

Speak The Word Only

by

Gregg N. Huestis

Speak the Word Only

Personalized Confessions To Change Our Lives

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Dedication

*I dedicate this book first of all to
the Holy Spirit for giving me the idea and His
Anointing to write these confessions.
I also dedicate this book to all of the ministries
that have taught me for many years
the power that lies within our confession!*

Acknowledgements

*I would like to thank my wife, Emily, for always
Being by my side and supporting me in
My writing.*

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A Personal Introduction From The Author

I titled this book *Speak The Word Only*; because I have always loved the words of the centurion to Jesus in (Matt. 8: 8,9 KJV).

The centurion answered and said, Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldest come under my roof: but **speak the word only**, and my servant shall be healed. For I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me: and I say to this *man*, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant Do this, and he doeth it.

This centurion realized that Jesus was a man under God's authority, as *he* also was under authority. He also understood the power of the spoken word (verse 9). In that when Jesus spoke *the Word*, all power and authority in heaven (and earth) was behind the Word that He spoke. This is the reason that Jesus was so amazed when He heard what the centurion said. Jesus replied with: "I have not found **so great faith**, no, not in Israel." Jesus was amazed that the centurion understood the authority of the spoken word, and that he also had *the faith to believe* that his servant would be healed even though he couldn't physically see him.

My final reason (for this title) is that we, the church of Jesus Christ, must begin to understand (as this centurion) the power behind the Word of God in our mouth. Seeing that Jesus made such a great statement concerning what that centurion said, we too should realize the importance of the word (our confession) that we speak. I am reminded of the keys given to us in (Rev. 12:11 KJV), that will **make** us overcomers.

And they overcame him (Satan), by the blood of the Lamb **and** *by the word of their testimony*; and they loved not their lives unto the death.

Please notice that there are **two keys** given to us in the Word of God to enable us to live the life of an overcomer. The first and most important, *the blood of the Lamb*; and the second which is also **vitaly** important: *the word of our testimony*. These life changing keys are inseparable, when they pertain to living an overcoming life. With out them together, we will **never** live an overcoming life.

Despite Jesus' words in (Matt. 8:8,9) and the writings of John the revelator, the vast majority of the Body of Christ has *greatly ignored* the power of the spoken word. Proverbs says, that life and death are in the power of the tongue (Prov.18: 21); and the **whole book of James** further supports this statement concerning the power of the spoken word, spoken of in Proverbs. James says, if one can control the tongue, than one can control **the whole body**; as in the case of a horse or a ship. Seeing that these statements must be true (since God is not a liar), why is it that so many "believers" still fail to acknowledge the power of the spoken word?

The **only** possible explanation is that Satan knows the power of the blood, *coupled together* with God's Word as our testimony. And he will use any method possible to **try** to keep God's people in bondage; so that they will not be overcomer's, as the Word *says* they are. He has used the "*theologians*" of the past 150 yrs. to convince us that if we use God's Word as our confession of faith, we are participating in mind sciences and **so-called** occult practices (such as *Positive Confession or Visualization*).

Please do not forget, Satan has **never created anything**. All he has ever done is to **try** to copy, distort; and pervert that which **God** has already created. It is time that the children of God begin to rise up, in **Jesus** Name and use the keys given to us in

Rev. 12:11), and become the overcomer's that God's Word says we are. It is time for the Body of Christ to *see* itself the way God says we are and walk according to all that God has promised us.

Finally, I wish to say that, *Speak The Word Only*, is not meant (**in any way**) to be a *substitute* for *The Holy Bible*. This is simply a booklet of personalized confessions, taken from the Word of God; to be used (in daily meditation **along side** the Holy Scriptures), in order to change ones life from a life of defeat into victory. If you are born-again, you have already received the precious blood of Jesus, that has washed your sin away. So *I challenge you today* to use this 2nd key also and apply them to your life **daily** and see just what kind of champion you will become.

Gregg N. Huestis

Blessed To Be A Blessing Ministries

1

Visualization: Is It Scriptural?

(Take Back What Satan Has Stolen—*Your Vision!*)

During the last fifteen years, there has been a lot of debate over the use of visualization in Christianity, as to whether or not it is a Scriptural practice. The overall controversy seems to focus on the fact that eastern religions and the *New Age Movement* use this sort of mental practice. Since these groups use visualization it seems a prevailing spirit of fear has come upon many believers, inspiring them to establish a “Christian” boycott against its use.

Nevertheless, where did the practice of visualization originate? Is visualization evil as some have claimed? If not, what useful purpose does it have in the lives of Christians today? Does the Word of God *reaffirm* or condemn the practice of visualization? Before we continue, let’s first define what it means to visualize—hence visualization. The dictionary defines *visualize* as: “to make visible, to form a mental image [picture] of.”¹ Have you ever noticed how words form mental pictures? For instance, if I say “dog,” a mental picture of a dog flashes in your mind. Using yet another example, when someone says “*mother*,” instantly a picture of a mother, possibly your own mother, comes to mind. Moreover, each person’s mental picture will be different.

The Origin of Visualization

(Genesis 1:1,27 NKJV) “In the beginning God **created** the heavens and the earth...So God created man in His *own image*; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.”

The word *create* means “to select, feed (as formative processes), choose, dispatch, make.”² *Create* gives the connotative meaning of the way an artist creates a sculpture. The artist forms a mental picture of what he desires to create. He may even draw out a sketch before beginning to mold his sculpture. With this picture firmly in our minds, let us relate this to the creation of the heavens, earth and the first man. How many of you reading this book believe that God knew *exactly* what He wanted to create **before** He started to make His creation?

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Of course, God Almighty knew what He wanted to create, because He had a *distinct picture* of His creation *within* Himself prior to starting His work. He had a visualized picture of His creation long before He began the work. People of God—what we have just addressed is visualization.

Therefore, without doubt, God Himself is the Originator of the practice of visualization. God selected, chose, nurtured then dispatched and made His inner visual picture, in the same fashion that an artist creates a sculpture. In an imaginative sense, one could say (Gen. 1:1) was God's *thumbnail sketch* of His creation, or the beginning formation of His inner vision. Let's continue to look at (Genesis 1:27) again:

So God created man in ***His own image***; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

Image as defined by the concordance, is “to shade, a phantom, illusion, *resemblance*, hence ***a representative figure***.”³ The dictionary defines *image* as; “a likeness or imitation of a person or thing; *a visual counterpart*. ***A mental picture*** or conception: Impression, Idea, Concept.”⁴

Here I would like to offer a little food for thought. Could man have possibly been created in *the same likeness* as God's inner picture (*image*) within Himself? In addition, have you ever thought that part of the image of God was God's own inner picture of His created man? *In other words*, Adam was created to ***the exact specifications*** that God had already predetermined based on His visual (inner) image of man. Furthermore, what is the most important thing that any builder requires, whether he's building a tool shed or a new skyscraper? He would need a detailed set of blue prints to keep the project on track. God's *blueprints* (so to speak) for creation were within Himself, in the form of a picture.

Allow me to clarify myself before you label me a heretic. I totally believe that God's image is *spirit, soul, and body* (1Thess. 5:23). However, all I'm simply asking is “Could God have also created man according to the inner image, *blue print*, He visualized within Himself prior to His work?” I believe without a doubt that He did. Furthermore, God also revealed to us His redemptive plan (Jesus' Substitute Sacrifice—in our place) in the book of Genesis.

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(Genesis 3:15 NKJV) And I will put enmity between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel.

This passage of Scripture is the very first prophecy about the coming Messiah, our Deliverer, Jesus Christ the Son of the Living God. Our Father was foretelling of Satan's destruction and our freedom, paid for by the blood Jesus. God was releasing *into* man His vision of the coming Savior and the ultimate defeat of the serpent, who *masterminded* their rebellion. Moreover, in this verse, God is clearly showing us how He calls the things that be not (visible to the natural eyes of man), *as though they were*.

In God's eyes Satan's defeat and our redemption were as good as done even though neither was manifested in the physical realm. The Father saw (*visualized*) the future coming of the Lord Jesus and our adoption back to Him. As far as God was concerned, this was an established fact—prepared to be manifested.

Visualization In The Life Of Abraham

Let's continue in our study of visualization, now that we have established the foundational truth that God *is* the Originator of visualization. The next portion of God's Word that I want to direct your attention to is the life of Abram, or Abraham as he was later called.

(Genesis 12:1,2,4 KJV) Now the Lord had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee: And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing. So Abram departed, as the Lord had spoken unto him; and Lot went with him: and Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed out of Haran.

Can you imagine God coming to you one day at **seventy-five years** of age, saying; "Come on, move out of this city and go to a city that I will show you, and there I will make of you a great nation." Today most people at seventy- five are in retirement, and the furthest thing from their minds is having children and moving. So the fact that Abram even listened to God's directions was a miracle in itself. I truly believe

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that had Abram not done as God said, he would never have received the promise spoken of in (v:2). Obedience to the vision of God was **the key** to receiving his promised child.

In the second verse of chapter twelve, God begins to reveal His inner visual picture of Abram's life and the fulfillment of His prophetic utterance in (Gen. 3:15). In order for Abram to be able to receive God's vision for his life, he had to be removed from his comfort zone, his hometown, and be brought into a place where he had no overpowering outside influences of doubt and unbelief.

God further unfolds His vision for Abram:

(Genesis 13:14-16 NKJV) And the Lord said to Abram, after Lot had separated from him: "Lift your eyes now and **look** from the place where you are—northward, southward, eastward, and westward; for all the land which you **see** *I give to you and your descendants* forever. And I will make your descendants **as the dust of the earth**; so that if a man could number the dust of the earth, then your descendants also could be numbered...."

Notice here (v:15), God said "*I give to you and your descendants*;" instead of saying; "**I will give to you.**" In God's visual picture Abram and his descendants **already** had possession of the land that He had promised, even though Abram was still *childless* in the natural realm—God saw him with many children.

The word *look* as defined by the concordance means "behold, consider, perceive, think, view, visions."⁵ God said to Abram "behold, look, see—all this I give unto you **and** your descendants **now**, only see My vision *as yours* from this day forth." God further developed His inner picture for Abram by giving him a **visual aid**, helping Abram comprehend better what He was doing; "And I will make your descendants as the **dust** of the earth."

This was a vivid portrait which God painted in Abram's spirit, "Behold the dust of the earth, how it cannot be numbered; so will your descendants be." From that day forward, each time Abram saw the dust he'd visualize his children. God put Abram in a position where he would

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be unable to not see himself as a father with many children every **day** of his life!

