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No.328

REVISITING OUR FOUNDATION

LAYING A FIRM FOUNDATION

*“For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is **Jesus Christ.**”*(I Cor.3:11) Our firm foundation is Jesus Christ, on the cross, in the tomb, in His resurrection, in His ascension, in His Holy Spirit within us, and as He is arising in His church, His body in the earth. He is our complete and firm foundation.

When we first turned to Jesus, most of us ran to the folds of the only mother church we knew. There, our teachers taught us to follow the words of Jesus, written in red in our Bibles. This is excellent and it has served us well, but in retrospect, we know that there was much more for us to know. The Spirit is speaking to us as sons now. He has enlarged our vision and understanding of spiritual truths.

The tools that the Lord has given us to raise us into the knowledge of Himself are amazing, but we cannot hold on to the tools when we have the reality. I love to read my Bible because it stirs up the witness of the Word within me. I love to find the confirmation of what the Spirit speaks to me. I go to my Bible a lot in my writings. But the Bible CANNOT REPLACE THE VOICE of the living Christ within.

For many, the words of the Bible written in red have become the Law. When they seek a Word from the Lord, they do not wait on the Spirit, they go find it in their Bible. The Spirit is calling the sons to hear His

voice. It is His voice that we follow. *“My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.”*(Jn.10:27) The voice of the Spirit comes either through a knowing, a prompting, a dream or vision, something that happens or something that someone says. He speaks in so many ways, and He teaches us to be sensitive to His moving in our daily lives. Sons live by the voice of the Father within, they trust the still small voice of the Spirit. *“As many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.”* (Rom.8:14)

One may ask, “How do I hear His voice?” There are so many voices, yet His voice is the still small voice that comes from deep within. At this point, the emphasis must be on the Door that He opens for us, called “Baptism in the Holy Spirit.” This is where He brings us to a total surrender to His Spirit. This is the Door that opens our connection to the voice of His Holy Spirit. This baptism comes as a definite spiritual experience, and repeats itself daily in our walk. My Bible had become a brand-new book. My sensitivity to His Spirit was more acute. It was truly another beginning.

The ability to hear His voice develops in us by daily exercising. Many times I have heard the Spirit telling me to do something, and in my haste I have ignored it only to find out later that it would have been very helpful to have paid attention to it. The Spirit is as “TONGUES OF FIRE.” The words, or tongues that the Spirit speak to us are life-giving.

Like the foolish Galatians, it would be easy to slip back into the arms of the Law of Moses and the Law that we make from the written verses. We feel more secure following rules. Like Israel of old, we desire a visible king, a leader, to rule over us. Then the responsibility falls on the leader and not on us. *“O foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched you, that ye should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ hath been evidently set forth, crucified among you? This only would I learn of you, Received ye the Spirit by the works of the law, or by hearing of faith? Are ye so foolish? Having begun in the Spirit, are ye made perfect by the flesh?”* (Gal.3:1-3)

Am I trying to finish that which I began in the Spirit

by keeping rules, even my own rules? Do I pray enough? Do I read the Word enough? Do I think about God enough? All these things are Laws that I make for myself, thinking that this way I can hear from God better. Are these things my assurance that God loves me and covers me, or can I trust His Spirit to lead me each day? And He will lead us.

I am reminded of the words of Paul to the church, *“Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law, ye are fallen from grace. For we, through the Spirit wait for the hope of righteousness by faith.”* (Gal.4:4-5)

Paul was speaking to people who were once saved from the penalty of the Law. They felt the need to do more and to offer their own efforts in keeping the Law again. They wanted to add their works to the price Jesus paid for them. They had begun by faith, rejoicing that their sins were forever forgiven. They are our ensamples, so we don't repeat their mistakes.

Do we grieve the Spirit when we ignore Him and look for a word from another source? The things that we read from the many writers of His Word, including this one, issue from the Spirit moving through the writers. They are meant to stir us to seek Him who is the Truth. Most of what we read, we already know, but because it is worded differently, it may become clearer. Sometimes, we have not yet heard what we read, and we put it on the “shelf” until the Spirit brings it to our understanding or it just falls away. But we cannot walk by the inspiration of others.

