

W O R D A T W O R K

VOLUME XL NUMBER I Sonship Gift VIII: Inheritance B

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1

Happy New Year!

Scripture: Ephesians 1:10-11

Ephesians 1:10-11 says, “...that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth—in Him. In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will,...” What we see here is that Sonship Gift eight becomes the meeting place of heaven and earth in Christ. Verses 10-11 fulfill the Lord’s Prayer, Jesus bought covenantal access moving God’s Hand to change things for sons and daughters. In Christ the Blood-bought healing and restoration is through relationship. Healing is dispersed as the Spirit wills. The Holy Spirit guarantees the inheritance! Jesus only did what He saw the Father do and spoke what He heard. This is the fruit of relationship! Jesus bled so we could have the same relationship with the Father He had. This is revolutionary in our generation. Will we accept it? After 44 years of ministry, that was a new concept. The Lord spoke to me and said, ‘Because you did not choose to build a ministry but instead chose to build a relationship with Me, I’m going to teach Ephesians to you the way I taught it to Paul.’ Ephesians is the relational testimony of Paul. The early church experienced relational seminary with Jesus. They learned to wait on the Spirit. They had to wait in Jerusalem for power! They waited for a prayer language and fire—the prayer language preceded the fire! God ordained works for us to do and the key to unfolding them is praying in the Spirit. Gift nine seals our inheritance with the empowerment of the seal of the Holy Spirit! God defined power by a prayer language—tongues and fire. Have we accepted the path to power as praying in tongues and the fire of our circumstances? If we have accepted it, we would do it! Pray in tongues and expect the power to change circumstances!

THURSDAY, JANUARY 2

Scripture: John 17:20-21

John 17:20-21 are absolute proof of this relationship being a goal. “I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their ward; that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me.” It is obvious here that Jesus was praying that we would develop the same relationship with the Father that He had. The purpose was to generate works demonstrating His Lordship. Jesus revealed the secret of His ministry. **The demonstration of works follow the relationship.** Once we develop our relationship the outcome will be an unfolding of God’s works through us, which will eventually include the greater works that will gloriously one day wind up the age. Why are there greater works? Because anytime in Scripture we have people who are full of God encountering people who are full of the devil we have fireworks or significant conflict. The Sanhedrin commanded the apostles, ‘Don’t pray in Jesus’ name.’ The early church prayed Psalm 2. God answered them with boldness, healing and death! The Holy Spirit did the works. He healed, He killed and He delivered! The disciples were the vehicles. Jeremiah 5:14 NIV says, “I will make My words in your mouth a fire, and these people the wood it consumes.” God anoints with fire! If we develop the same relationship with the Father that Jesus had, fireworks are inevitable. The greatest display of fireworks in the history of man unfolds at the end of the age as outlined in the book of Revelation. Praying in the Spirit has been known to light fires and release power!

FRIDAY, JANUARY 3

Scripture: John 17:22-23

John 17:22-23 says, “*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.*” Jesus prayed the maturity of His relationship with the Father on us. He wanted us to participate in the same depth and quality of relationship that He and the Father had. As our relationship with the Father matures, the works of Christ follow, determined by God’s purpose. God’s works witness the reality of the relationship. The Spirit knows whether to heal or judge, to kill an ‘Ananias’ or resurrect a ‘Lazarus’! The Spirit knows what God has assigned and how to get us there. In John 5:19 Jesus said, “*...the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do...*” Relationship with God is simple, He speaks, we obey! We do not follow our head with its own personal thoughts, ambitions or our natural reasoning and logic. We must learn to move out of our heart! That is the only way that the nations are going to know that Jesus is real. Relationship opens the door to demonstrate God is real. The glory comes for fireworks. Are we getting prepared to handle the glory? It is obvious that Jesus prayed it on our life and gave it to us! Will we receive, will we wholeheartedly pursue relationship with our Father? Harvesting the nations can only be assigned to those who know God intimately!