Despite his visual aid, Abram started to become rather anxious concerning his promised child. What was God's response to Abram?

(Genesis 15:4b&5 NKJV) "...but one who will come from your own body shall be your heir." Then He brought him outside and said '**Look** now toward heaven, and count the stars *if you are able to number them.*' And He said to him, 'So shall your descendants be.'"

God gave Abram *visual aid* number two "*Look* now toward heaven and count the stars..." The Bible says that this time (v:6), "He believed God." I believe with all my heart that God, through these two revelations, was gradually building Abram's *inner vision* of himself as a man with many children. Abram still did not fully understand all of the details, but he received enough to hold on to God's promise and believed Him despite any doubts. Now, day **or** night, God caused Abram to **visualize** his descendants. This brought about an incredible transformation in Abram.

The Most Powerful Factor of Godly Visualization

(Genesis 17:4b,5;15 NKJV) "...and you shall be a father of many nations. No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you a father of many nations...As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her name Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name."

God is so awesome in the way He works. Not only did He give Abram two revelations, but He also changed Abram and Sarai's names, causing them to **confess** who they were in God. Thus, to show that this *principle* is consistent with the rest of Scripture let's look at it in the New Covenant.

(Romans 4:17 KJV) (As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, **even God**, who quickeneth the dead, **and calleth those things which be not as though they were.**

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God called the things which be not (in the natural) as though they were, because when He changed Abram's name to Abraham, he was in the natural realm still childless. **However**, in the spirit realm, God saw or visualized him as already possessing the promise. He called those things that *were not revealed to the senses*, yet still existed, **into** the realm of the natural, which manifested just as God visualized them to be. God changed how Abram and Sarai saw themselves and the way they spoke about who they were.

God put Abraham in a position where he **had** to confess who he was in God's sight, a father of many nations. Through this name change confession, approximately six months following this event, Sarah became pregnant with their son of promise, Isaac. Abraham and Sarah's new mental picture, coupled together with their new confession of faith, brought the supernatural power of God into them to produce the promised miracle. This miracle *did not* happen simply because Abraham received two revelations and began to confess that he was a father of many nations. Abraham received **Rhema** a (living, saying)⁶ Word from God, which he *acted* upon by believing God with his actions as well as his verbal confession. Whenever God gives you a (Rhema) word, dare to believe Him for it, by **seeing** yourself as He says you are; and by boldly confessing the word that God has birthed within your spirit. If we'll apply these truths, we too will receive from God the exact same way as Abraham did.

Look at what the book of Romans has to say about those who follow *after* Abraham's example of faith.

(Romans 4:12 KJV) And the father of circumcision to them who are not of the circumcision only, ***but who also walk in the steps*** of that faith of our father Abraham, which *he* had being *yet* uncircumcised.

Abraham copied God's example, by calling the things that be not as though they were. We too should copy Abraham's way of applying faith, thus we would receive the same kind of results. God *always* honors heart felt faith. **(Ephesians 5:1)** Therefore be imitators of God [***copy Him*** and follow His example], as well beloved children [***imitate*** their father].

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Moreover, the book of Hebrews also has a powerful passage that expounds on how Abraham applied the practice of visualization.

(Heb.11:17-19 KJV) By faith Abraham, when he was tried, offered up Isaac: and he that **had received the promises** offered up his only begotten *son*, Of whom it was said, That in Isaac shall thy seed be called: **Accounting** that God *was* able to raise *him* up, even from the dead; **from whence also he received him in figure.**

In the concordance, *accounting* is defined as “[to take an inventory, estimate, conclude, esteem, reason, reckon, suppose, **think on**].”⁷⁷ Abraham believed God could, and would, raise Isaac from the dead if need be; because he *knew* Isaac was his son of promise. Abraham was absolutely confident that God would keep His word, no matter how his circumstances seemed to appear. He considered not what his natural thoughts and feelings were telling him. This is the type of assurance and reliance that God desires for all believers to have in Him *and* His Word. Sadly, few dare to do so!

The word *figure* is defined in the concordance as, “[a fictitious narrative (of common life conveying a moral), parable, proverb].”⁷⁸ Abraham *received* Isaac (from the dead) with the same *visual* narrative (parable) that God originally disclosed to him when he was 75 years old. God used His words to create a mental picture, which birthed the promise of Isaac inside Abraham’s spirit.

Consequently, he *saw* himself with Isaac, raised from the dead; **before** he was even sacrificed. Why? Because Abraham was fully persuaded that what God had promised, He was able to accomplish. He had one-hundred percent confidence that God *could not* lie.

One final note should be made regarding the name changes of Abraham and Sarah. The very fact that God changed their names proves that God saw them, as they’re new names proclaimed: “You are a father of many nations, and she is a Princess with many children.” God would not have called them Abraham and Sarah if they were not exactly as their names intended them to be *in His eyes*. Why? Because, God calls the things that *be not*—as thou they were.

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Visualization In The Life of Jacob

(Gen. 30:25-43)

We now focus our attention on what I believe is the clearest, most undeniable example of the power of visualization written in the entire Word of God. We are going to examine the life of Jacob and how God taught him to outsmart his father-in-law Laban.

(Genesis 30:27-32;37-41 NKJV) “And Laban said to him, ‘Please *stay*, if I have found favor in your eyes, *for* I have learned by experience that the Lord has blessed me for your sake...Name me your wages, and I will give it.’ ‘...the Lord has blessed you since my coming. **And now, when shall I also provide for my own house?**...You shall not *give me anything*. If you will do this thing for me, I will again feed and keep your flocks: Let me pass through all your flock today, removing from there all the speckled and spotted sheep, and all the brown ones among the lambs, and the spotted and speckled among the goats; and **these shall be my wages...**’ Now Jacob took for himself rods of green poplar and of the almond and chestnut trees, **peeled white strips in them**, and exposed the white...And the rods which he had peeled, **he set before the flocks** in the gutters, in the watering troughs where the flocks came to drink, **so that they should conceive when they came to drink**. So the flocks conceived **before the rods**, and the flocks brought forth *streaked, speckled, and spotted*. Then Jacob separated the lambs, *and made the flocks face toward the streaked* and all the brown in the flock of Laban; but he put his own flocks by themselves and did not put them with Laban's flock. And it came to pass, whenever the strong live-stock conceived, that Jacob placed the rods **before the eyes of the live-stock** in the gutters, that they might **conceive among the rods**.”

Here we have a man who is tired of being treated as a slave, and always *tricked* into losing, kind of poetic justice, seeing that he cheated his brother Esau out of his birthright. He decides it's time to move on, but Laban begs him to stay. Unfortunately, Laban makes a mistake, figuring he will continue to *use* the blessing upon Jacob in order to increase himself. One can profit at God's expense only so long, and then comes the retribution of God. Laban thought he had the upper hand when in fact God had a miracle plan of His own...

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The Bible does not say that God *told* Jacob to do all the things that he did, yet I firmly believe God was the source behind Jacob's wisdom and insight. God wanted to display His miracle power through his life so that Laban and all of the land would know that Jehovah is God.

So, Jacob separated all of the speckled and spotted, (cows, goats, and sheep) from the pure solid colored animals. In genetics, the chance of these pure colored animals producing spotted and speckled offspring was nearly impossible and consequently that which took place was truly a total miracle from God.

Also, God gave Jacob a vision of His restoration plan, and **He** showed him how to bring about his own total restoration. God Almighty Himself inspired Jacob to peel stripes into the rods and place them in the **sight** of those animals where they drank and conceived their young. God's plan of restoration for Jacob was a plan that involved visualization. The animals would *see* the rods, and would produce young just like the rods that were before their eyes.

The Bible goes on to say (v:43), that Jacob increased *exceedingly* and had many cattle, camels, and donkeys, as well as servants. He became an extremely rich man by combining visualization with the natural process of animal breeding. Let's see *what* the Source of Jacob's success was.

(Genesis 31:19 NKJV) So **God** has taken away the livestock of your father and given them to me...."

God Almighty was the source of Jacob's miraculous success, *not* Satan. Moreover, Jacob received a dream from the Angel of God (v:10-13), telling him to take all that he had and proceed to Bethel. In other words, Jacob had received the restoration of all that Laban had stolen from him and even more. The Word of God is distinctly clear about our control over the mental pictures that we choose to dwell on. We are the ones who determine what we imagine.

Whatever we perceive in our minds will either be a source of strength or a prison of defeat. The mental picture that we hold within ourselves on a continual basis will either widen our horizon of possibility, or it will set the boundaries of the cage we are doomed to live in.

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The amazing thing about all of this is that we are the ones who choose which thoughts we receive. We are *ultimately* the ones responsible for our own success or defeat. Since God cannot *force* us to change our thought life, we must make the choice. Having a godly thought life is the will of God, but He will not enforce it upon us; as we have been given a free will.

Visualization: Goliath's Strength Israel's Defeat!

(1 Samuel 17:8-11 NKJV) "...Choose a man for yourselves, and let him come down to me. If he is able to fight with me and kill me, then we will be your servants. But if I prevail against him and kill him, then you shall be our servants and serve us...I defy the armies of Israel this day; give me a man, that we may fight together.' When Saul and all of Israel **heard those words** of the Philistine, they were **dismayed** and **greatly** afraid."

Israel lived in a cage of defeat, because *the words* of Goliath created a fear-filled mental picture in all the people's minds. Goliath's size and track record were bad enough, but when they heard his words fear came and their horizon of possibility greatly diminished. They *thought* they were defeated thus, they were. They *thought* he was invincible, therefore he was.

The process by which one forms mental pictures through words is the essence of visualization. Goliath used his words to create a psychological picture of defeat in their minds. Unfortunately it worked! Goliath's strength was based on *their* perception of his words.

Miraculously, along came a man who could see no defeat (1 Sam. 17: 17-51). David had been commissioned by his father Jesse (v: 17) to take some food to his brothers and their commanding officer, and get word from them. This was God's divine appointment to present to the armies of Israel their next king.

(1 Samuel 17:23 KJV) And as he talked with them behold, there came up the champion, the Philistine of Gath, Goliath by name, out of the armies of the Philistines, *and spake according to the same words:* and **David heard them.**

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Notice the last four words of (v: 23), “*and David heard them.*” Also, bear in mind that these words which Goliath spoke were **the same words** that the army of Israel had heard many times before. Yet those words created a radically different picture in David’s mind. David saw Goliath’s boasting as a personal offense; not only to himself, but to the God of Israel as well. He also saw Goliath’s defeat as a financial opportunity. This victory would mean total debt cancellation for him and his family.

