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LEAVING ALL BEHIND... LET US GO ON TO PERFECTION

No.313

THE SPECIAL OF THE DAY

When one goes to a good restaurant, there are many good choices on the menu. However, there is a specialty of the house that tops all the other choices. And then there is one special dish that the chef has prepared especially for that day. It is the same in the Spirit. One can receive a good word from the Lord, it will provide food for the soul and the spirit, but there is also a special word that is just prepared for TODAY. What the sons need at this time, is THE word for today.

A good pastoral word is not enough to strengthen and encourage the sons of God today. Sons need a word of life each day. The sheep of the pasture can survive on any of the many good words that are heard in Christendom today, but His sheep must hear His voice and be strong.

A question arises here, "How do we know the sons from the rest of the believers?" It is simply this: The sons have been called and chosen from the beginning. All others come as they hear and believe. Jesus addressed them saying, "*Fear not little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.*" (Lk.12:32) The kingdom of God is given to the little flock.

Concerning them, Jesus said, "*Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you...*" (Jn.15:16) And again, "*If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, BUT I HAVE CHOSEN YOU OUT OF THE WORLD, therefore the world hateth you.*" (Jn.15:19)

The sons have been chosen for God's purpose of delivering creation. They were chosen from the founda-

tion of the world. "*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ: According as he hath chosen us IN HIM before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love.*" (Eph.1:3-4)

God's predestination of the sons is not taught by most Christian leaders, because it sounds "elitist." The Pharisees accused Jesus of being elitist when they called Him a blasphemer. This was because they felt threatened by His word. His Light was too bright and they preferred the darkness, because their deeds were evil. Men in power do not like to have their motives revealed.

The times are different now, but sons suffer because of their word. The powers of "religions" and of "politics" that rule the world today are threatened by the Light of the word. This is why God has set those of the last times "underground" so that the word that is made flesh today is preserved.

I believe this is what Jesus meant when He said, "*For there shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time (the end of the age), no, nor ever shall be. And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved; but FOR THE ELECT'S SAKE those days shall be shortened.*" (Matt.24:21-22)

Today, the Spirit is speaking loud and clear to the sons. The word of God for the Day is to the ELECT sons. They are the ones the Lord addressed when He said, "*He that hath an ear to hear, let him hear.*" Jesus was talking to those who have their spiritual senses opened. Paul wrote, "*I reckon that the suffer-*

ings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed IN US. For the earnest expectation of the creature (creation), waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God.” (Rom.8:18-19)

These verses are a good summary of the sons’ purpose here on earth. We were chosen in Christ, and we were sent to the earth for the purpose of becoming the image of the Son of God. Thus we became earthly creatures whose life issued from the blood. *“For the life of the flesh is in the blood...” (Lev.17:11)* This is why God required blood sacrifices in the Old Testament and why our Lord Jesus had to shed His blood for the remission of sin. The life of the flesh has to be shed for the new life to be received.

Through the shed blood of Jesus on the cross, we receive forgiveness of sin and by the miracle of RE-BIRTH we are born-again to become the visible creatures whose lives issue no longer from the life of the blood, but only from the Spirit of God. Sons are called to be the “body of Christ” in the earth.

Jesus Christ is the Head and the life of that body. He no longer appears visibly as the Man Jesus for He has laid down His body of flesh and blood. He is no longer visible as the Resurrected Christ although He can be if He so desires. But He has chosen to appear among or in His many brethren.

He is their Head and Leader and they are flesh of His flesh and bone of His bone. He is their life. His name now is called, *“Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, the everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government there shall be no end...” (Isa.9:6-7)* This is not speaking of the Lord Jesus as He came in the flesh; it is speaking of Jesus as He is in His body of sons, and as He will appear through His sons to deliver creation.

OUR CALLING AND ELECTION

As Jesus addressed His letters to the churches in the book of Revelation, He specified that He was speaking to those with *“ears to hear, let Him hear.”* Peter admonishes to *“...give diligence to make your CALL-*

ING AND ELECTION sure; for if ye do these things, ye shall NEVER FALL. For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.” (II Pet.1:10-11)

Paul makes the truth of God’s predestination and election very clear. Furthermore, those who are called in that election, have the witness within them that it is true. They do not waver or wonder about it. They are quick to grasp spiritual nuggets.