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4

Scripture: Ephesians 1:18-23, John 14:12

Ephesians 1:18-23 outlines three phases of relationship. First is the hope of His calling, developing what Jesus had with the Father, followed by the riches of the glory of His inheritance which are the works Jesus did, finished with the exceeding greatness of His power, the greater works! In this second purpose we see that walking into the glory is an issue of inheritance. Walking in the glory is our destined inheritance. Walking in the power of the Spirit is our call. The key that opens the door is the relationship with the Father. If we develop the relationship, the glory will follow. The works will follow the glory. No wonder Jesus said, “*He who believes in Me, the works that I do he shall do also, and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father.*” It all follows a maturing relationship with the Father! If we will focus on the relationship, the works will follow. The works that Jesus did, and the greater are a product of relationship. For three and a half years, the witnesses of Revelation are responsible for all the judgments with the goal of repentance for the rebellious ones! How much repentance do we see in Revelation? Not nearly enough! What do we know about the witnesses—they are overcomers. They preserve the harvest for the church to gather!

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5

Scripture: Ephesians 1:18-23

From the hope of God’s calling we grow into the glory of His inheritance. The glory is the anointing, the accompanying power that performs the works which Jesus did proving God is both very real and very powerful. The final phase is the *exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe according to the working of His mighty power...*” What does the exceeding greatness of God’s power look like? Maybe it looks like Moses confronting Egypt but there is also the primary purpose of saving people. Let’s trust we will get to participate in the salvation of many and discover the fullness of Christ through the Holy Spirit! Preparing to walk out Revelation is yielding to the Spirit at its finest, are we willing? If it looks like Revelation it is a toss-up as to whether thrones stand up for salvation or double down in judgment, it is a choice that has to be made. People are forced to choose self-will or God’s will. Greater obedience is required as God prepares the church for the greatest single season of fireworks in the history of mankind. Jesus died for a harvest of nations. We expect mercy to triumph over judgment for the harvest. Those experiencing the hope of His calling in developing the same relationship will start to see the glory of His inheritance and the greatness of His power which the Father worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead. Winding up the age is a key event! Ephesians 1 pictures the church as “*His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.*” The fullness of Christ, is displayed by the church in the last days. We can only do that if we fully surrender to the Holy Spirit. Ephesians 1:10 says the time is coming when in the fullness of the times, God will “*gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth—in Him.*” As we bow to the King and submit to the Lordship of Christ we are welcoming the King. This is much more involved than merely driving to church every week and giving Jesus a little bit of time. A traditional church can’t get us there. Only churches committed to the Holy Spirit and the whole counsel of God’s Word can prepare us. Our pursuit should be to make Him fully Lord of our life. He chooses our career. He chooses where we go and what we do and when a conflict arises, we bow to His will. Intimacy has a price! There is a price to laying down our will and picking up His plan and will. Are we willing to fully surrender? If we are going to develop the same

relationship with the Father that Jesus had that is really the essence of it. *“Not my will but thine be done.”* The battle of wills is over as we surrender to the Holy Spirit. Let’s make sure we are headed this way! The key is surrender!

MONDAY, JANUARY 6

Scripture: Galatians 3:26-29

The amazing thing about studying our inheritance in the New Covenant is that our inheritance is built on four previous covenants, all of which contribute mightily. In Galatians 3 we have the first foundation stone. We are told in this passage, *“For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you are Christ’s, then you are Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise.”* What changes from the Old Covenant to the New? One thing that changes is that in Christ there is neither male nor female, so telling women they can’t minister destroys their inheritance. Beware of Pharisees! The first thing we see in this New Covenant is that there is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female. We are all one in Christ! How is that for a perfect equality! Are the Jewish people no longer God’s favorites? Are we Gentiles equal to Jews in Christ? The New Covenant guarantees our inheritance from Abraham’s covenant. Is there any part of that that deals with surrender? God asked Abraham to offer up his son. That is the ultimate surrender! I know parents who have walked this path and continue to hold fast to God neither cursing nor rejecting Him! How are we handling the sacrifices of life?