(1 Samuel 17:26,25 KJV) “And David spake to the men that stood by him, saying, What shall be done to the man that killeth this Philistine, and taketh away the reproach from Israel? for who is this *uncircumcised Philistine*, that he should defy the armies of the living God?...And the men of Israel said, Have ye seen this man that is come up? surely to defy Israel is he come up: and it shall be, *that* the man who killeth him, the king will enrich him with great riches, and give him his daughter, and make his father’s house free in Israel.”

David’s cognitive image of Goliath’s defeat became strengthened as he received more details of what his downfall would be worth. Unfortunately, Israel could only see themselves’ as weak and defeated, but David saw the whole encounter as a profitable opportunity. Following this, David was brought to Saul to receive permission to fight. He explained his triumphs over the lion and the bear, and showed himself to be qualified as a soldier.

(1 Samuel 17:36 NKJV) “Your servant has killed both lion and bear; and this uncircumcised Philistine *will be* like one of them, **seeing** he has defied the armies of the living God.”

From this courageous statement we can see that David had a crystal clear *visual picture* of his victory over Goliath. It was this portrait of triumph that motivated him toward the fulfillment of this golden opportunity. It was his destiny, *and he knew it*. Therefore, David **received** exactly what he *believed* would take place. David’s confidence stemmed first and foremost from his faith and trust in God as his Provider and Protector. David had a deep, intimate relationship with God Almighty. Second, he had the experience of past victories to draw strength and confidence from. David controlled his thoughts by replaying the mental

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tapes of his victories over the lion and the bear. The thought of previous victories *drove* him on. David also drew confidence by following in the foot steps of Abraham. He called the things that be not as though they were, “*and this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them.*” He saw the battle as already won, he boldly confessed his vision and he went forward with the victory already his. He **knew** God’s will for his life and he went out boldly took possession of it.

(1Samuel 17:37;46 KJV) “David said moreover, The Lord that delivered me out of the paw of the lion, and out of the paw of the bear, he will deliver me out of the hand of this Philistine. And Saul said **Go**, *and the Lord be with thee...*This day will the Lord deliver thee into mine hand, and I will smite thee, and take thine head from thee...”.

David made sure to give the Lord all the glory for his past and present victories, and he *boldly confessed his faith* in God before Saul. Then just a few verses of Scripture later, he makes his most courageous confession. He fearlessly tells Goliath why, and how he is going to kill him. At the close of this encounter, David *puts his faith into action*, killing Goliath with *Goliath’s* own sword, fulfilling his inner vision of victory, and displaying to the whole world that God is *Alive!*

We, as people of God, must understand that David was not an extraordinary man. He simply chose not to see *any* defeat. Hence, he lived his life receiving victory after victory. He lived the life of a winner because he focused his spiritual eyes not on who he was; but on who God was creating him to be. We can all walk in victory the same as David did! But, we will have to think and act like David as well.

Visualization And The Promised Land

(Num. 13:17-33/Num. 14:1-10)

God commanded Moses to send a group of men on a mission to spy out the land of promise. The report was that the land was just as God said it was; however, there was a massive inferiority problem among the inspection team. Victory was not in sight for this motley-crew. It’s sad that negative people seem to out number the positive.

Visualization: Is It Scriptural?

(Numbers 13:27,28; 31,33 KJV) “And they told him, and said, We came unto the land whither thou sentest us, and surely it floweth with milk and honey; and this is the fruit of it. *Nevertheless* the people be *strong* that dwell in the land, and the cities are walled, and *very great*: and moreover we saw the children of Anak there...But the men that went up with him said, We be not able to go up against the people; for they are *stronger than we*...And there we saw *the giants*, the sons of Anak, which come of *the giants*: and we were **in our own sight** as grasshoppers, and so we were in their sight.”

The ten spies that brought back an evil report had an inferiority complex simply because they had *no real* relationship with God. They knew His power side, but they had no genuine experience with His Father, Provider and Protector side. Therefore, they were weak and fainted when God’s challenge was delivered. They witnessed the signs and wonders, but not His *abiding presence* in their lives (Jn. 15:7), on a personal level. Because of this lack of relationship, ten out of the 12 spies saw *themselves* as grasshoppers before the sons of Anak — “...**in our own sight** as grasshoppers....”

They could not *see* themselves as victorious regardless of what God had said. In their imagination, there was no possible way to possess the land. Hence, they would not even attempt to do so. But Joshua and Caleb **saw** that the victory, because they visualized it through God’s Word of instruction!

(Numbers 13:30;14:6-9 KJV) “And Caleb stilled the people before Moses, and said, Let us go up *at once*, and possess it; **for we are well able to overcome it**...And Joshua the son of Nun, and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, which were of them that searched the land, rent their clothes: And they spake unto all the company of the children of Israel, saying, The land, which we passed through to search it, is an exceeding good land. If the LORD delight in us, then he will bring us into this land, and give it us; a land which floweth with milk and honey. Only rebel not ye against the Lord, neither fear ye the people of the land; for they are bread for us: their defense is departed from them, **and the Lord is with us**: fear them not.”

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Joshua and Caleb were men of faith who had a personal relationship with Jehovah. They *knew* that what God said they could do, they would do. They **knew** God would honor His promises. Unfortunately *many* believers today do not believe that God will honor His Word. They think God *can* and **will** change His mind *whenever* He wants, despite all the promises He has given. But God's Word is His oath (bond of commitment) to us. God & His Word are **one** (the same).

Joshua and Caleb believed God at His Word, and refused to *see* any defeat. They saw the battle already fought and won because their God said they were able to win. They didn't understand all of the details involved, but through *the eyes of faith*, they *saw* themselves victorious. It's time that we open our spiritual eyes and begin to comprehend that God does His business much differently than we could ever dream possible. That which *appears* illogical or *ungodly* to us may very well be perfectly normal to God. The religious mind tends to put God into a theological box, by saying God will *only* move within *our* four walls of understanding. In reality our understanding is **extremely** limited in comparison to His. With this thought in mind, let's see what *Proverbs* says about our thought life:

(Proverbs 23:7 KJV) "For as he **thinketh** in his heart, so is he:"

Thinketh, as defined by the concordance means, "to act as gate keeper, to estimate, or think."⁹ This verse is literally saying; "Be diligent in the roll of keeping your thought life." Why? This is because that which *you* allow yourself to think on most will determine you're entire life's destiny. Alcoholics think on alcohol, and a pervert thinks only on sex and other perversions. That man (Prov. 23:7), becomes what he programs into his mental computer bank. This same word of wisdom applies to Christians today.

Whatever we visualize (*think on*) will be the determining factor of what we become. The saddest part of all is, **even God** cannot help me if I have chosen to set my thoughts on those things which will destroy me. God has given all of us a free will, which He *will not* violate, so the choice is up to us. He has set before us life and death, blessing and curse (Prov. 18:21); the choice is up to each of us. But, *Proverbs* chapter four gives us another powerful principle of truth.

Visualization: Is It Scriptural?

(Proverbs 4:23 KJV) Keep thy heart with all diligence; for *out of it* are the **issues of life**.

The word *keep* tells us “to guard or protect [our hearts against anything that brings corruption].”¹⁰ The word *heart* denotes “the will, the intellect, understanding and center of anything.”¹¹ This verse goes on to say; *out of it* (the heart), are the issues of life. What are these issues of life that are coming out of the heart? The word *issue*, *according to the concordance*, means “geographical boundary, source, and border.”¹² In essence, this Scripture says: “Keep (guard, protect) your heart (mind, will; emotions and *spirit*) with all diligence; for *out of it* (the heart) come the issues (geographical boundaries or borders) of life.”

This verse tells us to protect the soul and spirit, because what we allow our minds to visualize (think on) will set the boundaries or borders of the prison in which we *must* live the rest of our lives. **We** set up our own limits (*not God*), by the thoughts that we choose to think on.

If we continually see ourselves as failures, that is *exactly* what we will become. However, if we see ourselves through the eyes of God’s Word, we will be able to do *all things* through Christ Who Strengthens us (Phil. 4:13). The choice is up to us. In order to live victoriously, we must determine to set our thoughts on **the Word of God**, allowing His Word to be the *determining factor* governing our lives. His Word must be first place and the last word *over* our circumstances in our lives.

Visualization In The New Covenant

(What Did Jesus Say About It?)

(John 1:42) Andrew then led (brought) Simon to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, You are Simon son of John. *You shall be called Cephas*—which translated is Peter [Stone].

In order to properly answer regarding Jesus’ thoughts about visualization, we should start at the beginning of His earthly ministry. Have you ever wondered why Jesus gave Simon the name “Cephas?” Could it be Jesus *looked inside* Simon, saw all of his inconsistencies, then *in essence* said, “Simon you may be weak and without backbone now, but I see you as a *rock* (Peter); this is what I will cause you to be.”

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Jesus said to Simon; “I see (visualize) you as Peter (rock), a stable man; a man of strength and power.” Jesus saw Simon *as God wanted him to become*; rather than as he was. He called the things *that be not* as though they were. This is the same thing God did in the case of Abram and Sarai. Jesus plainly said in the book of John that Abraham **saw** His day and was delighted.

(John.8:56) Your forefather Abraham was extremely happy at the hope and prospect of *seeing* My day (My incarnation); and he did **see** it and was delighted.

In light of the previous verse of Scripture, how was Abraham seeing His day? Abraham saw (visualized) Jesus’ day with his spiritual eyes. God already said in (Gen. 3:15), that the Messiah would come; and He would use Isaac to bring this to pass. Isn’t it altogether possible that God showed Abraham a detailed mental picture (Heb. 11:17-19), of His plan to redeem the world and Abraham was excited that he had a part in the restoration of all things. He saw, visualized, this by faith given to him through God’s promise. At this point I want to pose a question. Did you know that Jesus Himself *practiced* visualization? *Traditional* believers would probably say, “that’s heresy!” Nevertheless, they should consider the words of Jesus Himself in Luke.

(Luke 10:18) And He said to them, “**I saw** Satan falling like a lightning [flash] from heaven.”

If you have a King James Version Bible, you will probably have the following cross-reference, as well:

(John 12:31 KJV) *Now* is the judgment of this world: **now shall** the prince of this world be cast out. And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me.