As we read earlier, Jesus’s own words to His chosen disciples were plain, *“Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you...”* Jesus fed the multitudes who followed after Him, but He explained His deeper teachings to His disciples. It is the same today. The word that sons receive is not the same as the word to the multitudes.

Jesus told the Father, *“I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world; thine they were, and thou gavest them me, and they have kept thy word.” (Jn.17:6)* These were chosen to be God’s sons. They are found in the Firstborn. They are Firstfruits. For that reason, the Father elected and prepared those whom He knew would carry out His plan and endure to the end. When the Father set out the blueprints of His plan for the earthly creation, He made sure that nothing could go amiss.

He equipped His sons. Those whom He knew would not fail to follow His Holy Spirit and finish the work that was ordained for them. Under the Spirit’s guidance, they would be led to different places of worship, for seasons of learning to obey and submit to those in charge. It would not be easy, but it was all set up to teach them obedience and submission to God’s will.

We know that in a natural family, there are children who are very difficult to train. They are stubborn and rebellious and can never comply with the will of their parents. They have to suffer through the errors of their ways and they may well miss some of the good things that life can provide. But there are also children who are naturally easier to raise; they desire to please their parents. I noticed that in my husband’s

family of six sons and one daughter. Michael was the one who, as a young boy, helped his father in his barber shop. He was the one who could be trusted. The day that his father decided to take his six sons to church (Catholic) to be baptized, Michael asked to be excluded and his father agreed. The truth was that on Sunday mornings, Michael enjoyed the Sunday School of the neighborhood's Baptist Church. He was different, yet he was of the same household.

It is the same in our Father's kingdom. Those whom the Father chose have a love for truth. They are misfits in the world of man's programs. God chose them according to His foreknowledge. And God chose them FOR HIS SON. He set things up for them, so that they would not fail their calling.

He declared that *"All things work together for good TO THEM THAT LOVE GOD, to them who are the called according to his purpose."* (Rom.8:28) That promise is directed at THEM.

Paul explained, that the sons, also called the saints, which means "set aside for God's purpose, were specifically chosen to become the image and likeness of the Son of God, and that there would be many of them. *"For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among MANY brethren."* (Rom.8:29) Beloved, however long this journey has been so far for any of us, we have heard Him call us by our name, we know our calling, and we have no confusion concerning who we were in the world and who we are in Christ.

"Having predestinated us unto the adoption (placing) of children (sons) by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will." (Eph.1:5) And so Paul further exhorts, *"I Therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation (calling) wherewith ye are called."* (Eph.4:1)

As we mature in the Spirit, we are established in our "calling." We know that we are sons, and if it sounds like "boasting", let us boast of the work that our Lord has faithfully and very patiently performed in us, and not of ourselves. The Spirit teaches us that as sons,

we are the "royal priesthood of Melchizedek," and we answer to our High Priest Jesus Christ. And moreover, we begin to feel God's love rising in our hearts, and we can hear the groaning and travail of creation calling out to be delivered. We realize the magnitude of who we are in this world. We are the long awaited deliverers!

Speaking of the last days, Joel penned, *"And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be delivered; for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the Lord hath said, and in the remnant whom the Lord shall call."* (Joel 2:32)

Also, *"And saviours shall come up on mount Zion to judge the mount of Esau; and the kingdom shall be the Lord's."* (Obe.21) And beloved we know that this is not speaking of literal mount Zion and Jerusalem, but of the company of sons and the bride that He has raised in His name. Hallelujah!

LET US GO ON TO PERFECTION

Looking back at our journey, we find that it is the story of "leaving things behind and moving on to the next." Most of us have had few if any problems when it came to leaving the world behind but when the Lord revealed the corruption of the church systems to which we were members, it was more difficult. However, we quickly turned from that too. It began to be more difficult when it came to leaving the smaller and more intimate groups we were led to join for a time. Our relationships with one another were closer.