TUESDAY, JANUARY 7

Scripture: Genesis 12:1-3

Let’s remember that if we belong to Christ we are Abraham’s seed and we are heirs to His promise. What does the promise look like? It tells us in Genesis 12:1-3, *“Now the Lord had said to Abram: ‘Get out of your country, From your family And from your father’s house, To a land that I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you And make your name great; And you shall be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.’”* The interesting part of the Abrahamic covenant that brings us into the issue of surrender is the five I-Will. Five is the number of grace and the five I wills here are the opportunity to overcome self-will! When God called Abraham He laid down five markers or we could say five foundation stones in the building of relationship through surrender. Five is the number of grace! What a way to start! The anointing to surrender is our inheritance! That is the blessing of the Abrahamic covenant. He didn’t do it all at once and he didn’t do it without missteps, but he did it and that is the key! Abraham did it; He didn’t shirk the hard part. Because Abraham did the requirements, we are blessed. Because Jesus walked victoriously through the hard path we are blessed. Because Peter, James, John and Paul did the hard stuff by meeting their challenges we are blessed. Now many of us will refuse to back off from the hard stuff, and rise to face our personal challenges so that ultimately the nations in the last days can know that Jesus is real. We are called to do the hard stuff so others can know Christ. And if we never go there, they will never know. It will just pass on to the next generation and beyond until God finds a generation that will pay the price as Abraham did, like Moses did, like Elijah, like Elisha, like Daniel, like Isaiah, like Jeremiah, like Ezekiel, like Deborah like us we trust... Let’s say yes to the hard stuff so that we can have the same relationship with the Father that those warriors who went before us did. It is going to take a lot of fireworks in the last days to bring in the nations. And only God’s champions those who develop that depth of relationship, will manifest them. It could be us! It will be if we will pay the price Abraham did, if we will accept these five things and surrender them. Will we fully qualify for His army? Will we pay the price of surrender?

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8

Scripture: Genesis 12:1-3, Isaiah 14:12-15

The very first of the I wills of Abraham is, *“Get out of your country, From your family And from your father’s house, To a land that I will show you.”* Now the contrast here between the I wills of the Abrahamic covenant are listed for us in Isaiah 14:12-15. This passage says, *“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! **For you have said in your heart: ‘I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation On the farthest sides of the north; I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High.’** Yet you shall be brought down to Sheol, To the lowest depths of the Pit.”* As Adam’s offspring, being born in the earth subjects us to the 5 I wills of satan. Jesus, however, overcame each one and birthed a new creation who became a glorious Family of overcomers in Him. The originator of that rebellion was conquered. Those five I wills comprise what it means to be born in sin. Everyone who is born in sin nurtures the giants until

salvation and filling with the Holy Spirit. Everyone who was born after Adam's sin was born with the giants. Five major willful areas have to be overcome. These five areas call us to surrender our will to God. This surrender becomes obedience that overcomes the world. Jesus walked this path for us! He demonstrated the path of surrender. Surrender unfolds a Biblical path toward this relationship that produces the works and greater works and all the fireworks that are going to come in the last days. We are not blind. We're not ignorant about the ways of God. Surrendering our will to pick up God's will prevent Satan from undermining our inheritance. We choose to honor the Holy Spirit and embrace the future by faith!

THURSDAY, JANUARY 9

Scripture: Isaiah 14:13, Genesis 12:1

Satan's very first I will is, *"I will ascend into heaven."* He is in effect saying, 'I choose my destiny. I decide where I'm going to go and I decide what I'm going to do along the way. I choose how high I want to go.' This is called selfish ambition. It is amazing how much is done in the Bible out of selfish ambition. Do accomplishments rooted in this motivation count for anything? No, those accomplishments all get flushed and count for nothing. Our inheritance is the grace and the anointing to surrender. The very first issue of surrender is selfish ambition. The Holy Spirit anoints us to surrender. Abraham obeyed when he was called out! King David learned to yield to the Spirit. All through the ages these issues of surrender have been key. They have produced gold in the life of the people who embraced them. Moses was a master at surrender. These are foundational! Our inheritance is the anointing to choose surrender. Life is not all about us, not all about the big me! Life is about an eternal purpose that God established for us before we were ever born. Jesus is the One who created us before the foundations of the earth. Salvation from sin is free but when I accept it, I owe the same surrender that bought it! Jesus is the plumbline by which surrender is measured!