Remember that when Jesus testified of what He *saw*; He had not yet gone to the cross (to be lifted up), and the occurrence of Satan's *fall* (from access to God’s throne) still had not taken place; “**now** shall the prince...be cast out.” The *fall* that is referred to in (John 12:31) has nothing to do with Satan’s “fall” from grace. This was in reference to Satan’s defeat at Calvary. Jesus was speaking *in advance* about His victory and the

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destruction of the works of Satan. Jesus was simply proclaiming that He could already *see* the defeat of Satan and our reconciliation with God, just as His Father did in (Gen. 3:15). God is *the author of visualization*, and Jesus practiced it on earth. If Jesus had an aversion to the practice of visualization then He wouldn't have made those statements that we've addressed. Clearly, Jesus visualized the ultimate down fall of Satan by giving His life: spirit, soul & body.

Visualization And The Apostle Paul

In closing, I would like to include some insightful words from the apostle Paul concerning visualization.

(2 Corinthians 5:17 KJV) Therefore if any man be in Christ, *he is* a new creature: old things are passed away; behold (see, realize), all things are become *new*.

(Romans 6:11 KJV) Likewise *reckon* ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Was Paul telling us the truth in these verses? If so, and if we are all new creatures, why is it that so many of us live as if we are *not*? I believe the answer is found in the book of Romans, chapter 6 verse 11. The majority of believers *do not* see (visualize) themselves as new creatures, victorious **over** Sin, sickness, fear and death. Hence, most do not walk in victory, because they cannot *see* victory. We can't reach beyond what we view as being possible. Paul tells us to reckon ourselves dead to Sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

What does he mean when he says *reckon*? The concordance defines *reckon* as "to esteem, reckon, suppose, think (on)."¹³ Paul is saying visualize (think of) yourselves as being dead to Sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus. Unless we think of ourselves in this way we will *never* be able to walk in the reality of these verses. Thus, in the Church, a majority of believers have no vision, no redemptive revelation; and hence live in defeat (Prov. 29:18).

Visualization Kept Jesus On The Cross!

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(Hebrews 12:1,2 KJV) Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, *Looking* unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who *for the joy that was set before him* endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

In verse 2 of chapter 12, the words “*set before him*” are defined by the concordance as “to lie before the view, to be *present (to the mind)*.”¹⁴ Therefore, while Jesus was hanging on the cross, there was a joy *set before His mind*. And that joy which Jesus *saw* was **you...**and **me**. He *visualized* our freedom through His sacrifice, and that visual picture gave Him overwhelming joy! He visualized the dominion of the enemy being broken off the human race. This revelation which was *set before Him*, also strengthened Him to endure **separation** from His Father in hell on the behalf of a race of unworthy sinners (See: Acts 2:22-27 NKJV).

A Closing Scripture

“For as he *thinks* in his heart, **so is he...**”

2

See Yourself The Way God Sees You!

(See Yourself As Free From Sin)

What on earth is reconciliation, and how does it concern me? Reconciliation to God the Father meant He would give His **all**—*for us*!

(Romans 5:10 KJV) For if, when we were enemies, we were *reconciled* to God *by the death* of his Son, much more, being reconciled we shall be saved by his life.

Reconciliation is “a change of relationship between God and man based on *the changed status of man* through the redemptive work of Christ,” according to the Bible dictionary.¹ God *gave up* the Lord Jesus so that we could receive a new status or position with Him. Hence we have been reconciled (brought back into fellowship) with God the Father through Christ Jesus.

Jesus took upon Himself our guilt and punishment so that we could be free. This is the **vital** revelation that the apostle Paul was desiring to instill into the hearts and minds of the Church at Rome.

Many believers today *still* need to receive this essential revelation into their entire beings, so that they can walk in the freedom that Jesus’ blood has provided. Paul raises some important questions in Romans 6:

(Romans 6:1-4 KJV) What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein? Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father even so we also should walk in newness of life.

Paul asked us in verse (2); “How shall we, that **are dead to sin**, live any longer therein?” Have you ever asked yourself; “*If I’m saved, why is my life so messed up*”? Why are so many “believers” still living in Sin? These are some important but puzzling questions that we will endeavor to look at carefully.

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Paul said we are baptized into Christ's death, or buried through our baptism. However, he also says we are raised up from the dead *with* Christ, and that we should walk in *newness* of life.

Paul does not leave any loop hole for living a life of sin. He says we are overcomer's. It's sad to say, but I do not know even 500 people who walk in the newness of life that Paul says we should walk in. Also, I wonder what percentage of the Church really understands the significance of these verses?

(Romans 6:5-9 KJV) For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also *in the likeness of his* resurrection: Knowing this, that our old man **is crucified** with *him*, *that the body of sin might be destroyed*, that henceforth we **should not serve sin**. For he that is dead is freed from sin. Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him: Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him.

Paul uses baptism as a symbol to explain that when Christ died and went to hell, we also died with Him, in a spiritual sense, through being baptized. He goes on to explain that we rose *spiritually* with Christ as He rose bodily, symbolized by our being raised again out of the water at baptism.

Furthermore, Paul uses many past tense words [were, have been, destroyed], to illustrate our death, burial and resurrection with Christ. By using these words he is showing us that the process has *already* been completed and change has already taken place in us. Now it is up to us to realize it and begin to walk in the freedom that is *already* ours. This does not mean that we will *automatically* walk in total perfection. However, until we begin to see ourselves as free from Satan's dominion, we will **never** walk in freedom. For us to walk in His perfection, we must *see* it as possible.

Moreover, consider verse (6), "Knowing this, that our old man *is* crucified with him...." This is where we English speakers tend to miss something in the translation. The word *know* or knowing does not properly display the exact meaning as it does in other languages. In English

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we say “I know that” or “I know him,” meaning to know a fact or to know someone. However, in the German language; for example, there are several words for the English word *know*. For instance, **wissen** (to know about someone or to know a fact), and **erkennen** (to recognize, perceive, to understand well).

Therefore, when Paul says “*knowing this*,” he means we are to recognize, perceive, and understand well that our old man is dead. This problem in Christian circles is better known as “head knowledge v. heart knowledge.”

It is the heart knowledge of God that we are seeking hence one understands the title of this book *When The Holy Spirit Reveals*. Heart knowledge is revelation knowledge, and revelation knowledge of the Word of God will set us free (Jn. 8:31,32). Let’s look again at verse six of Romans chapter six.

What Is The “Old Man?”

Knowing (recognizing, understanding) this, that our old man is crucified with him (Christ).

What is *the old man* that Paul is referring to? The Bible dictionary, defines the old man as “the former self of a believer **prior to** conversion.”² The old man is simply the unrenewed spirit which controlled us *prior to* conversion. Unfortunately, many still think that they have an “old nature,” that they must *wrestle* with until death. Nevertheless, Paul goes directly against this *tradition*, by telling us that our old man **is** crucified, (is dead). Mindful that Paul said our old man (unrenewed spirit) is dead; consequently, we no longer have a *carnal nature* to blame if we do not live as Jesus did. The responsibility then ends up on our shoulders.

“...that the body of sin might be *destroyed*, that **henceforth** we should not serve sin...”

In this part of the verse Paul is referring to our bodies as the instruments used for sinning. He says the body must be destroyed. However, Paul is not saying to **literally** kill your body. The word *destroyed* in the concordance means “to be (render) entirely idle (useless), abolish, cease; become of no effect.”³ So our bodies are to be useless for Sin

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because our old carnal nature *is dead*. We **have been** set free from Sin to serve righteousness, by Christ Jesus. Therefore, we have a choice. We can choose to serve Sin *again* or we can use our freedom to obey the Word of God. He has made us free now the choice is up to us to live free.

(Romans 6:6) We know that our old (unrenewed) self was nailed to the cross with Him in order that [our] body [which is *the instrument*] of sin might be **made ineffective** and inactive for evil, that we might no longer be slaves of sin.

Sin therefore, *should* have no dominion (authority) over the blood bought child of the Living God. Unfortunately, this *does not* seem to be the rule, but rather the exception. Today, we have so many believers living under the bondage of Sin, still desperately trying to kill *an old carnal nature* that has already been crucified. Why do Christians still live in bondage to sinful habits? Is freedom even possible? If we really are free from the bondage of Sin, why does it seem as though we are still held hostage by it?

The Solution To Our Freedom Is To *Reckon*

(Romans 6:11 KJV) Likewise **reckon** ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The word *reckon* is defined by the concordance as “to take an inventory, estimate; conclude, count, reason, think (on).”⁴ The apostle Paul tells us we must *think on*, or count ourselves as dead to Sin, but also that we are alive to God. *The Amplified Bible* explains it in simpler language.

(Romans 6:11) Even so **consider** yourselves also dead to sin *and* your relationship to it **broken**, but alive to God [living in *unbroken* fellowship with Him] in Christ Jesus.

The Bible dictionary defines *consider* as “to perceive, behold; **see** with one view, to be aware....”⁵ We are told to **see** (visualize ourselves) dead to Sin, but we’re also told to *see* ourselves living in **unbroken** fellowship with God in Christ. If we are living in unbroken fellowship with God, then Sin cannot be in control of our lives.

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The reason why many of us do not live free from Sin is because we have not followed the instructions of (Rom. 6:11). We have been told to reckon, consider, *see* ourselves 100% totally free from all of Sin's demands upon our lives.

Once we begin to *perceive* the revelation of our freedom through Christ, we will start to tear up the devil's kingdom, taking back all of the ground the devil has stolen. This must begin with the restoration of the mind of Christ **in us**, because as we (think) see ourselves, so will we become. If we have no vision beyond today, we will **never** be able to walk in all of the great things God has for us tomorrow.

(Proverbs 23:7 KJV) "For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he..."

The way I see myself is a *major* determining factor in what I will become. If I do not see (*visualize*) that I have victory over Sin, then I **will not** walk as though I do. With this in mind, many believers are not walking in victory *over Sin* simply because they do not know (believe, understand) that they have been set free to walk after righteousness. This is the reason why Jesus went to the cross.

Many people read the Word, and think, "I wish I could live like that," but they look at their experiences of the past and conclude; "*I cannot live free like that!*" Since when do our experiences have more authority and power over us than the Word of God? We need to stop using our experiences as the measuring stick of what we can or cannot do, and start confessing what the Word says we are and in Christ.