Many teachings that sound logical and practical are often laws derived from the words of the Bible and translated by man's reasoning. They find a place as we grow in Christ, but they should not replace the Spirit that speaks to us. Little Samuel was given as a child to be raised by Eli, the High Priest. Soon, Eli realized that God was talking to Samuel, and he taught him to listen to what he was hearing, even when it came against what Eli and his sons were doing. The Word of the Spirit, does not always agree with what our teachers in the church are doing or saying. This is how most of His “called out” people came out of the mother harlot.

God has provided us with the teachers and leaders

that we needed as we grew. They are greatly appreciated, but the day must come when the only Leader we need is the voice of the Son of God. Be not surprised that when you hear the voice of the Son and follow Him, the beloved leaders and teachers of the past become your beloved enemies. This is part of overcoming.

THE BLOOD OF JESUS

The little song we used to sing should still be on our daily menu. *“O the blood of Jesus, the blood of Jesus, it washes white as snow.”* The sacrifice of Jesus, the Lamb of God who died for ALL our sins is an indispensable part of our firm foundation.

The first tabernacle was a shadow or type of heavenly things. This is why *“...Moses was admonished of God when he was about to make the tabernacle: for, See, saith he that thou make all things according to the pattern shewed to you in the mount.”* (Heb.8:5) By the same token, the blood of the sacrifices of bulls and goats were a shadow of the true sacrifice in the blood of Jesus Christ. In the old Covenant, the blood of the sacrificial animals had to be sprinkled on the book and on the people first. *“Moreover he sprinkled with blood both the tabernacle, and all the vessels of the ministry. And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.”* (Heb.9:21-22) The blood is the absolute requirement for remission of sin.

And so it is for the heavenly things which are the souls, minds and hearts, of us all. Jesus Christ, the perfect and only acceptable sacrifice shed His blood for the remission of sins for ALL and FOR ONCE FOREVER. Jesus will never again be replaced by animal sacrifices.

Our foundation in the blood of Jesus is very firm and we can be very sure that when we believe in Him, we stand without fear of it being pulled out from under us. *“For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God. Nor yet that he should offer himself often, as the high priest entereth into the holy place every year with blood of others; For then must*

he often have suffered since the foundation of the world; but now ONCE IN THE END OF THE WORLD hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself, (on Calvary's cross).

And as it was appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment: So Christ was once offered to bear the sin of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation." (Heb.9:24-28)

In Christ, we are reckoned with Him in His death, and alive with Him in His resurrection. We are not looking to die again, for Christ does not die again. "Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead DIETH NO MORE; death hath no more dominion over him." (Rom.6:9) And we are in Him. We are not looking to be judged again, for in Him we are judged and totally acquitted, not to be tried again. For us, in Christ, there is no more death, whether our bodies decay in the grave or not, our souls are caught up in His life forever. When we believe this, we enter into this new covenant in the blood of Jesus forever.

"Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead yet shall he live. AND WHOSOEVER LIVETH AND BELIEVETH IN ME, SHALL NEVER DIE. Believeth thou this?" (Jn.11:26)

Without this foundation, none of us could make it to maturity or perfection in Christ. In the beginning of my walk with the Lord, I had this dream, "I was being sent to travel to many countries. I was issued a passport from my own country. On each page of the passport was affixed a large stamp in red letters, (color of blood) that read, "APPROVED." End of dream. With this passport, my government covered me everywhere I was sent. I could not get arrested or stopped. This is the authority that we have in the blood of Jesus. All our sins are covered by the blood of Jesus. This means our past, present and future sins have no more power over us. All are covered by the blood of Jesus.

This does not give us license to trespass the law of the land. The natural man is always under the law of the land and is subject to be prosecuted by that law.

But in Christ, and in the eyes of God, we are covered by the blood of Jesus. In Christ, there is no condemnation, but in the flesh, we reap what we sow. This is how great our salvation really is; this is the foundation we stand upon. We know that when we give our life to Jesus, He changes our ways, and His Spirit leads us into all truths. So we are not likely to do the things that are an offense to the law of man.

Jesus did not break the law of Caesar, but He constantly broke the traditions of the religious establishment. His authority came from God and not man. As the Spirit leads us, we will find ourselves in that same position, and break the laws of the religious orders in which we find ourselves.