FRIDAY, JANUARY 10

Scripture: Matthew 17:1-5

Matthew 17:1-5 records Peter, James and John on the Mount of Transfiguration displaying their giants! It is obvious that everyone of us have to deal with this. In Matthew 17:1-5 we are told, *"Now after six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, led them up on a high mountain by themselves; and He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light. And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, talking with Him. Then Peter answered and said to Jesus, Lord, it is good for us to be here; if You wish, let us make here three tabernacles: one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah."* While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them; and suddenly a voice came out of the cloud, saying, *"This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him."* "Then Peter answered and said to Jesus, Lord, it is good for us to be here; if You wish, let us make here three tabernacles: one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." Only Father God interrupting aborts this. *"While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them; and suddenly a voice came out of the cloud, saying, 'This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him.'" The Father is saying, 'Stop talking, stop interrupting and listen to what I have to say! Hear Me! This is a teaching moment. No action was required from the disciples. Walking in the Spirit means waiting on God for direction! Action is not required unless specifically directed. Have we learned the simplicity of walking in the Spirit?*

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11

Scripture: Numbers 13:1,21-22, Joshua 15:13

In Revelation 2 and 3 the giants are important because they disqualify five of the seven churches of Revelation! Jesus' most practical inheritance given to us is offering us the anointing to overcome as He did! The giants first appear in Numbers 13 and promptly keep Israel from entering into the Promised Land for 40 years. Are the giants hindering us from God's blessing? One man was chosen from each tribe as a spy! Verses 21 and 22 say, *"So they went up and spied out the land from the Wilderness of Zin as far as Rehob, near the entrance of Hamath. And they went up through the South and came to Hebron; Ahiman, Sheshai, and Talmai, the descendants of Anak, were there. (Now Hebron was built seven years before Zoan in Egypt.)* Joshua 15:13 states Hebron was named Arba, the father of Anak. Three generations of five giants are mentioned here. The grandfather is Arba and his son is Anak. From these two generations come their offspring, Ahiman, Sheshai and Talmai. Each giant represents a stronghold of self-action that wars against God. Arba means selfish ambition; Anak is self-will; Ahiman is self-protection, Sheshai is self-righteousness and Talmai is self-preservation. At Ephesus we learn selfish ambition wars against our first love and entices us into leaving it resulting in great potential loss. The church was about to forfeit their anointing! Every believer who ever stayed at a church for the fire that was there and remained long enough for the fire to go,

knows what Ephesus was facing. We learn the principle to prevent the problem from recurring. Lord, help us choose the Spirit and avoid making the same mistake ourselves.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12

Scripture: Philippians 1:12-16

In Philippians 1:12-16 Paul talks about his generation of ministers. He says, *“But I want you to know, brethren, that the things which happened to me have actually turned out for the furtherance of the gospel, so that it has become evident to the whole palace guard, and to all the rest, that my chains are in Christ; and most of the brethren in the Lord, having become confident by my chains, are much more bold to speak the word without fear. Some indeed preach Christ even from envy and strife, and some also from goodwill: The former preach Christ from selfish ambition, not sincerely, supposing to add affliction to my chains;”* Selfish ambition tries to choose what it wants to do and the magnitude of it. Selfish ambition is me-centric with self at the center of one’s own path. In such a place decisions are made to benefit self. When we choose the path of the Spirit our decisions benefit God and His kingdom, not our own! By choosing to avoid what might offend, we have already lost the battle because we are not serving God but self! God is willing to offend the mind to challenge the heart! God condemns self-willed people to their own devices opening the door to darkness. Why does God kill more than He saves in Revelation? Because at the end of the age, selfish ambition and self will rule man. Most people choose their own path and rebel against God’s path to avoid the cross!

MONDAY, JANUARY 13

Scripture: Acts 20:25-27

Paul declared his rejection of self-will by choosing God’s will, therefore his eternal home is with God in heaven! In Revelation 2 the Pergamus church had those who chose their own will. Some chose the doctrine of Baalam and others the Nicolaitans causing Jesus to fight against them with the sword of His mouth. The sword usually means sickness or death while those choosing to overcome were rewarded with hidden manna. God promised to sustain them while judgment was falling all around! Pergamas –like churches seem to be everywhere today, but what a difference the protection of God makes! Self-will creates arrogant, unyielding hearts leading to great peril in the last days! Pergamas proves it! How many repeat Lot’s failure and linger after being warned? Those who linger will more than likely roast in the fire!

