, having received the kingdom, he then commanded these servants, to whom he had given the money, to be called to him, that he might know how much every man had gained by trading."* This is the Kingdom that you and I are to receive. We have to receive a Kingdom. There is no doubt about it. We have to receive it like children. Then the question becomes, what are we doing with the Kingdom we have received? Now all authority is given to us in heaven and in earth and why can we not pray the enemy into submission? Can we not close his mouth and shut him up? Can we not demonstrate to principalities and powers they don't rule by praying termination on those who are currently destroying the nation? God went into a far country and received a kingdom and then returned but the citizens did not like His leadership. What a surprise! How many citizens are there today that do not like who God set on top nationally? With one move God revealed hearts on both sides of the political aisle! Every leader has to prove whose Kingdom he is building. It is true of both pastors and presidents! Building God's Kingdom should be our first priority. Those who are more interested in building their personal kingdom and enriching themselves are now more apparent than ever. National leader's hearts have been revealed, those in both parties, by God setting one outsider in place. God commented on our national condition when He intervened dramatically in the presidential election. Job 9:12 says of God, *"If He takes away, who can hinder Him? Who can say to Him what are you doing?"* The real issue for the church is, are we going to embrace God's purpose? Or will we choose to stand against it? Yielding to the Lord is not always easy but it pays eternal dividends!

#### SATURDAY, APRIL 21

Scripture: Luke 19:16-19

In verses 16-19 we find, *"Then came the first saying, 'Master, your mina has earned ten minas.' And he said to him, 'Well done, good servant; because you were faithful in a very little, have authority over ten cities.' And the second came, saying, 'Master, your mina has earned five minas.' Likewise he said to him, 'You also be over five cities.'" Oh, boy! We were **chosen** for a particular purpose for this specific time in history! How can we gain by 'trading' if we are unsure of God's eternal purpose? Paul teaches us in Ephesians that as we pray in the Spirit and wait that the Holy Spirit will be faithful to apply His purpose through us. We were each **chosen** to make a difference by what we do and what we pray in just such a season as this. Our personal contribution may very well tip the scales toward God's purposes. The Greek word for 'trading' in this passage means, choose the most productive action that initiates it. The most believable action that always produces gain and eternal fruit is praying in the Spirit. As in the parable of the ten minas if we want to hear, *'Well done good and faithful servant,'* then the most valuable action to produce Kingdom gain is praying in the Spirit! When we pray in the Spirit, we are repairing the house, calling forth divine will, exposing mysteries and charging the batteries of faith and wisdom for exploits! Max trading and anointed productivity comes from praying in the Spirit!*

#### SUNDAY, APRIL 22

Scripture: Luke 19:20-21

Luke 19:20-21 says, *"Then another came, saying, 'Master, here is your mina, which I have kept put away in a handkerchief. For I feared you, because you are an austere man. You collect what you did not deposit, and reap what you did not sow.'" Here we have one individual that does nothing. He does not use his gift to make a difference. He doesn't take action. He does not pray termination on anyone. He does nothing. He was passive with his authority and said, O God bless everyone. That 'bless everyone' approach does not pay off. Do we realize that consistently and without fail, blessing everyone at all times hinders God's Kingdom by enabling evil! Jesus assessed the passive servant as wicked. Jesus said to him, *"You wicked servant."* Is it possible that we could be so nice that we are nicer than God? Are we so steeped in unsanctified mercy*

that our failure to take action or pray collapse on those who bring destruction may earn an eternal rebuke? If that is the case we have 90% of the church in wickedness because they don't know how to pray somebody into judgment even though Luke 18:1-8 clearly expresses it! Is it possible when we pray blessings on those who are steeped in evil, God looks on us as participating in their evil? We only have a small percentage of the Body of Christ that is looking circumspectly and recognizing that unsanctified mercy is not helpful! Saints, it is time we launch out of our comfort zone and into the prayers of the mighty!

#### MONDAY, APRIL 23

Scripture: Luke 19:24-27

*"And he said unto those who stood by, 'Take from him the pound, and give it to him who has ten minas.' But they said to him, 'Master, he has ten minas.' 'For I say to you, that to everyone who has will be given; and from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him. But bring here those enemies of mine, who did not want me to reign over them, and slay them before me.'"* Is this the Jesus that most of our pastors have preached? Bring them here, says Jesus and kill them in front of me. What an application! Have people in church been so deceived that they think it is daytime when it is actually the middle of the night? How did the majority of the church get so ineffective and docile that God had to step in and say, bring here those enemies of mine and slay them? How did the church miss Christ, the mighty One? This is the One we need to know! We need to take Him at His Word and ponder His might and see if action is needed on our part... because it is!