The way we see ourselves really does have incredible power over *our actions*, and therefore over our **destiny** in life. For example, if I see myself as being unlovable what will happen to me? Chances are very good that I will never be able to receive someone else's love, solely because I feel I am unworthy of someone's love. On the other hand, if I see myself as God's Word says I am (*not how I feel*), I will be able to do all things through Christ, which empowers me.

I challenge you today to see yourself the way the Word of God says you are, and do not confess anything else about yourself. God's Word on a (daily basis) is *the key element* in transforming our minds into

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the mind of Christ. Without this transformation, we will never live free from the bondage of Satan.

If I Am Dead To Sin, Why Am I Still Struggling

(Romans 6: 12-18 KJV) Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God. For sin shall not have **dominion over you**: for ye are not under the law, but under grace...shall we sin...God forbid. Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness? But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed **from the heart** that form of doctrine which was delivered you. Being then *made free* from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.

We are not to allow Sin to dominate our lives, because we *have been* made free from its power. Therefore, we can now yield our members (spirit, soul & body) to God as a new person that has been raised from the dead. Paul wants us to *realize* that Sin has no power over us, and can no longer control us. We are **completely** liberated from our old master. We are free from Sin's power; however, we cannot use this freedom as an excuse to yield ourselves to it again and again. Every time we allow Sin to have power over us, we are **literally** giving back a little piece of our *sovereignty* (from Satan). If *we* allow this to continue, we will soon be back in total bondage to him. The reborn man is sovereign from **all** of Satan's influences *if he chooses to remain so*. However, man can **never** be sovereign from God. God is the *only* totally sovereign being and He has *made us* sovereign from the enemy. In other words, He has set us free from Satan's complete control.

This is the reason so many are in bondage to cigarettes, alcohol, enslaving thought patterns, and the list goes on. We are surrendering a part of the freedom that Christ has given to us every time that we give into sinful actions. Remember, we are servants of God now, not servants of Sin. It is unfortunate that so many believers still live their lives as

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though they never were set free. The unsaved world stands outside observing us, and says “*They said Jesus is the answer, but they live like He's not!*” Then we ask, “Why aren’t our churches filled with unbelievers seeking redemption in Christ?” It is time for a change! We need to live and shine the light of Christ in a lost and dark world.

The lost need to see a *definitive* difference in us so that they will realize *they are lost* and they need Christ to make their lives complete. We cannot win the world while living our lives *just like* those in the world. We are to be in the world, but not live like the world. If we continually yield our members to sinful conduct, we will once again become slaves to Sin, meaning **we** put ourselves back under the enemy’s dominion. As a result, we are unproductive in winning the lost to Christ.—millions *remain* lost!

(Romans 6:16) Do you not know that if you **continually** surrender yourselves to anyone to do **his will**, you are the **slaves of him** whom you obey, whether that be to sin, which leads to death, or to obedience which leads to righteousness (right doing and right standing with God)?

The apostle Paul uses the concept of visualization to help us mentally realize our freedom from Sin’s power.

(Romans 7:1-4 KJV) Know ye not, brethren, (for I speak to them that know the law), how that the law hath dominion over a man as long as he liveth? For the woman which hath an husband is bound by the law to her husband so long as he liveth; but if the husband be dead, she is loosed from the law of her husband. So then if, while her husband liveth, she be married to another man, she shall be *called* an adulteress, though she be married to another man. Wherefore, my brethren, ye also are become dead to the law by the Body of Christ; that ye should be *married to another, even* to him who is raised from the dead, that we should bring forth fruit unto God.

We are to *see* ourselves as being like a woman, once married, but then free to be joined to another (the Lord Jesus) at the death of the husband. The law of marriage is a perfect visual aid for understanding our freedom in Christ. From the woman’s perspective, the husband in verse (2) represents the *old man* (unrenewed spirit). Since he has died, she

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is now free to be joined to another (the Lord Jesus) in marriage.

Therefore, as in the case of a marriage, we were *legally separated from Satan*, and are now **legally** joined to Jesus. Seeing that the old man is dead, the law (of Sin) has no more *legal* hold on us. Hence, Satan no longer has the right to dominate a born-again child of God.

Jesus has set us free, by fulfilling the *legal requirements of dominion*, which Adam failed to do. That is why He is called our Advocate (lawyer). He met *all* of the legal standards, so that He would be *recognized* as able to represent us before the adversary, and before the Father in heaven.

There was a principle of law at work here *because of* Adam's treason. Jesus *had* to meet the standards of the Law in order to redeem us and return us to God. We are the **legal** sons and daughters of God, and it doesn't matter what Satan *tries* to do to stop us from walking in victory. Because Jesus said, "*It is finished*"...Satan's dominion was over.

We Were "In The Flesh"

(Romans 7:5,6 KJV) For when we **were** *in the flesh*, the motions of sins, which were by the law, did work in our members to bring forth fruit unto death. But now we are delivered from the law, that being dead wherein we were held; that we should serve in newness of spirit, and not *in* the oldness of the letter.

Can anyone explain all this talk about "**being in the flesh**?" Paul says, "...we **were** in the flesh...!" Could it be that the majority of times when the word *flesh* is used, it is merely referring to us living **under** the control of the body, rather than living under the control of some *old Sin nature*?

I believe this means we still have the same earthly bodies that **can** be used as the instruments of Sin, just as they were before we were saved. However, *now* we have a choice. We are no longer *controlled* by an evil nature that **forces us** into sinful conduct.

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The blood of the Lamb has redeemed us! The body will obey whatever the soul and spirit tell it to do (good or evil). The soul (by the spirit) must be brought under the control of the Spirit of God **within us**, so we will make proper decisions and stay out of sin. **The mind**; however, is key to all of this taking place. This is because the mind is the *gateway* to the soul.

(1 Thessalonians 5:23 KJV) And the very God of peace, sanctify you wholly; and *I pray God* your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The *soul* (Psuche in Greek) is defined by the Bible dictionary as “the seat of personality that which he perceives, reflects, feels, desires; the seat of the will; the inward man.”⁶ The soul is where the decision making processes *are chosen* and put into action.

The mind is the gateway or gatekeeper of the soul. This is where all thoughts are processed and sent on to the will. The *will of man* will **only** obey the thoughts that one allows to linger and be repeated in the mind. The longer these evil thoughts are allowed to linger in the mind, ***the weaker the will becomes***. This is why (2 Cor. 10:4,5) tells us:

(KJV) (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds;) **Cast-ing down imaginations**, and *every high thing* that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and ***bring into captivity every thought*** to the obedience of Christ.

A man once said, “*All sin begins with a thought.*” According to this passage of Scripture, his statement is 100% true. Sin always starts as a thought in the mind. If the thought is entertained for very long then the will will become weakened and sin eventually will be committed! This why we must guard what comes into the mind.

At this point it is time to kill a *sacred calf*. I have seen it in the Church all my Christian life. It is a tough, stubborn, old *beifer*; so it may die hard in many believer’s minds. This is because our traditions often make the Word of God of no effect in our lives (Matt. 15:6).

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(Romans 7:8,9;14-17;22-24 KJV) “But sin, taking occasion by the commandment, wrought in me all manner of concupiscence. For without the law sin was dead. For I was alive without the law once: but when the commandment came, sin revived, and I died...For we know that the law is spiritual: but I am carnal **sold under sin**. For that which I do I allow not: for what I would, that do I not; but what I hate, that do I. If then I do that which I would not, I consent unto the law that it is good. Now then it is no more I that do it, but sin **that dwelleth in me**...For I delight in the law of God after the inward man: But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me *into captivity to the law of sin* which is in my members. O wretched man that I am! **who shall deliver me** from the body of this death?

The written commandment or Law was the judicial agent that revealed to us our sinfulness. For before there was a written Law, man did not have anything *absolute* to show him right or wrong, and hence was free from any of the Law's demands. However, when God gave the Law, man suddenly realized that he was under **the power of Sin**. Therefore, he was *spiritually* dead to God and righteousness. Consequently, we have Paul's statement, “but I am carnal *sold under Sin*.” Bear in mind that Paul was a man who knew the Law well, and he desired to obey it; but he found *no power* to do so because the spirit within him was spiritually dead (v:14). Paul says he was not the one doing it **but Sin** which was dwelling (living) **in him**.

This depiction could only be of a man *before* conversion, simply because a reborn child of God is no longer **under sin** since the spirit within him is alive in Christ. The unregenerate man is *unable* to obey God's Law because he has no power, no reborn spirit, to do so. **However**, the reborn man is free from the Law of Sin & death and its demands.

(Romans 7:6) But now we are **discharged** from the Law and have *terminated all intercourse with it*, having died to what once restrained and held us captive. So now we serve not under [obedience to] the old code of written regulations, but [under obedience to the promptings] of the Spirit in newness [of life].

See Yourself The Way God Sees You!

If (Rom. 7:8,9;14-17;22-24), was a picture perfect display of how a born-again believer was supposed to be living, then Paul wasted his time by writing (Rom. 6:1-23; 7:1-6). In these first verses Paul explains that we are already free from Sin, through Jesus Christ. Now, since I am free from Sin (6:11), how can I still be under Sin (7:14); unless Paul is explaining the condition of man **prior to** regeneration?

Dealing With The Wretched Man

(Romans 7:24) O unhappy and pitiable and wretched man that I am! Who will **release** and *deliver* men from [the shackles of] this body of death?

Paul is expressing his desire to be free from the *Sin principle* that kept him from obeying the Word of God. This is not the picture of a born-again believer who walks in victory, regardless of the circumstances, but rather a display of a man *prior to* conversion. This is not the victorious life Christ said a believer would have. Paul shows us that this (v:24), is not how a reborn believer is to be living, by including (verse 25).

“O thank God! [**He will!**] through Jesus Christ (the Anointed One) our Lord! So then indeed I, of myself with the mind and heart, serve the Law of God, but with the flesh [or the body in control] the Law of Sin (v:25).”

This is saying to us that we can **now** serve the Law of God, with our spirit and soul (mind, **will** and emotions), as an instrument **in unity** with the Spirit of God within us. However, he also says, that we can (*with our bodies in control*) obey the Law of Sin. But the choice has been given to us. Paul wants us to realize that we now have the ability to choose, whereas before our regeneration we were slaves. Now God has set us free so we can choose to serve Him totally, (with our whole being); or we can let our bodies (through the enemy) regain control and die again to righteousness. We can no longer blame any one for our sin except ourselves. Paul also said condemnation isn't for us.