TUESDAY, JANUARY 14

Scripture: 1 Peter 1:3-4

1 Peter 1:3-4 states, *“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you,”* The Scripture is clear about inheritance. It is in heaven therefore we access it by relationship with God and have to pray it out of heaven into this realm. Heaven and earth meet in Christ because He chose to overcome the world! Overcoming the world is now available in Christ. Jesus overcame selfish ambition and self-will. We can receive the overcomer’s anointing when temptation strikes if we choose to do so! Praying in the Spirit enters this mysterious realm by an act of our will! 1 Corinthians 14:2,4 define power in tongues as us praying mysteries and constructing a spiritual house. We repair what is broken at times without even knowing what specifically is broken. Our inheritance is accessing the overcoming Jesus bought for us. We do that by praying in the Spirit! The Holy Spirit has the assignment of guaranteeing our inheritance! His job is imparting it as needed. We pray in the Spirit to access the power to overcome!

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15

Scripture: Philippians 2:1-4

Philippians says here, *“Therefore if there is any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and mercy, fulfill my joy by being like-minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.”* We are told here to rid ourselves of selfish ambition. Why? Because selfish ambition disqualifies the fruit of any activity if the motivation is personal gain over God’s will because it is tainted. Once something is done out of selfish ambition the fruit is tainted and worthless. That is

dangerous, it is amazing. What are we going to do? Are we going to surrender to selfish ambition or instead pray in the Spirit and access the power of God to overcome it?

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16

Scripture: Romans 8:12-14

Romans 8 says, *“Therefore, brethren, we are debtors—not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.”* Selfish ambition comes from another spirit. Yielding to that is a way for satan to get his will established in the earth and impede God’s purpose. If we are going to be instruments to establish God’s will in the earth, the first thing we have to deal with and shed is selfish ambition. We have to be intentional and deliberate to submit our will under the leadership and authority of our Father, through the Holy Spirit. What is authored by the Holy Spirit becomes that which is eternal fruit. *“For as many as our lead by the Spirit of God, these are the sons of God.”* Selfish motivations go under our feet!

FRIDAY, JANUARY 17

Scripture: Isaiah 14:13

The second I will in the declaration of our enemy is, *“For you have said in your heart: ‘I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation On the farthest sides of the north;...’ ‘I will exalt myself above the stars of God,’* our enemy said. That is self-will and is the name of Anak, the giant who fathered the three sons. The enemy said in effect that he was going to choose the magnitude of the success that he wanted, saying he was in charge of his destiny. That temptation snags many. Controlling our own destiny is huge for almost all of us. It’s a very tempting offer! It is all about self-importance and wanting our own way. The devil wants us to bow our knee and serve him. The delusion is making us think we are on the Throne of our own life when all the while he is the master manipulator. He literally tried this with Jesus as he stood with Jesus on the pinnacle of the temple. He wants us to think that we can dictate our own success complete with the magnitude and degree of surrounding ourselves with success. It’s a great offer. He wants us to be exhilarated and empowered by this sense of control. How many people follow that path? It captures multitudes. *“Wide is the road and broad the way that leads to destruction...”* It is wide because it has five spirits that make it wide which say ‘I am in control and can make my own path and choices.’ Self loves to rule and feels entitled to do so. Self-will is obviously very appealing to the flesh. It allows us to do whatever we want, whenever we want. This path always leads to death and destruction!

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18

Scripture: Genesis 12:2

In Genesis 12:2 God says to Abraham, *“I will make you a great nation; I will bless you And make your name great; And you shall be a blessing.”* God is declaring that He is the One who will determine Abraham’s success. Abraham was assigned by God to be a pioneer and most of the magnitude of his success would not even be seen in Abraham’s lifetime. Humbly bowing to God’s will produces eternal fruit. Jesus won power for us to overcome by overcoming every temptation. Praying in the Spirit strengthens our inner man and is a practical way to build our spiritual house. Both Abraham and Moses built Spiritual houses. Jesus builds our house according to Hebrews and praying in the Spirit is a vital process in construction! Abraham had temptation but overcame by the spirit. Sarah was locked in Pharaoh’s tent and God intervened with Great Plagues to free her. God was faithful to His covenant! He will be faithful to our covenant! We can walk as Abraham pioneering in our generation expecting the harvest of nations. The churches of Revelation are a picture of what Jesus anoints us to overcome!