Yet, we heard the call and found our way out of these as well. Finally, we found ourselves faced with our own Goliath. The system we left behind was part of our own nature too. This is why, for a time, we were still drawn to something we left behind. We missed the singing, the gathering and the many things that thrilled us. This had to be worked out in our walk alone. In His love and mercy, the Lord gave us fellowships along the way. Just what we needed and no more.

And now we can truly feel and know His presence and His love within us as He keeps calling us to

move on up. On our journey, we have been as the young man that Jesus loved. He followed the Law and loved God but knew that he lacked something. He came to Jesus to inquire and Jesus knew his heart and loved him. But He said to him, *“If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven; and come FOLLOW ME.”* (Matt.19:21)

This young man speaks to our own hearts. We have followed Jesus and obeyed His Holy Spirit, and so we have fulfilled the Law of the Spirit of Life. In so doing we have accumulated riches in the principles of the doctrine of Christ and much more. We have made many new friends and enjoyed the fellowships. God has given us these things and has used them to bring us to the place where we now stand in Him. Yet, we still have not quite come to the goal that He set before us.

And so the Spirit is calling, *“Therefore LEAVING BEHIND the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on to perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God, of the doctrine of baptisms and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment. And this WILL WE DO, IF GOD PERMIT.”* (Heb.6:1-3)

One can feel the eagerness of the Spirit of God in these verses, the intense desire to push us forward to go on and finish this race. Not only ourselves, but those on the other side of the veil, and the entire creation is behind us, compelling us to move on forward and get to the goal. The goal is our perfection, our completeness, our total maturity our oneness with the Father and Son and with one another in Christ. To do this, we have to leave behind all the things that have brought us to where we are now, and move on.

The reason for this is simple. When we are in Him, He is our Head and Leader and we no longer need to repeat all the experiences and tests we went through as we were learning. All that we learned of Him has become part of us. The tools can be put away. The only name that remains in the Book of life is Jesus Christ. We are in Him. We only needed the books and the tools while we were in training and learning.

Now we have the Life. We have Him and we are His image and likeness. We are Him in the flesh.

The dream that I shared in a previous study, where I was walking the last lap of the journey, and found that the suitcase and purse I had been carrying had disappeared, is a vivid picture of the reality of this walk. We are coming to the last lap, and now all the knowledge, the doctrines and teachings that we had acquired to get here, are no longer part of our baggage. Our only source of life is Christ within.

In the dream, I went back to try to retrieve the suitcase and purse. I received a \$10 bill in their place. Ten speaks of “testing.” And so the time is here, when we are being tested to see how well we follow the only source of life that remains for us: CHRIST FORMED IN US. He is now our GLORY!

When we reach the end of this last lap, He will appear and we will see Him as He is and be like Him. *“Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.”* (I Jn.3:2)

We need to be aware that the verse that tells us to leave these things behind begins with, “THEREFORE”. This means that we are called to leave all behind because we have done something BEFORE. Something has happened previously. In this case, it was because one had come into maturity and had learned well.

“But strong meat belongeth to them that are of FULL AGE, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.”(Heb.5:14)

It is only when we reach this level of maturity in Christ that we find ourselves leaving behind the doctrines that brought us where we are. And note also that in the dream, it was as I was walking that I suddenly realized that my suitcase and purse were gone. It is as we walk that the doctrines we hold on to are no longer our focus. **We do not put them away ourselves.**

Leaving things behind is not something that we have to strive to do ourselves; it is something that disappears from our walk as we follow Him and grow in Christ. It is a work of the Spirit in us. And so we read, *“This will we do if God permits.”* Or, *“So with God’s enablement we will move on to deeper truths.”* (Passion Translation).

TRANSFORMATION-TRANSITION TRANSLATED- TRANSPORTED

Powerful words of life! With these words, the Holy Spirit opens a brand new vista of light to us, and our finite minds cannot take it all in. However, the Spirit man within is rejoicing greatly, as the beauty of it all becomes clearer and more real to us. Truly, the new Day is here and we are being transformed by the Word that He is sending to us daily. Recently, a fellow pilgrim on this journey, sent me this word that the Lord gave him, about our transformation or rather our transition. He calls it:

The Transition

“Some teachers speak a lot about transformation; that we are in a process of transformation. This is very true, but the process within us is more than transformation. It is transition, which involves not just an inner change, but an inner movement.