THE HIGH CALLING OF GOD

Paul was called with a special calling. This might have been why the other apostles had a problem understanding some of what he taught. Speaking about Paul, the Lord told Ananias, "Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel; for I will shew him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake." (Acts 9:15)

It was then that Ananias prayed, and Paul recovered his sight. One day, when a multitude was listening to Paul and Barnabas explaining how God had wrought miracles and wonders among the Gentiles, James spoke up, "Simeon hath declared how God at the first did visit the Gentiles, TO TAKE OUT OF THEM A PEOPLE FOR HIS NAME." (Acts 15:14)

Paul's high calling was to be a son of God, and an apostle to the Gentiles. To accomplish this, he needed to forget all his knowledge of Jewish law, and enter into a walk led only by the Spirit of God. Paul knew that all his religious knowledge of the past was now useless. Some Christians today are returning to the keeping of old covenant rites, but all are useless in Christ.

Paul had been a proud Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin. He had been schooled by Gamaliel, the famed master of Jewish Law and leading authority in the Sanhedrin, (assemblies of el-

ders who served as tribunal in every city). But now Paul clearly knew what was required of him as a son of God. He wrote, *“But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. Yea, doubtless, and I count all things loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ.”* (Phil.3:7-8) Paul’s confidence and glory was not in any of what he had been in the past; Paul was out to win Christ. Is this not what we are coming to on our journey?

Peter told the beggar sitting by the temple, *“Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk.”* (Acts 3:6) Peter did not need any book knowledge; he possessed the gold and silver of the name (nature), of Jesus Christ. He did not attain it by learning, but by following His voice. Our knowledge of the literal Word has been and is still a help to us, but it is the knowledge of Him, the living Jesus in us, that gives us life.

If all we have in ourselves is knowledge, we cannot impart His life to anyone. So knowledge was a good entrance to the understanding of the Word, but knowledge has to pass away. Our goal is as Paul, *“That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death.”* (Phil.3:10)

It is the power of His resurrection (First resurrection), that has quickened us in the Spirit and made us to understand in our soul (mind, consciousness), what it is that He is saying to us. His Spirit connects with our soul and leads us into all truths. And here is the key, **“AS MUCH OF OUR SOUL THAT HAS BEEN PURGED AND CLEANSED FROM THE OLD SELF, IS AS MUCH AS WE HEAR AND UNDERSTAND CLEARLY WHAT THE SPIRIT IS SAYING TO US.”** The key to hearing and understanding His Word clearly, is the purification of the soul and the laying down of the old nature on the cross daily.

It was on cross that the sins of the world were laid upon the soul of Jesus Christ the Man; and His soul was poured out unto death. *“Therefore will I divide*

him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; BECAUSE HE HAS Poured OUT HIS SOUL UNTO DEATH: and he was numbered among the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for transgressors.” (Isa.53:12)

Jesus did not remain there. By the power of holiness that worked in Him, Jesus triumphed over death and hell, not only for Himself at the time, but for all who would enter the same death. *“That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death. If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead.”* (Phil.3:10-11)

When we come through His death and resurrection, we begin to pour out our souls unto death. This is our “death to self,” and it leads us to clearly hear His voice.

RESCUING THE SOUL

“Behold, all souls are mine; as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine: the soul that sinneth, it shall die.” (Eze.18:4) First and foremost, all souls belong to God and each individual soul is responsible for its own behavior. We are not one universal soul as some eastern religions suggest. Yet in Adam, all souls sinned; we are all dead. In Christ our souls are rescued, saved individually from this death. Death is separation from God.

Paul was clear as he cried out, *“O wretched man that I am! Who shall deliver me from the BODY OF THIS DEATH.”* (Rom.7:24). Then he answers his own question, *“I thank my God through Jesus Christ our Lord...”* (Vs.25a)

The bodies of this death are what hold our souls captive to this death. By the sacrifice of His precious blood, Jesus saved our souls and ALSO redeemed our bodies. In order to prosper, the soul needs a body to express itself, and the soul has been made subject to the body of this death. But there is a way out of this death. Jesus said, *“I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life.”* (Jn.14:6) In these few words, Jesus was showing us the way out of this death, unto eternal life.