(Romans 8:1) Therefore, [there is] now **no condemnation** (no adjudging guilty or wrong) for those who are **in Christ Jesus**, *who live [and] walk not after the dictates of the flesh, but after the dictates of the Spirit.*

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This is a tremendous verse of Scripture. Notice that the last part of this verse is in *italics* meaning that the italicized words were not in the original language; but were added in by the translators. According to the Amplified Bible, the italicized words were not in the original language. Therefore, it should actually say:

Therefore, [there is] now no condemnation (no adjudging guilty of wrong) for those who are in Christ Jesus. [No condemnation *period!*]

If you are in Christ Jesus, then condemnation has no place in your life! **However**, that doesn't mean you will not receive attacks of condemnation (from the enemy), or feel conviction if you sin. Still, condemnation and conviction are completely opposite manifestations. *Condemnation* is a tool of the devil, used in order to separate us from God through guilt and shame. It is the converse of conviction. *Conviction* is a tool used by God to let us know that we've sinned, and to prompt us to come to the Father, to receive forgiveness.

Jesus Paid The Price, So We *Could Be* Obedient

(Romans 8:4-9;15,16) So that the righteous *and* just requirements of the Law might be **fully** met in us who live *and* move not in the ways of the flesh but in the ways of the Spirit [our lives governed not by the standards *and* according to the dictates of the flesh, but controlled by the Holy Spirit]. For those who are according to the flesh *and* are controlled by its unholy desires **set their minds** on *and* pursue those things which gratify the flesh, but those who are according to the Spirit *and* are controlled by the desires of the Spirit **set their minds** on *and* seek those things which gratify the [Holy] Spirit. Now the mind of the flesh [which is sense and reason without the Holy Spirit] is death [death that comprises all the miseries arising from sin, both here and hereafter] But the mind of the [Holy] Spirit is life and [soul] peace [*both now and forever*]. [That is] because the mind of the flesh [with its carnal thoughts and purposes] is hostile to God, for it does not submit itself to God's Law; **indeed it cannot**. So then those who are living the life of the flesh [catering to the appetites and impulses of their carnal nature] cannot please *or* satisfy God,

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or be acceptable to Him. But you **are not** living the life of the flesh, *you are living the life of the Spirit*, if the [Holy] Spirit of God [really] dwells within you [directs and controls you]. But if anyone does not possess the [Holy] Spirit of Christ, he is none of His [he does not belong to Christ, is not truly a child of God] For [the Spirit which] you have **now received** [is] not a spirit of slavery to put you *once more in bondage to fear*, but you have received the Spirit of adoption [the Spirit producing sonship] in [the bliss of] which we cry Abba (Father!) Father! The Spirit Himself [thus] testifies together with our spirit, [assuring us] that we are children of God.

Because of the redemptive work of Christ, the just requirements of the Law have been **completely** met in us. In other words, Jesus paid the debt we could **never** pay, so that the Law of Sin and Death would have no legal claim over us. The ransom is paid and freedom is ours.

Notice in verse (5) the words **set their minds**. This implies we are the ones who do *the setting*. We are the ones who choose what goes into our minds and what thoughts we will **dwell** on. A non-believer is under the control of an unbelieving spirit (Satan). Nevertheless, a believer is controlled by a believing Spirit, the Spirit of God and Jesus living in him. However, we have a choice as to which *spirit*, we want to listen to. We can (if we choose), listen again to the spirit of the old man that is trying daily to find *reentrance* into our lives.

In contrast, we can also choose to listen to and be controlled by the Holy Spirit.

Paul says again in verse (9) that we *are not* living the life of the flesh. Why? This is because we are born-again, and can now obey the Holy Spirit which lives **within** us. We need to get Holy Spirit *inside* minded, so that we will never forget that He lives in our hearts and desires to direct our actions. When we were born-again, the part of us that was reborn was the spirit. Jesus came into us, He drove out the outlaw (unbelieving) spirit of Satan, and now **He** lives in us and will control our thoughts and actions *if we allow Him*. If we are still battling with these temptations and always giving in, *that's not God's fault*, it's ours! Why? Because each time **we** give in to those unholy desires that attack us *from the world*, we give back a piece of our freedom (sovereignty) to our enemy.

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The more freedom that we give up will mean the greater difficulty we will have in obeying the Word, and thus His Voice. Hence, **we** put ourselves back under Sin's bondage by obeying the thoughts deposited in our minds by Satan.

The Holy Spirit will do His *work*, but we must do what **He** says in order to *stay free*. We can't give up. We **will** succeed, because Jesus is praying (interceding) for us so that we will make it to the end ***in victory!***

A Closing Scripture

(Galatians 6:9) And *let us not* lose heart *and* grow weary *and* faint in acting nobly *and* doing right, for ***in due time*** *and* at the appointed season we shall reap, ***if we do not loosen and relax*** our courage *and* faint.

3

What's In A Word?

(Learning the Power within Our Words)

Ever since I gave my life to Christ on 1 January 1979, I have witnessed a sometimes-hostile debate surrounding the *power* of words. Some believe that words are very powerful and therefore need to be chosen carefully. Still others believe that our words have little or no effect upon the outcome of our goals in life. Hence, this subject has always been of great interest to me, but also a source of perplexity. Then I received a revelation! “Do some Bible research and learn *what's in a word?*” I desired to know what God's Word says about words. I hoped that this would alleviate my perplexity. I thank the Lord that I was obedient to His Voice.

In chapter, one I would like to share with you the results of my research from God's Word in faith that it will help clear up any misunderstandings you may have experienced concerning what's in a word.

Before we go further, I want to define what I mean by the question, “*What's in a word?*” A word is not simply one word that you or I speak in a day. A word, (my word), is the whole course of words that I speak each and every day. In this sense, we can call a word our *daily testimony*. **Who am I praising the most?** Am I praising the devil for his attacks on my life or am I praising God for His strength that has made me more than an conqueror even in the face of defeat? **Whatever** we glorify the most in our daily conversation **will be** the very thing *that controls our thoughts and actions*. On that account, *what* is in a word?

(Proverbs 18:20,21) A man's [moral] self shall be filled with the *fruit of his mouth*; and with the **consequence** of his words he *must* be satisfied [whether good or evil]. **Death and life** are in the power of the tongue, and they who indulge in it shall eat the fruit of it [for death or life].

According to Proverbs chapter eighteen in *the Amplified Bible*, “we will be filled by the fruit of our mouths; and by the consequence of our words we **must** be satisfied.” This says that if I do not want to be filled and satisfied with evil consequences, then I must pay attention to

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the words that I speak. Also, this tells me that I am the one who has control over my words, and hence control over the kind of fruit that my words will produce. *We are responsible for the words we speak not God or the devil.* God our Father has given us His Word to help us control our thinking and henceforth our speaking. We're not expected to be the ones to do it all alone. He has given these tools to us in His Word, but *we* must use the tools. God will not force us to change our vocabulary. He has simply given us His Word and left the choice to us. The Holy Spirit is a Gentleman—He will not come into our lives without our invitation and cooperation.

The previous passage of Scripture clearly states that *death* and *life* are in the tongue. Moreover, please consider what James said about the power of our word.

(James 3:2-6) For we all often stumble *and* fall *and* offend in many things. And if anyone does not *offend in speech* [never says the wrong things], he is a fully developed character *and* a perfect man, **able to control** his whole body *and* to **curb his entire nature**. If we set bits in the horses' mouths to make them obey us, we can turn their whole bodies about. Likewise, look at the ships: though they are so great and are driven by rough winds, *they are steered by* a very small *rudder* wherever the impulse of **the helmsman determines**. *Even so* the tongue is a little member, and it can boast of great things. See how much wood *or* how great a forest a tiny spark can set ablaze! And the tongue is a fire. [The tongue is a] world of wickedness set among our members, *contaminating and depraving the whole body* and setting on fire the wheel of birth (the cycle of man's nature), being itself ignited by hell (Gehenna).

Here in the book of James we have a much more detailed description of the productive *as well as* destructive power of our word. He clearly tells us that if we do not cause offense with our tongue, we are perfect or **mature** in God's eyes, able to control or determine the actions of our bodies. In other words, we will stop being *body dominated*, which is the instrument of sin (Rom. 6:6 TAB). Domination by our bodies keeps us in slavery to sin. The book of James says that the tongue is **the key** to curbing the nature of man. He is not referring to unregenerate man be-

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cause he goes on to say that *no man* can tame the tongue. Please realize that James didn't say, "the tongue **cannot** be tamed." He said that man *in himself* could not do it. However, a child of God who is living in the Word, with the Word *living* in him, **can** surrender to the direction of God's Word by the Holy Spirit. God's Spirit has the power to keep our tongues operating in line with the will/Word of God.

Now that we have laid a foundation for what's in a word, let us move on to a more in depth study of the power of a word itself.

Can A Word Create Its Own Reality?

Words are very creative tools. They can be used to paint a mental picture of love and peace or one of fear and abuse. Verbal abuse is one of the most common forms of mistreatment in relationships today, and a leading cause of divorce. Countless relationships are damaged beyond *human* repair simply because of the way someone used words to destroy another persons self-esteem. The spirit of man can be wounded and broken because of cruel words.

On the other hand, words can also be used to paint mental pictures of good things. If I were to say, "flower," instantly a picture of a flower would form in your mind. The more that I defined that picture, the more your mind would create the kind of picture that I was imagining. Thus if I said, "long stemmed flower" or "long stemmed red flower;" or even more detailed, "a long stemmed red rose," you would know exactly what kind of flower I was thinking about. Now what do the Scriptures have to say about this?

(Genesis 1:1,3;9 NKJV) "In the beginning God *created* the heavens and the earth...Then God **said**, "Let there be *light*"; and there was light Then God **said**, "Let the water under the heavens be gathered together into one place...and it was so."

God spoke a word, and created every natural thing that can be seen. His words created this natural world *according to their own reality*. God literally painted a picture with His words, and created this whole natural world. God knew exactly what He wanted to create, and He used His words to properly form everything that became visible. Scientists have been quoted as saying, "the most perfect word that one could use to de-

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scribe this whole universe is **light**.” “*Let there be light*” was the first command of creation which God spoke, thus perfectly framing the universe. The New Covenant speaks of this same phenomena in the book of Hebrews chapter eleven; by telling us that God spoke the word of command, and what God said had to appear.