To begin to understand transition we need first to consider that the outward man and the body, though intimately connected, are not precisely the same thing. The outward man is Paul’s description of that ‘man’ who always looks outward. He is always turned that way. He is the one who uses the body, the senses, to perceive this world and he can never perceive anything else but this world. He is a receiver on the material level. The information he receives is processed by the natural man who processes only this sort of materialistic input.

It is very important that we realize that these functionalities of old Adam are fallen and by nature hostile to the things outside their ambit, and hostile therefore to spiritual things. The natural man is incapable of understanding anything spiritual; such things are foolishness to him. When the Apostle says: “though

our outward man perish, the inward man is renewed day by day”, he speaks not primarily of the physical body disintegrating, though we know it takes a battering very often – (see II Cor:4: 8-12), but more so of the perishing of the outward man’s monopoly on consciousness whereby the outward is dimming, dimming, dimming while the inner seeing with the eyes of the spirit is shining more and more - to behold the things of the spirit – to perceive and understand spiritual things. The direction of our gaze has changed from looking at the outward world to looking into the inner spiritual world. We have eyes that we didn’t have before, and the Lord will anoint them to see His wonders.

Greater seeing happens through growth, often through trials, as we look by faith to the Lord and grow in faith, and we lose faith in the outward man and the world to meet our need. Paul’s words take on enlarged meaning: “we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen, for the things which are seen (of this world), are not lasting, but the things which are not (physically), seen are everlasting, (spiritual).

The whole Christian Walk in this life is a transition from the Outer and Downward to the Inner and Upward – from the Old Earthy Creation that wants to draw us back down into the ground, to the New Heavenly Creation that beckons us to ‘come up hither’. And, it doesn’t always go in a straight line. There are ups and there are downs. But don’t lose heart because of this, because by that Life and Nature of the Lord Jesus growing within us, we are progressively overcoming, we are changing and we are moving!! Looking unto (and seeing) Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith.” Helpful reading is: 2 Corinthians Ch. 4 (John Curtin).” End of quote.

We are truly in “transition” between two creations. The man of the flesh and the man of the Spirit. The first and the last Adam. The earthly and the heavenly man. We are moving from the house of the first Adam, to the Father’s house where Jesus now is. This means that we are moving out of being the “flesh man”, to being the image of the Christ man. *“And as we have born the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly.”* (I

Cor.15:49) And now we ponder the meaning of these words. *“Wherefore, henceforth know we no man after the flesh: yea, though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet now henceforth know we him no more. Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”* (II Cor.5:16-17)

Little by little we have found that the things of this world no longer satisfy. One by one, as the peace of God invaded our inner beings, the thrills of noisy meetings dropped out of our lives, and they became an intrusion between us and our Lord. Yet, we still have needs for our earthen vessels, and God is faithful to provide for their needs. But it is my understanding, that as we enter the time of our transformation or as our brother wisely said, “our transition”, we find that many old “things” have slipped out of our lives. This is part of the process of “death to self” that is taking place in us. These old things can be doctrines, relationships, habits, attractions or even people.

We are being “transported!” *“Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light; who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath TRANSLATED (transported) us into the kingdom of his dear son.”* (Col.1:12-13)

**FATHER THAT THEY MAY BE ONE
EVEN AS WE ARE ONE
Jn.17:22**

As we move into Christ, our union with our Father is being sealed. The prayer that Jesus uttered for us before He left the earth was extremely profound and an expression of His pure love for us. *“That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me and I in thee, that they also may be one IN US; that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.”* (Jn.17:21)

“And I have declared unto them, thy name, and will declare it: that the love wherewith thou hast loved me may be in them, and I in them.” (Jn.17:26)