SUNDAY, JANUARY 19

Scripture: 1 Samuel 15:1-9

Here we see Israel’s first king Saul being sent on a mission given by God through the prophet Samuel. God said He would punish what Amalek did to Israel when they came out of Egypt. At that time according to Deuteronomy 25, they waited until the very end of Israel’s day of travel attacking the procession where the elderly, the women and the children were. They killed the unarmed and the innocent. They did not war honorably! Now God directed Saul through the prophet Samuel, to wipe out Amalek. That was the assignment, ‘Kill them all!’ Saul’s behavior in this assignment was the epitome of self-will. Saul showed us what self-will looked like in disobeying God’s command. Doing what he himself thought best, Saul

spared Agag, the king of Amalek and the best of Amalek's animals. It was a descendant of Agag who killed Saul at the end of Saul's life. Saul's disregard for God's command became his own death sentence. Sadder still is the fact that through his own disobedience he lost his call and assignment as king and created the path for his own replacement. Self-will does not establish God's Kingdom. It establishes our own and must be judged! Self-will earns God's Sword-Pergamos is the picture! How would we like to go to church where God sent a sword to destroy the rebellious. Pergamos became a place of judgment! How would we like to pastor nonstop judgment? It will happen in the last days.

MONDAY, JANUARY 20

Scripture: Luke 22:41-44

Luke 22 highlights the major battle existing over yielding to self-will in all five applications where Jesus shed His blood for our victory! This account says, *"And He was withdrawn from them about a stone's throw, and He knelt down and prayed, saying, 'Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done.'* Then an angel appeared to Him from heaven, strengthening Him. And being in agony, He prayed more earnestly. Then His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground." The very first place Jesus shed His blood in the process of obtaining our salvation was in the garden resisting the will of the enemy and embracing the will of God. Our inheritance in the New Testament with Christ as our example is settled here. Jesus overcame the temptation to embrace a self-serving path. That is what He bought and paid for. The power of the Holy Spirit enables us to obey when our flesh objects. We have been given a Helper to enable us choose the eternal purpose of God. Jesus shed His Own Blood to redeem us from that battle and that war in order for us to lay claim to doing the will of God by the power of the Holy Spirit! The victory is ours!

TUESDAY, JANUARY 21

Scripture: Isaiah 14:13, Revelation 2:18-29

Isaiah 14:13b says, *"I will also sit on the mount of the congregation On the farthest sides of the north;"* This corresponds to the giant of Numbers 13 named Ahiman. This giant is self-protection. In self-protection no one has the right to correct or rebuke me. 'I choose where I am going.' The enemy is setting himself above correction and protecting his own kingdom. His attitude is, 'I am above correction and have the right to protect my own kingdom. I'm choosing my own developmental path and nobody is going to tell me I can't have what I want. I'm insulating myself from oppositional voices.' This is a pinnacle rebellion-place coming from a high and haughty heart that sees self on the Throne. The worst judgment of all of the 7 churches is conferred upon Thyatira, the church which refuses correction. They choose to allow rebellion. Jezebel is at home in Thyatira teaching sexual immorality. This is the church that fully accepts the perverse lifestyle and is judged for it! Jesus promises to throw them into a sickbed. This is the Savior who chose to suffer the lashes so we could be healed, by whose stripes we are healed! With those who choose to reverse His Word, Jesus reverses His responses! Six times in the Gospels Jesus healed them all, so His nature is to heal the sick, but not in Thyatira because they allow and choose what God forbids. Christ reverses the promise to deliver from tribulation by creating it! The God Who resurrects displays His authority over death by sending it. Equally as amazing as the penalty for those who refuse correction is the blessing for those who reject Thyatira and choose obedience to God's Word: obedience is rewarded by power over the nations and the privilege of ruling with a rod of iron. The overcomers become the agents of affliction in Revelation 11:3-7. Jesus bought and paid for the overcomer's anointing that makes us just like Him in the last days!