#### TUESDAY, APRIL 24

Scripture: 2 Timothy 1:6-9

2 Timothy 1:6-9 says, *"Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands. For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind. Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me His prisoner, but share with me in the sufferings for the gospel according to the power of God, who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began."* There is an equation that emerges here if we work back through the passage from verse 9 back to verse 7. Purpose determines calling, calling determines power and power determines adversity. Through this passage we gain a heightened awareness that when God chose us it was because He had a purpose for us. Further He graced us to fulfill that purpose before the foundation of the earth. That is why we were chosen. In the process of being chosen God's purpose for us in choosing us determines our calling! This should awaken something in us! The calling determines the power necessary to bring it to pass and the power dictates the magnitude of adversity that comes against us. All the adversity that comes against us is really aimed at the purpose for which we were chosen. The resistance that we encounter is to develop spiritual muscle that will elevate us to our eternal destiny. So for our very first step in building our spiritual, relational house, we must believe that we were **chosen** for a purpose, and then accept that fact that we were chosen for that purpose. The process of accepting and embracing the call includes spiritual development that possesses the anointing to pursue the goal. God knew what He was doing in initiating this process!

#### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25

Scripture: Matthew 12:14-18

In Matthew 12:14-18 we are told, *"Then the Pharisees went out and plotted against Him, how they might destroy Him. But when Jesus knew it, He withdrew from there. And great multitudes followed Him, and He healed them all. Yet He warned them not to make Him known, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet saying: 'Behold ! My Servant whom I have chosen, My Beloved in whom My soul is well pleased! I will put My Spirit upon Him, And He will declare justice to the Gentiles.'"* One key purpose of **choosing** was to declare judgment. Christ qualified for declaring judgment. Declaring judgment to the Gentiles was part of salvation. Judgment is the major motivator for salvation in the last days. Is the church of today fully motivating people toward salvation? Remember, the fear of the Lord is the very beginning of wisdom! If Jesus is the firstborn among many brethren that means that same purpose is shared by us. That is exactly what that means. The question is, what are we going to do with it? We have been taught the opposite of this purpose of our being chosen. How often have we heard, 'Do not judge'? That is not what Jesus was teaching, His point in both Matthew 7 and Luke 6 was, do not judge like the hypocrites judge. This is so different than what is presently being emphasized in so many places. We were chosen for an eternal purpose that demands judgment to be accomplished. Paul says it in 2 Timothy 1:8, *"Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me His prisoner, but share with me in the sufferings for the gospel according to the power of God."* The purpose for which we were chosen may very well come with adversity and we should not let that deter us, instead we should let that knowledge move us toward God's Word and His might. Here we go! Let the storm begin!



Accept it like a good soldier! Let's fortify and gird up our minds, hearts and bodies to participate in God's eternal purposes. The path may not be easy, but rest assured, it will be worth it.

#### THURSDAY, APRIL 26

Scripture: Matthew 12: 19-21

Ministry starts with receiving the Holy Spirit! *"Behold My Servant whom I have chosen, My Beloved in whom my soul is well pleased! I will put My Spirit upon Him, And He will declare judgment to the Gentiles."* He is going to declare judgment and He is the firstborn among many brethren. Matthew 12:19-21 says, *"He will not quarrel nor cry out, Nor will anyone hear His voice in the streets. A bruised reed He will not break, And smoking flax He will not quench, Till He sends forth judgment to victory: And in His name Gentiles will trust."* Jesus had an assignment! That assignment, forever connected to His Word, was to take judgment to victory. He forever connected judgment to the Word of God. He established the judgment of God in the earth and connected it to the Word of God, so that the church has a plumbline by which we can proclaim, declare, decree and prophesy. This is part of our calling. Jesus forever connected the Word to the authority of believers to bring judgment on those who defiantly and steadfastly reject His Word and His purposes. Many of us have been taught that we can only bless and that to do anything else would be wrong. We do not dare overlook the whole counsel of God in this season! Judgment is a major agent for salvation in the days ahead! Ultimately judgment is actually about salvation!