(Hebrews 11:1,3) “NOW FAITH is the assurance (the confirmation, the title deed) of things [we] hope for, being the proof of things [we] do not see *and* the conviction of their reality [faith perceiving as real fact what is not revealed to the senses]...By faith we understand that the worlds [during the successive ages] were framed (fashioned, put in order and equipped for their intended purpose) **by the Word of God**, so that what we see was not made out of things which are visible.”

Here again we see how God used His Word (or words) to frame, fashion and set in order this whole universe for His intended purpose. We note, however, how God brought this all about. He spoke out His word in confidence or *in faith*, knowing that what He said—would come to pass.

God had *faith* (confidence, assurance) that everything He spoke into existence would be formed and fashioned just as He originally intended. God used His words, confident that they would produce what He designed them to produce.

Some believers have a problem with the notion that God Himself has and uses faith. But let's take a brief look at what (Hebrews 11:1) is actually saying to us about what faith is. It tells us that faith is confidence, assurance and the title deed of what we hope for. So would it be too much to say that God the Father had full *confidence* and *assurance* that what He said would happen? Faith is our confidence and assurance that those things that we have hoped for will come to pass.

Thus, God released faith (confidence, assurance), in the words that He spoke believing that they would happen. God believes in Himself. He knows that He can do whatever ever He wants.

Moreover, the word that God spoke created the worlds accord-

ing to the picture *or reality*, which He had within Himself. He released His word with the intended purpose of creating exactly what He pictured this universe to be—causing it to come into being *by* and *through* faith. We understand creation *by* faith, but the creation was also created *by* and *through* faith **in God's own words** to bring His intended purpose to pass.

Can A Word Change Our Destiny?

(Proverbs 13:2,3) A good man eats good *from the fruit of his mouth*, but the desire of the treacherous is for violence. *He who guards his mouth keeps his life*, but he who opens wide his lips *comes to ruin*.

Referring to the question above, can a word really change the very destiny of our lives? I believe (Proverbs 13:2,3) clearly addresses this question. Our mouth (*our word*) produces fruit, good or evil. Furthermore, whoever guards his mouth *will keep his life from all forms of sin and destruction*. I do not see how this could be made any clearer than by this passage of Scripture. Our *word* has created either the good or the bad situations in our lives. God's Word plainly tells us in the book of Proverbs chapter, eighteen verse twenty states, "A man's [moral] self shall be filled *with the fruit of his mouth* and with *the consequence* of his words he **must** be satisfied...."

In The Mouth of At Least Two

(Proverbs 12:14) From the fruit **of his words** a man shall be satisfied with good, and the work of a man's hands shall come back to him [**as a harvest**].

(Proverbs 10:31,32) The mouths of the righteous (those harmonious with God) bring forth skillful *and* godly Wisdom, but the perverse tongue shall be cut down [like a barren and rotten tree]. The lips of the [uncompromisingly] righteous **know** [and **therefore utter**] *what is acceptable*, but the wicked knows [and *therefore speaks only*] what is obstinately willful *and* contrary.

(Matthew 12:34-37) You offspring of vipers! How can you *speake* good things when you are evil (wicked)? For out of the fullness (the overflow, the superabundance) **of the heart** *the mouth speaks*.

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The good man from his inner good treasure *flings forth good things*, and the evil man out of his inner evil storehouse flings forth evil things. But I tell you, on the day of judgment men will have to give account for every idle (inoperative, nonworking) word they speak. For **by your words** you will be justified *and* acquitted, and **by your words** you will be condemned *and* sentenced.

How anyone who calls himself a *believer* could read the previously cited verses, and despite what they say go around and speak words that are contrary to Scriptural instruction is beyond spiritual comprehension. I can only say that the words of the prophet Ezekiel still ring true today. “Son of man, thou dwellest in the midst of a rebellious house, which have eyes to see, **and see not** they have ears to hear, **and hear not:** *for they are a rebellious house*” (Ezekiel 12). Ignorance and rebellion could be the only logical answers to why so many believers ignore God’s Word. Like it or not, our words will either bless or curse (defeat) us!

What Can Happen When Ignorance Talks?

I want to continue with a practical example of what can, and often times, does happen when we let our ignorance do the talking. I realize for many this illustration may be painful, still, please don’t spiritually disconnect.

I would like to do a Scriptural investigation of the life of Job. We’ve heard so much opinion and theological debate concerning him.

But I believe it’s time for us to really see what the Bible has to say about Job’s trials. Tradition has made Job appear to be *the model* of Christianity, but was Job really the portrait of how a believer should act during a trial?

(Job 1:8-12 NKJV) “Then the Lord said to Satan, ‘Have you *considered* My servant Job, that *there* is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, one who fears God and shuns evil?’ So Satan answered the Lord and said, ‘Does Job fear God for nothing? Have **You** not made a hedge around him, around his household, and around all that he has on every side...But now,

stretch out *Your* hand and touch all that he has, and he will surely curse You to Your face!’ And the Lord said to Satan, ‘**Behold**, all that he has is in your power; only do not lay a hand on his person....’”

Let’s examine what we have just read. God makes a statement to Satan about Job, “Have you considered my servant job?” *The Spirit Filled Life Bible* uses a side note that says, “Lit. set your heart on.”¹ Thus God literally said, “Have you **set your heart on** My servant Job?”

Here God is showing us that Satan had *already* set his heart on destroying Job, thus destruction was *the will of Satan* for Job’s life. Satan; therefore, was *attempting* to deceive God into giving him what he wanted (Job’s life) and God exposed Satan’s motive before he was even able to open his mouth. Satan goes as far as trying to get God to stretch out His hand *against* Job to destroy him, fulfilling *Satan’s will* and *purpose* for Job’s life.

However, what was God’s response to Satan’s attempt? He replied, “**Behold**, all that he has is in your power....” To some this is proof of God giving His “stamp” of approval upon Satan’s deceptive plan to destroy the life of Job. Unfortunately, some sincere believers see this as God collaborating with Satan to make Job (and us) miserable. This could not be further from the truth. God and Satan are not allies. He *does not* dance with the devil! He does not bring evil, through Satan, into our lives to teach us. God uses His Word and the Holy Spirit to instruct His people—*not evil!*

God told Satan “Behold,” but what does *behold* mean, and why would God use this sort of wording? According to the concordance, the word *behold* means, “lo, see.”² Despite this definition, I was still kind of out in the dark as to how *lo* and *see* were being used in this passage. Researching further, I determined how the words *lo* and *see* were used in other portions of the book of Job.

The word *Lo*, is defined as “lo! behold.”³ Similarly, the word *see* means “advise self, behold, consider, discern; gaze, take heed; lo, look; *perceive*, regard; cause to or let see, look, think, view.”⁴ God told Satan to *see* (*perceive*, *understand*) that something had happened to the hedge that He had built around Job *already*, and Satan did not *perceive* it.

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I finally realized what God said to Satan that day: “And the Lord said to Satan, “Behold (lo, see, advise yourself, consider, **discern**, gaze; take heed, *perceive*, think) all that he has is within your power....” God did not take heed to Satan’s *challenge* of lowering His hedge of protection, *no, no, no!* God was literally saying to Satan, “Behold, see, look; perceive, *understand*, all he has is **already** within your ability to attack, but do not harm his life.” God **didn’t** lower His hedge around Job so that Satan could torment him. God Himself called Job righteous, (because of His covenant). Then why would our loving Father bring torment on a righteous servant? Such reasoning is foolishness and *religious ignorance* of the true character of God Almighty.

Think about this for a moment from an earthly parent’s position. How many *decent, godly* parents would take their child and voluntarily put that baby out in the open where wild animals could come in and destroy that child? I can say this with 100% confidence that there *isn’t* a **decent**, godly parent in this world who would commit such a foolish act.

Therefore *why* in the Name of Jesus, would the Church try and make our heavenly Father *appear* to be so cruel and insensitive? Why would He do something so appalling that even decent human parents would never do? Truth is He would **never** even think of destroying one of His servants. Especially, one who is totally devoted to Him and His will.

Pruning Away Traditional “Hedge” Work

(Job 1:10 KJV) Hast not thou made *an hedge about him*, and about his house, and about all that he hath *on every side*? thou hast blessed the work of his hands, and his substance is increased in the land.

(Ecclesiastes 10:8 KJV) He that diggeth a pit shall fall into it; and **whoso** *breaketh an hedge*, a serpent shall bite him.

(Ezekiel 13:4,5 KJV) O Israel, thy prophets are like the foxes in the deserts. Ye have not gone up **into the gaps**, neither *made up the hedge* for the house of Israel....”

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(Ezekiel 22:30,31 KJV) “And I sought for a man among them, that should ***make up the hedge***, and *stand in the gap* before me

for the land, that I should not destroy it: *but I found none*. **Therefore** have I poured out mine indignation upon them; I have consumed them....”

In every verse of Scripture cited here, the hedge that is being referred to was a *spiritual hedge* of protection. In addition, (Eccl. 10:8) refers to our own *willfulness* in breaking the hedge of protection; thus allowing our own destruction. Please notice closely (Ezek. 13:4,5 & Ezek. 22:30,31). Both passages of Scripture overtly state that God **desired** that someone would *stand in the gap*, and *make up the hedge*. What gap was God talking about? I believe He was referring to gaps *that the people had made* in their spiritual hedge of protection, thus causing the hedge to be lowered and to acquire holes of vulnerability to the enemy's attack, where a *serpent* could bite them.

Who Lowered Job's Hedge?

Having just read all of the Scriptural evidence concerning God's will on the subject of *hedgework*, if God didn't do it, then who did? To answer this question we need to look at the words of Job himself.

(Job 3:25 KJV) For the thing which I *greatly* feared is come upon me, and that ***which I was afraid of*** is come unto me.

(Job 1:20-22 KJV) Then Job arose, and rent his mantle, and shaved his head, and fell down upon the ground, and worshipped, And said, Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither: the Lord gave, and *the Lord hath taken away*; blessed be the name of the Lord. In all this Job *sinned not*, nor charged God *foolishly*.