The question now is, “How is Jesus one with the Father?” Jesus was praying that every member of His

body be in perfect union with each other, but that they may be one, also with the God Head (that they may be one IN US). Jesus was praying that we, His body, His brethren may be one with THEM, (Father and Son). This is so powerful that it is hard to comprehend and to put into words. It sounds like blasphemy to the understanding of the literal, carnal mind. Yet this is what Jesus meant when He declared, *“I go to prepare a place for you...that where I am, there ye may be also.”*

After Jesus had explained this, He went to the cross, into death, in the tomb and was raised from the dead in a body of glory. It was on the cross that His veil of flesh was rent in two and that He opened the way to the Holy of Holies. *“And the sun was darkened, and the veil of the temple was rent in the midst.”* (Lk.23:45) We understand that this was the veil of the literal temple, but in truth of the Spirit, it was the veil of the flesh of Jesus the man. *“Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say HIS FLESH.”* (Heb.10:19-20)

As long as Jesus was in the flesh, no one could enter within the realm of Spirit where the Father dwells. It was hid within Jesus. He said plainly, *“Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? The words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself; but the Father that dwelleth in me he doeth the works.”* (Jn.14:10)

While Jesus was here in the flesh, the Father in Him did the miracles and the works through Jesus. But the Son had no power of His own. Howbeit when the veil of His flesh was rent, Jesus entered into a new dimension of Spirit (the Holy of Holies). He broke through the powers of hell and death and was raised into His realm of glory and power at the right Hand of the Father. He was One with the Father again and the way was opened for His body people to enter into the same glory.

Jesus ascended to the Father and presented Himself as the Firstborn from the dead among many brethren. The Firstborn of a new creation of God. Jesus was once again One in the Father, but from this time for-

ward, the God Head included the Son with the body of glory that He had acquired for Himself and for His brethren. This was a new thing and a new Seed. It was no longer the seed of Adam that led to death, it was an incorruptible seed.

This was the beginning of a new day. From that day on, Jesus continued to lead His brethren into the same overcoming walk, and the same outcome that He had obtained for Himself and for them, (us). Through His indwelling Holy Spirit, He has been leading each one, on a journey that is taking them to the Father, as it took Him to the Father. Jesus had left the glory that He had with the Father, to come down in the flesh, and make the way for us to do the same. This is how Jesus prepared a place for us, that we might be where He is in the Father's house.

The Son of God, who is the Word of God and was One with the Father in the beginning, is now the Builder of the true temple of God, not made with hands. When Jesus walked the earth, He was the temple of God by Himself. Since then, He has been building the temple of His body in the earth.

In the beginning He was in the Father, invisible Spirit. Then the Son who is the Word became flesh in the man Jesus. Those who walked with Him and were close to Him each day, only saw a man. They could not see beyond the flesh of the man. They could not know the Father that was within that man. Jesus explained many times that it was the Father in Him that did the miracles and works that He did.

Jesus explained that as He was in His body of flesh and blood, He was the express image of His Father. *"...he that hath seen me, hath seen the Father..."* (Jn.14:9) Nevertheless, as we explained earlier, those who saw Him at the time, could only know Him after the flesh. As time went by, only paintings, statues or images of what Jesus might have looked like remained. As we are changed from glory to glory into His likeness, He is revealing Himself to us, as He is.

When Peter recognized Him as the Son of God, He was still an "outer" man to him. The natural flesh man covered up the truth that was within the inner

man Jesus. No man could enter within Jesus and see the Father. These things were "veiled" and no one had eyes to see them. When Peter recognized Jesus as the Son of God, Jesus marvelled and said, *"Flesh and blood hath not revealed this unto thee Peter, but my Father which is in heaven."* (Matt.16:17) The Father gave Peter a special anointing to see this.

When Jesus ascended in resurrection, He was able to reach within those that the Father had chosen and predestinated; He released His Spirit within them. Now they were quickened and their eyes were opened to see and understand the reality of the Spirit realm. By the Spirit, the veil that stood between us and Father and Son, is no longer a thick veil that conceals them. With faith and HOPE, we are now able to enter into the place where they dwell (in us).