The death of the cross is the way out of THIS death. The cross is the death that leads to life. It is the only Way out of THIS death. If the body dies without the experience of the cross, the soul goes to Sheol, which the Bible translates Hell. Sheol is like a morgue, where dead souls are kept and also groomed and prepared for the final judgment. It is for those who have not walked in first resurrection. They are in “second death experience.”

“Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection; on such the second death hath no power...” (Rev.20:5a) In second death, souls await the great white throne judgment, where they are judged by the righteousness of Christ, according to their works. In that day, they come from every corner of Sheol. *“And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them; and they were judged according to their works.”* (Rev.20:13)

In first resurrection our soul is quickened, and our conscious understanding opens up. Thus the Holy Spirit leads us daily to leave behind our own self-righteous works, and do the works that are preordained of God for us. Jesus is the resurrection and the life. *“I am the resurrection and the life.”* (Jn.11:25) The more we enter into resurrection life, the more Christ nature is formed within us. There is no way, I could write these words, and no way anyone could understand them, without the quickening of resurrection life. RESURRECTION life is the ground on which we stand.

“And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins; Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now works in the children of disobedience. Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others. But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, Even when we were dead in our sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved.) (Eph.2:1-5)

Was this the beginning of our resurrection? It clearly

says, “When you were dead, you were made alive.” Jesus is the RESURRECTION in us. Is the “saving of the soul” the first resurrection? Yes, it is the beginning of its work in us.

We all know that as soon as we go through repentance and give our hearts to Jesus, a new power begins to work in us. This is when I found the power to quit smoking cigarettes. When I wanted to talk about Jesus and learn more about His Word. When suddenly I had nothing in common with my friends and they turned away from me because I had become ‘religious.’ There was definitely a change in me and all who go through this conversion have experienced the same thing. It was then that we began to open our eyes toward another world. We were being separated from the lusts (appeals), of the flesh and of the carnal mind.

Our foundation is firm and secure. Only our own unbelief and wavering, doubting minds can keep us from being rooted in the faith and moving on in Christ. The major battle is in the mind, where we need to be *“Rooted and established in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving. Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy, (criticizing and rationalizing the truth by man’s knowledge), and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments, (undeveloped principles), of the world, and not after Christ. For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily. AND YE ARE COMPLETE IN HIM, which is the head of all principalities and power.”* (Col.7-10)

At times of testing, the enemy of our faith rolls in and floods our minds with all kinds of thoughts meant to defeat us. When Joshua was about to go to possess the promised land, God specifically commanded him to drive out all the inhabitants of the land. *“But if ye will not drive out the inhabitants of the land from before you; then it shall come to pass, that those which ye let remain of them shall be pricks in your eyes, and thorns in your sides, and shall vex you in the land wherein you dwell.”* (Num. 33:55)

Indeed, in Christ we are possessing our souls, our minds, our emotions, and taking authority over the thoughts that continually work to bring us down. If

we fail to bring all of these under the authority of the Spirit, they will sooner or later be pricks in our eyes, and thorns in our sides. They will bring us down to the pit of despair. Some of these thoughts may stem from the time of our youth. When I was a child, I was very sickly and spent a lot of time in various hospitals.

As I grew older, I became very healthy yet, as soon as I felt pain, I still heard this voice in the back of my mind, whispering that there was something terribly wrong with me. When I was young, such thoughts were easy to ignore, but now in my old age, it seems that every little ache and pain becomes a big issue, not in my body but in my mind. This is an example of the former inhabitants in the land of the mind, that when not removed, can later become thorns and pricks in our eyes and sides. When the light of the Spirit reveals these thought patterns, it is best to quickly take authority over them. These are the kinds of things that we fight daily. As we come closer to our full salvation, even the smallest inhabitants that might still linger in our minds cannot remain.