#### FRIDAY, APRIL 27

Scripture: Luke 23:33-38

Luke 23:33-38 says, *"And when they had come to the place called Calvary, there they crucified Him, and the criminals, one on the right hand and one on the left. Then Jesus said, 'Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do.' And they divided His garments and cast lots. And the people stood looking on. But even the rulers with them sneered, saying, 'He saved others; let Him save Himself if He is the Christ, the chosen of God.' The soldiers also mocked Him, coming and offering Him sour wine, and saying, 'If you are the King of the Jews save Yourself.' And an inscription was written over Him in letters of Greek, Latin, and 'Hebrew. THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS.'" Isn't it amazing that on the cross Jesus was taunted with, 'If you are **chosen**, then change your circumstances.' Have any of us ever heard that, 'If you were **chosen** by God you would never be in this hard situation?' Yet, maybe our painful circumstances are because we **have been chosen** by God. That is the reverse of the way the religious world teaches us to look at things. For Jesus the whole reason that He suffered the cross was that He was chosen. The reason for His adversity is because He was **chosen**. How many of us complain and lament because of the adversity we encounter and yet it may actually be a sign that we are **chosen** and that God is strengthening us for His purposes! If it is true of Jesus, our Big Brother, it is probably true of us! *"For whom He foreknew, He also did predestine to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren."* We need to change the way we think! When the Apostle Paul was challenged about his apostleship, he listed all his adversity as the qualifier. Perhaps he thought it relevant because of the passage that we just read. His painful circumstances were proof that he was chosen by God. He saw it that way and so should we!*

#### SATURDAY, APRIL 28

Scripture: Acts 9:15-16

Acts 9:15-16 says, *"But the Lord said to him, 'Go, for he is a chosen vessel of Mine to bear My name before Gentiles, kings, and the children of Israel. For I will show him how many things he must suffer for My name's sake.'"* The Apostle Paul was the very one who had been killing and destroying Christians far and wide. In this passage he was suddenly blinded. He fell to the ground and the glory of God encircled him. Nearby an obedient believer named Ananias was instructed to go to a nearby house and lay hands on Paul and bring healing of Paul's blindness. The Lord clearly directed Ananias in verses 15-16, *"Go, for he is a chosen vessel of Mine to bear My name before Gentiles, kings, and the children of Israel. For I will show him how many things he must suffer for My name's sake."* Suffering was true of Jesus and here we see that it was true of Paul. Know saints, our Father **orders** our personal destiny as well, and isn't it time we look on our past as our preparation for all God has waiting ahead?

SUNDAY, APRIL 29

Scripture: Acts 22:14-18

Acts 22:14-18 says, *“Then he said, ‘The God of our fathers has chosen you that you should know His will, and see the Just One, and hear the voice of His mouth. For you will be His witness to all men of what you have seen and heard. And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord.’ Now it happened, when I returned to Jerusalem and was praying in the temple that I was in a trance and saw Him saying to me, ‘Make haste and get out of Jerusalem quickly, for they will not receive your testimony concerning Me.’”* God was instructing him to flee and making it clear there was more assignment to complete. This was another layer of adversity and suffering that came to Paul due to being **chosen** and called. This path was true of Jesus, it was true of Paul and it is true of many of God’s people today. Remember we each are **chosen** and what we have been **chosen** for can be costly. It cost Jesus an unimaginable price and it will cost us too! That is why there is an eternal reward.

MONDAY, APRIL 30

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

*“For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written: ‘I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, And bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent.’ Where is the wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the disputer of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world through wisdom did not know God, it pleased God through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe. For Jews request a sign, and Greeks seek after wisdom; but we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men. For you see your calling, brethren, that not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble are called. But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty; and the base things of the world and the things which are despised God has chosen, and the things which are not, to bring to nothings the things that are, that no flesh should glory in His presence. But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God—and righteousness and sanctification and redemption—that, as it is written, ‘He who glories, let him glory in the Lord.’”* God chose the foolish things of the world to confound the wise. If we are **chosen** we may end up walking a humble walk but we have the privilege of being used to both serve the Lord and confound the wise. And often times as death works in us and we walk through pain and humility, life works in those we minister to. Be encouraged, this walk has great eternal rewards and our surrender and obedience is priceless treasure in God’s eyes!

*No longer crippled  
By my past,  
Convinced I am God’s  
Child at last !*

*By J.Houghton*