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22

Scripture: Genesis 12:2, Romans 1:18-19,

Romans 1:18 -19 says, *"For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them."* Of the seven churches of Revelation, Thyatira gets the wrath of God. Why? Because she refuses correction. The wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth. It is obvious that this judgment starts in the church and then moves to the world. Judgment begins at the House of God first! When it comes to practice, Thyatira is by far the most liberal where anything goes and therefore the place which judgment begins! What if 2020 witnesses God's great destructive judgments starting in our most liberal churches? What if death and destruction becomes the norm? *"Professing to be wise they became fools and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man, and birds and four-footed beasts and creeping things."* If nature worship is an idol and, an unofficial trademark of one political party, what will judgment look like? In the judgments of Egypt, God destroyed what people worshipped other than Him! All the gods of Egypt were judged. Are all the idols of America about to be judged? What

if a political party becomes a leading idol by demanding abortion, and nature worship and the LGBT agenda? What will judgment look like on the people? Will wrath kill all the leaders running for office? What does Romans 1:18 look like? The wrath of God is revealed from heaven? What if 2020 is a prophetic sign for seeing God like He really is? What if in 2020 the biggest judgments manifest in church and then in the political parties we choose to support? Will our choices cause us like Jehoshaphat to wear wrath or will we choose the blessing of obedience?

THURSDAY, JANUARY 23

Scripture: Luke 22:21-24

In Luke 22:21-24 again we see the twelve as the poster kids for self-protection. Luke says here, *"But behold, the hand of My betrayer is with Me on the table. And truly the Son of Man goes as it has been determined, but woe to that man by whom He is betrayed!"* Then they began to question among themselves, which of them it was who would do this thing. Now there was also a dispute among them, as to which of them should be considered the greatest." The disciples are trying to figure out who the betrayer is. Their discernment is zero because of all the giants that they have not yet dealt with. Suddenly they can't hear each other. They have all insulated themselves against the others and no one is receiving correction or anything else from anyone. There was rivalry among them and each was void of discernment. The fruit of the giants in action was zero discernment. That is a one way ticket to destruction. If we do not deal with our giants, the first casualty will be discernment. We can't discern what's God and what isn't. How would we like to spend the rest of our life in that place living in the fruit of rebellion? Thank God Jesus paid for discernment and the anointing to overcome self-will!

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24

Scripture: Galatians 2:11-21

In Galatians 2:11-21 we get an example of the value of correction. Paul had to correct Peter and bring him back to faith. Galatians 2:11-14 says, *"Now when Peter had come to Antioch, I withstood him to his face, because he was to be blamed; for before certain men came from James, he would eat with the Gentiles; but when they came, he withdrew and separated himself, fearing those who were of the circumcision. And the rest of the Jews also played the hypocrite with him, so that even Barnabas was carried away with their hypocrisy."* Paul observed Peter slipping back into Phariseism. How many friends do we have more at home in Phariseism than in the Holy Spirit? Even Barnabas was deceived. So we see the power of correction and we begin to understand why this path of surrender is so very, very important. It is a life or death path and these choices to overcome that have been bought and paid for are a real blessing. We have an anointing from God to help us surrender to the Holy Spirit, conquering the giants! Jesus overcame them...all of them and the anointing of the Holy Spirit and His grace empowers us to walk this surrender out. It is our inheritance of victory.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 25

Scripture: Philippians 3:17-19

In Philippians 3:17-19 we are told how people end up in destruction. The pathway there is to refuse to accept correction. Here Paul says, *"Brethren, join in following my example, and note those who so walk, as you have us for a pattern. For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ: whose end is destruction, whose god is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame—who set their mind on earthly things."* What friendships have we developed and from whom can we accept correction? Who has the freedom to speak freely challenging us? It is first and foremost the job of the Holy Spirit. Jesus walked a life of receiving direction and guidance for overcoming! He learned obedience through the things He suffered. He always submitted to the Spirit. Nevertheless not My will but Thine be done. That is the yielding process...the will of God...submit...submit...submit! Bow, bow, bow, surrender, surrender, surrender! That is how we build a relationship with God. We keep ourselves open to correction and always choose the path of surrendering to our Father. We do all this with a humble heart! That is our inheritance. We have an anointing for it. Let's accept it and walk it out.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26

Scripture: Isaiah 14:14

In Isaiah 14:14 we are told, *"I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High."* Sheshai. means white linen or self-righteousness! I will ascend above the heights of the clouds. What is this all about? That is satan's offer saying, 'serve me and you get to judge others by your own standard. You set your own standard so you get to judge everyone

else.' It is Sheshai meaning white linen or self-righteousness. 'I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High, nobody gets to correct me. I am above correction. No one judges me. I am self-righteous. I walk my own path and I become the standard for everyone else.' Self-righteousness insulates against God! Have we ever met anyone who was self-righteous? We can tell because we feel as if we are being judged.