THY REDEMPTION DRAWS NIGH

David asked, *“Why art thou cast down, O my soul? And why art thou disquieted in me?”* (Ps.42:5a). We also find a yearning within, a knowing that we need more. What is this groaning within ourselves? Paul explains, *“For we know that the entire creation, (all creatures), groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now. And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves, groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our bodies.”* (Rom.8:22-23)

The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of truth that is leading us into all truths. As we follow Him, we are becoming sons. *“But as many as received him, to them gave he power TO BECOME the sons of God, even to them that believe in his name.”* (Jn.1:12)

As we receive Him and follow Him, we are BECOMING. But the work takes place within our soul and spirit and is not outwardly visible. The Lord once told me, “This is an underground work.” Our

bodies are still the same. They are still prone to the dangers of diseases, accidents and such; they are still subject to aging and they are still mortal. The Spirit gives us gifts to help us on the way. He gives us miracles at times too, but nevertheless, we still go through the natural processes of life on these bodies. And so we are groaning to be delivered. Our soul and spirit are being renewed day by day, but the bodies will be changed in the twinkling of an eye.

Oh yes, we groan and travail for our bodies to also enter into His resurrection, even as do our souls. *“Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.”* (3 Jn.2) The word “prosper” comes from the Greek meaning “to succeed in reaching.” John understood that their souls had entered into life and would succeed in reaching its full goal. But now he prayed that their physical health would follow through. This is the groaning within. That our bodies would also prosper, be touched by resurrection life, until the next big event, even the redemption of our bodies.

“And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.” (Eph.4:30) The Holy Spirit has sealed our faith, unto the redemption of our bodies. This is what we are all looking for now. Jesus spoke clearly of what would take place in the world before that day. As Jesus was preparing His disciples about things to come, they asked Him, *“And as he sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him privately, saying, Tell us about these things, and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?”* (Matt.24:3)

Jesus answered, *“Take heed that no man deceive you.”*(Matt.24:4) He first spoke of the deceptive rumors that would be going around at the end of the age and the time of His coming. He did not hide the fact that those would be extremely difficult days for the world. *“For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world, to this time, no, nor ever shall be.”* (Matt.24:21)

Is this not what is taking place in our world today? But there was something else of great importance that Jesus said about these days, *“And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift*

up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh..." Lk.21:28) Today, because of current national and world events, the Spirit keeps bringing back the words that Jesus spoke long ago. He said that there would be wars and commotion, and that nations would rise up against nations. He spoke of great earthquakes and famines and pestilences, and fearful sights. He spoke of a day that would be so terrible that there would never be another like it.

Wars, earthquakes and pestilences have indeed been ongoing since the beginning of time, and much more so since Jesus spoke these warnings, yet they have increased to the place where now the number of casualties, and the lethal power of the weapons have reached the enormous threat of totally destroying the world. The people of this world are actually sitting on a powder keg, ready to explode at the whim of some insane and enraged leader. If violence in the hearts of men continues at this rate, man will have achieved the complete annihilation of his own social, economic and political world. This is why God who SO LOVES HIS WORLD, sent His Son to save it.

The majesty of the Son of God was seen in Jesus Christ the Man. Through the mystery of birthing, that same Son has been formed within each of His called out ones, to appear again in the many-membered Man, the sons of God. As sons, we are being prepared for the great deliverance that is coming to the world. We have been separated unto the Father's purpose, that we might learn to do only what He is doing, and to speak only what He is speaking.

Recently someone sent me a portion of this following article by Brother Preston Eby. It was written years ago, but is so in tune with what God is doing today.

"The life of sonship is a hidden, inner life, having to do with the spiritual and invisible One who sees in secret. It is a secluded life, hid with Christ in God. The life in Christ neither strives nor shouts, nor does one hear its voice in the streets. It shrinks from all outward displays, whether showy public alms giving, conspicuous religious exercises, oratorical prayers, ceremonious fastings, broadened phylacteries, processional parades, clerical costume, titles, or degrees, or holy tones. Like a planet around the sun, it rolls

in its orbit of obedience to the Father without fanfare or advertisement; like the sun itself, it shines without noise.

We live in a day of much feverish running to and fro, and Martha-like preoccupation about much serving; a day of organizations, conventions, television shows, and public meetings and programs of all sorts. It has almost come to be understood, even in "sonship" and "kingdom" circles that we can do nothing for God unless we organize, promote, and hold a public meeting. The secret life of aloneness with God has largely given way to the public life of gatherings, meetings, and activities. The closet has given way to the Synagogue.

There is indeed a time for the corporate expression, but first and foremost let your watchword be: Alone with God. We need to hide ourselves with God before we show ourselves for God. Elijah did. God said to Elijah, "Hide thyself," before He said, "Show thyself." "Get thee hence, and turn thee eastward, and hide thyself by the brook Cherith, that is before Jordan" (I Kings 17:3).