As long as we are in the flesh, we only enter in by HOPE. Until the time that the temple of His body is fully built, we enter in by HOPE. *"Which hope we have as an anchor to the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which entereth into that within the veil."* (Heb.6:19)

THE TEMPLE IN PROGRESS

The Son of God is the Maker and Builder of the true temple, not made with hands. While the Jews are considering rebuilding a temple in Jerusalem, the true temple is steadily being raised in glory. Men have tried to build a temple for God. All the churches, temples, synagogues that stand in the land are the works of man's hands. They stand as an effigy to man's continued efforts to gather people together and unite them in the same creeds and doctrines.

The burning down of the beautiful architectural cathedral of Notre Dame in Paris is another example that man's iconic work has no eternal value. I understand that people were extremely pained when they saw this intricate and invaluable work of art go up in flames.

As a ex-Parisian myself, I have a special love for Paris. I have been in that cathedral and the beauty of its stained-glass windows, the vibrant sounds of its magnificent organ were all breathtaking. Neverthe-

less, the building is another representation of the works of this Mystery Babylon who has made herself to be God in the hearts of multitudes.

John the revelator describes her inner works as, *“The merchandise of gold, and silver, and precious stones, and of pearls, and fine linen, and purple, and silk, and scarlet, and all thyine wood, and all manner vessels of ivory, and all manner vessels of most precious wood, and of brass, and iron, and marble.”* (Rev.18:12)

“Alas, alas that great city, that was clothed in fine linen, and purple, and scarlet, and decked with gold, and precious stones, and pearls! (This is a description of the counterfeit priesthood that was raised by man to represent God to the people, JC) For in one hour so great riches is come to nought. And every shipmaster, and all the company in ships, and sailors, and as many as trade by sea, stood afar off, And cried when they saw the smoke of her burning, saying, What city is like unto this great city!...AND SLAVES, AND SOULS OF MEN” (Rev.18:16-18,)

Yes, that great city Babylon, is the mother of counterfeit religions. She has a fraudulent priesthood and has changed the beauty of Christ with the bogus. It is a money-making machine that deceives the people. Notre Dame Cathedral was visited by some 35.000 tourists each day. This served to enrich the coffers of the church and also of the city. No wonder they are planning to rebuild quickly. The fleecing and deceiving of the people is only a small part of her. In the middle of the list of her assets, John adds, *“AND SLAVES, AND SOULS OF MEN.”* (Rev.18:13b)

The destruction of Babylon and all her works has been part of the progress in the building of the true temple. It precedes the revealing of the sons. The religious kingdoms of this world must come down; the time of their own glory on earth is over, just as it is for the kingdoms (nations), of the world that are crumbling everywhere. *“...The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ, and he shall reign for ever and ever.”* (Rev.11:15)

The true temple of God in the earth, the body of

Christ has been in progress since the day that the Holy Spirit came down as a rushing, mighty wind and filled the 120 disciples gathered in the upper room. Ever since that time, great waves of the Spirit have swept the earth and brought new clearer revelations of Jesus to place in the foundation of the building. Over the centuries, each stone has been cut out of the mountain and chiseled individually, meticulously and painfully, to make them fit perfectly in the complete building.

Soon, each stone will be permanently set in its assigned place. They will fit together in perfect harmony. It will not be as in the past, when people assembled together under the banner of a creed. This building is made of LIVING STONES, and they come together by the power of the One who is their life. *“If so be that ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious. To whom coming, as unto a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious, ye also as living stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.”*(I Pet.2:3-5)

All of man's efforts to bring the body together are futile. Much of the preparing of the stones has been done through the ministries that Jesus gave to men. But the bringing together of the stones, is done exclusively by the Lord Himself. If any are still enjoying group fellowships, be grateful, but be also aware that all of these are only temporary.

“Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the FATHER OF LIGHTS with whom there is no variableness, neither shadow of turning. Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of first-fruits of his creatures.” (Jms.1:17-18)

May the FATHER OF LIGHTS who has begotten us, increase His light on our path, as we continue on the last lap of our journey. May we be found in Him as the firstfruits of His creation.

Because of His love, *Jackie Caporaso*