MONDAY, JANUARY 27

Scripture: Genesis 12:3

"I will bless those who bless you..." What is God's antidote for self-righteousness? God's antidote is, 'I will make you a plumbline.' That is the last thing in the world that most will ever want to be. And I will make you a plumbline by which I will judge others. That is the opposite of self-righteousness. God is saying that for those who wholeheartedly choose Him that He will build a plumbline in our lives. How people treat us is how God will treat them. He will make us a plumbline. Now that's not so bad unless He puts that on your kids or members of your family. We can tell that there is potentially some real discomfort that comes with God's assignment. Becoming a plumbline is not an easy assignment because we like to prevent people from opening themselves to judgment but sometimes we can't.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 28

Scripture: Matthew 12:34

Jesus said, *"For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks."* Self-righteousness often exists where we consistently judge ourselves above others! Peter was doing that but so were the twelve! They all declared their loyalty way above what it really is! This passage says, *"Peter answered and said to Him, 'Even if all are made to stumble because of You, I will never be made to stumble.' Jesus said to him, Assuredly, I say to you that this night, before the rooster, you will deny Me three times. Peter said to Him, 'Even if I have to die with You, I will not deny You!' **And so said all the disciples.**"* What does that tell us about the disciples. This shows self-righteousness to the max. The very thing that they just declared set them up to be delivered because their denial of Christ finally broke the giants of pride within them. This was their pinnacle failure and it was what it took to baptize them in humility.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29

Scripture: Revelation. 3:1-6, Romans 8:14

In the book of Revelation the deception on Sardis is self-righteousness because many think they are OK but are not! Because only a few are identified as those with undefiled garments. Most have defiled garments and don't realize it, unaware their name is about to be blotted out of the Lamb's Book of Life. How many Christians taught 'once saved, always saved' will find themselves in a parallel place? Perhaps more than we want to consider. Those who overcome are the true believers whose names are guaranteed in the Lamb's Book-these are the truly righteous. Being led by the Spirit, puts us in this place! Romans 8:14 says, *"For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God."* The Lord knows our name and confesses it before the Father and the Holy Angels. Wow!

THURSDAY, JANUARY 30

Scripture: Revelation. 3:14-22

Laodicea is the place where mammon rules. They are lukewarm and don't know it! They say they are rich but spiritually are just the opposite! Being blind to the fact they were really wretched, miserable, poor, blind and naked. Their testimony was, "I am rich, have become wealthy and need nothing!" They had become wealthy. They were awash in money but trusted in it and had grown far from dependence on God. What a horrible state of affairs to live in and yet this is the picture of the church in the last days. How does the church overcome its own wealth? Believers could listen to the Spirit and obey. They could repent. They could pray in the Spirit until a breakthrough comes or they could submit to the Holy Spirit's fire for cleansing and freedom!

FRIDAY, JANUARY 31

Scripture: Revelation 3:18-22, Genesis 12

Fire is a major way of deliverance for those caught relying on money! How do we buy gold tried in the fire from God? Answer, submit to the fire of the Spirit. Buying means seeking the fruit of being willing to submit to a process that ends in

transformation! Buying means walking through until the dross is burned off. How many fires are involved and what is the fruit of each? The first fire melts the dross so it rises to the top for exposure and separation. Now it can be identified and removed. The second fire burns off the spots, wrinkles and blemishes leaving true purity. The third fire buys eye salve so that we see what is truly valuable and therefore eternal. Eye salve means seeing Jesus for who He truly is. The fourth fire consumes all the sounds that drown out the Master's knock. When the master knocks on the door we need to hear it and open the door so He can come in. We must hear and discern who is at the door? Only walking through Holy Spirit fire prepares us! `

Merry Christmas

*Great glory filled the nighttime skies
With fear and wonderment!
God's message rang as angels sang,
The matchless Son was sent!*

*A restoration path was laid,
To set creation free,
Returning to the Father God
His cherished Family!*

By J Houghton

Luke 2:13-14

*"And Suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of heavenly host praising God and saying:
'Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!'"*

ITINERARY

1/24-25

Midland, TX

The Bridge Midland
3323 N. Midland Drive Midland TX
Fri 1/24 7pm; Sat 1/25 9:30 am - 1 pm

Keith McLelland

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