"And it came to pass after many days, that the word of the Lord came to Elijah in the third year saying, Go, show thyself unto Ahab; and I will send rain upon the earth" (I Kings 18:1). It is my deep conviction that we are living in the hour of the hiding of the sons of God. The sons shall come to intimately and fully know the Father in the secret place, and be prepared and equipped by Him there, before they are shown to the world in the long-awaited manifestation of the sons of God. Preston Eby." End of quote.

THE REPAIRER OF THE BREACH

God's great prophet of the kingdom records these words, "*And THEY that shall be of thee shall build the old waste places: thou shalt raise up the foundation of many generations; and thou shalt be called, The repairer of the breach, The restorer of paths to dwell in.*" (Isa.58:12)

This is the call of a people upon whom God shone

His light. *“Then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily; and thy righteousness shall go before thee, the glory of the Lord shall be thy reward.”* (Isa.58:8) This is spoken to a people who have been through the fire. They have been dealt with by God’s own Hand, for His purpose. They are the Christ people, the sons of God, arising as the Sun/Son of righteousness to shine rays of health and goodwill upon a dying world, and to free mankind and set up paths for them to dwell in. This is the important news of the Day we live in.

It was in a Jerusalem synagogue that our Lord stood up and opened the book to read the words of the prophet concerning Himself. *“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; because the Lord hath anointed me to preach good tidings to the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of prison to them that are bound; to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord...”* (Isa.61:1-2) Jesus stopped there and closed the book. When He walked the earth, He fulfilled all of these prophecies. Since then, He has continued to fulfill each Word by means of His many-membered body. And it is almost completed.

And so we have been going through the paces with Him. For centuries since His ascension, the Spirit of God has been at work to loose and expose the forces of evil, that we might learn to discern the Lie which causes sin and death in the world. The bottomless pit has been spewing out its vilest ploys meant to overwhelm and destroy God’s beautiful creatures.

All the while, the Spirit of God has been doing an incredible “underground work” in the midst of a called out people, His true church. By His Spirit, Jesus has planted the Seed of Himself into the spiritual womb of His bride. With each Word that was quickened to her, the Son within her was being formed. This was Paul’s travail for the church. *“My little children, of whom I travail in birth again until Christ be formed in you.”* (Gal.4:19)

Paul travailed in birth AGAIN. This travail is in progress, and each time a Word is received and quickened to our conscious understanding and wit-

nessed by our spirit, more of the Son is formed in us. When the Son fully appears in us, creation’s deliverance will begin. Oh yes there is such a people waiting in the wings! They have been hidden in the midst of the world, veiled under the shadow/shade of the Almighty. They are the Word of God made flesh as it was in Jesus.

The dominion mandate that the first Adam received came to an end at Calvary. The Waster is finishing its work. *“Behold, I have created the smith that bloweth the coals in the fire, and that bringeth forth an instrument for his work; AND I HAVE CREATED THE WASTER TO DESTROY.”* (Isa.54:16)

Our God is not short of instruments to complete His work. The work of a smith is to bend iron and metals after holding them in the extremely hot fire of a forge until they are almost melted. Looking at world events from the beginning of time, the fires of God’s smith have been heating up to the point that when the final hammer blow is cast upon the hardness of man’s heart and mind, it will not fail to bend and bow down. Sons already know this by experience.

And the Waster destroys the rest. The word “waster” denotes “decay, corruption.” Within the life of earthly living things, there is a waster. Sooner or later, the decay within begins to destroy the thing. Whether it is the grass of the field, the flowers that bloom in the Spring, or man’s body that slowly takes on the wear and tear of its age, the Waster’s work never lets up. God has it all figured out. He is making all things new through the fire.

And now we are at the threshold of a new Day. A new Light is arising and that Light is within a people. This may all be repetition, but Oh how it is worth repeating over and over again!

*“I love to tell the story, of unseen things above.
Of Jesus and His glory, of Jesus and His love.
I love to tell the story, because I know tis true,
It satisfies my longings, as nothing else could do.”*

Because of His love, *Jackie Caporaso*