Referring to Job chapter three verse 25, Job openly states that the very thing he *feared* the most (losing everything) has come upon him. Job said that he received ***what he believed*** for. That may sound strange but it is the truth. Fear is faith in reverse. It's perverted (twisted) faith. Job had more “faith” (fear) in the *reality* of losing everything than he did in God's ability to protect him and all that he had. Job had “*faith*” in his

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ability to lose all. Faith in a thing's ability to harm oneself is called **fear**; hence **twisted faith**. He wasn't trusting God's ability to protect him, but rather in a foreboding feeling that he would lose all, *and he got it too!*

Here is the key to how Job lowered his hedge of protection. He was *living in great fear* of losing everything, and without a doubt he was **verbalizing** his fear where everyone, *including* the devil, could hear him. How can I be so certain that Job was verbalizing his fear of destruction?

First, I've never met anyone who did not talk about what they *feared* as well as *enjoyed* the most. This is just part of unregenerated human nature. We all tend to talk about those things that are strongest on our hearts. Since *unregenerate* man has always been subject to fear and bondage, I believe it is precise to say that Job talked a great deal about his fears **prior to** his loss. Jesus also made this fundamental truth clear in Matthew twelve.

(Matthew 12:34,37 KJV) "O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? For *out of the abundance* of the heart **the mouth speaketh**...For **by thy words** thou shalt be justified, and **by thy words** thou shalt be condemned."

Job's confession of fear, instead of faith in God's protection, gave Satan an opening to walk in and take everything he had. Job spoke (fearfully) *until holes* in his hedge came into existence, thus leaving *himself* open to Satan's attack.

Did Job Sin With His Mouth?

"In all this Job *sinned not*, nor charged God **foolishly**."

This verse of Scripture says that Job did not charge God *foolishly*. I agree that Job did not *knowingly* shout off his mouth against God and sin by cursing God. *That is what God meant* when He said Job **sinned not**. Hence, I *don't* believe that he did anything like that during his entire grueling ordeal. However, I do believe (as I said earlier) that Job spoke out words of fear **in ignorance**. For example, in (1:21) Job says, "the Lord gave *and the Lord* has taken away..." We who can read the verses prior to and after (v:21) can see that the Lord wasn't the One Who took away.

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Satan was the one who took away Job's possessions. Job's words were **false**, and spoken in his *ignorance* of the situation, rather than in foolish disobedience. Job spoke *without* full knowledge of the situation, for he could not **see** his enemy really was. He was blind to what was taking place in the realm of the Spirit, and Satan took advantage of that weakness in his character.

In order to answer the question, "Did Job sin with his mouth?" I want to pose another question, *What is Sin?* Is living and walking in fear sin? Is speaking falsely in ignorance sin? Again I ask, "*What is Sin?*" There is a very explicit explanation of Sin given to us in the Word of God.

(Romans 14:23 KJV) And he that doubteth is damned if he eat, **because** *he eateth* not of faith: *for whatsoever is not of faith is sin.*

Anything we do that is not done in faith (confidence, trust) in God and His Word *is sin*. Thus, from the words of Job's own mouth we can see that he did indeed sin with his mouth. Recall God spoke of him as being perfect, *but* He **did not** speak of him as being some **sinless** icon of perfection as the traditional Church has portrayed him.

Moreover, God also sees the redeemed of the Lamb (us) as perfect, but our perfection is through the blood of Jesus. We must *never* forget that Job *was not* spiritually reborn. God in His mercy saw Job as a man who loved Him, but due to ignorance he experienced a temporary setback. It is sad but true that we all experience spiritual & physical setbacks from time to time. Still, God *is not* the cause of or an **accomplice to**, these setbacks. *We're* the ones assisting the enemy. *It's time we take the responsibility for our own weaknesses and stop blaming God!* Grow up!

What NOT To Do In Trials!

(Job 7:11/9:20-22) "Therefore I **will not** restrain my mouth; I **will** speak in the anguish of my spirit, I **will** *complain* in the bitterness of my soul [O Lord]...Though I am innocent *and in the right*, my own mouth would condemn me; though I am blameless, **He** would prove me perverse. Though I am blameless, I regard not myself; I despise my life. It is all one; therefore I say, **God** [*does not* discriminate, but] *destroys the blameless* and the wicked."

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In ignorance Job says some pretty strong things *against* the Lord. He attempts to justify himself and make God *seem* to be the One in error. Job was not only living in fear he was also living under the influence of a *self-righteous spirit*. Job was *unwilling* to believe that **he** could have done anything to bring this trial upon himself. This reminds me of many well meaning “believers” who **insist** on thinking they have done everything “right” and God has not *honored* His Word. Listen carefully!

God **does not** fail. We humans are the ones that fall short. We must hear the wake up call: **We** *are most times the makers of our own demise!* Until we humble ourselves and get off our self-righteous high horse, God **cannot** intervene on our behalf. Yes, I meant what I said, God *can not* help us if we live in fear and self-righteousness. **Why?** Because, God will *respect* our right to do our own will! He will not rescue one who doesn’t want to be saved.

God finally intervened, but Job had to take action *first*.

(Job 38:1-3; 40:1,2,8) THEN THE Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind and said, Who is this that darkens counsel **by words without knowledge?** Gird up now your loins like a man, and I will *demand* of you, and you will declare to Me...MORE OVER, THE Lord said to Job, Shall he who would **find fault with the Almighty** contend with Him? He who disputes with God, let him answer it...Will you also annul (set aside and render void) My judgments? Will you *condemn Me* [your God], that you may [**appear**] **righteous** and justified.

Reading the above passage, I find it impossible to believe that anyone would argue for Job’s side of this debate. It is obvious that God was *somewhat* putout with Job’s conduct. In fact God even referred to Job’s words as *words without knowledge* (ignorant words). The Lord continued by addressing the self-righteous spirit that was influencing Job.

God told him, “Who are you to make yourself appear to be righteous, and Me your Creator to be unrighteous?” Basically He said “Who do you think you are condemning **Me** with all these ignorant confessions of yours?” Finally, *the light* dawned somewhere within Job’s spirit. Miraculously, he was able to see *the evil* behind his own words.

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(Job 42:1-3;10) “THEN JOB said to the Lord, I know that You can do all things, and that no thought *or* purpose of Yours can be restrained *or* thwarted. [You said to me] Who is this that darkens *and* obscures counsel [by words] without knowledge? Therefore [**I now see**] I have [**rashly**] uttered **what I did not understand**, things too wonderful for me, which I *did not* know...And the Lord turned the captivity of Job *and* restored his fortunes, when he *prayed for his friends*; also the Lord gave Job twice as much as he had before.”

Here we note that Job's restoration did not come *until* he did a few things first. What did Job do? First, he *repented* of self-righteousness and his words without knowledge. Then, he also *prayed* for his friends. Repentance and prayer were **the keys** to Job's breakthrough, just as they are for each of us. Repentance and prayer are two important things that we all should take part in when experiencing tragedy in life.

Job is a perfect example of how one *should not* speak to or about God when in a crisis. Without a doubt, this crisis would have turned to Job's restoration much sooner had he looked more closely at his own weaknesses. Nonetheless, praise God for His intervention and mercy upon Job's life. When Job's temptation *by the enemy* was completed, **God** restored *double* of what he had before his crisis began. Repentance & prayer caused Job's restoration of double. Without them he *would not* have seen restoration in his life.

I would like to restate *and* answer the question that I posed at the beginning of this chapter. *What's in a word?* Life & death, spiritually and physically, are in the words that we speak. Therefore, what we say is in fact *very* important. Our words can **literally** change the very direction of our lives.

For example when I said, “Jesus come into my heart and forgive me all my sins. I want You to be my Lord and Savior,” those words totally changed my very destiny in life. Because of those words I can share this message with you today. **Glory to God** for His saving *grace* and *mercy*!

Thus as a result, there are basically three types of words in use in all realms of authority. First, there are the words that are confident, faith-filled, life producing words. These are the words that are in line with

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God's Word/will, plus those words that come directly out of Scripture. Next, we have the fear-filled, death producing words that come to us from the enemy. Finally, there are the empty, inoperative, non-working words. These are the words we say that are *not necessarily* good or evil, but are in reality foolish, empty (void of healthy productive power) words that come from the unrenewed mind. All of us are speaking one of these types of words, or a combination of any of the three.

Consequently, I could confess something 10,000 times (*in faith*), but if that confession is **knowingly** not *in line with God's Word/will*, I **won't** receive what I have *believed* because that thing never was the will of God for my life.

Therefore, I *must* make wise Scriptural confessions. Speak things that agree with God's Word/will. God won't support confessions that are *knowingly* against His Word/will. However, the enemy will oblige us by fulfilling our willful desires, so we must be careful to only believe for those things that are in line with His Word.

I could confess, for example, that I am the Apostle Paul 100,000 times, and even convince myself that I'm him; but still I will *never* be able to be the Apostle Paul. Why? This is because that would be an empty, inoperative confession that borders on evil and the occult. Confession is a **powerful**, serious thing, and we should not try to play *foolishly* with it. *Remember*, we are admonished to prayerfully guard *the desires* of our heart or spirit (Proverbs 4:23, 24).

Therefore, we *must* confess the Word of God and words that are **in line** with God's Word/will in order to receive the *definite*, godly things **that He has told us** to believe Him for. Words have a creative ability about them, but if we are running around *attempting to create* those things which God has not already **promised** in Scripture **or** privately spoken into our hearts; then we're practicing **a form of witchcraft**.

We must be extremely careful about the kinds of confessions that we make, lest we *invoke* our own will. Furthermore, we do not want to *spiritually* partner up with the enemy in order to bring to pass our own selfish desire. Rhema (revelation knowledge) from God is the key to godly, Scriptural confessions. All of the promises of God are His will for

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us—yes and amen (2 Cor. 1:20). So it is Scriptural for God's people to believe that they *have received* the promises.

Finally, I'd like to close with a thought provoking verse of Scripture. I pray this verse will remain in our hearts, minds and mouths till Jesus comes...May the Spirit of Almighty God grant us ears to hear (*understand*) and eyes to see (*perceive*), the force of good or evil that is released through our tongue—**Amen!**

A Closing Scripture

(Matthew 12:37) For **by your words** you will be justified *and* acquitted, and **by your words** you will be condemned *and* sentenced.

4

WAITING IN HIS PRESENCE

(The *Missing* Ingredient)

About the third week of February 1995, God started dealing with me about preaching a message on waiting in His Presence. As the Holy Spirit began to direct me to various passages in the Word of God, I suddenly felt Him come upon me and speak to my heart: “*Be still **and know** that I am God.*” What happened during this *first* encounter with His precious Presence is almost indescribable with human language. However, during this chapter I will attempt to share some of the extraordinary things that the Holy Spirit began to teach me, as well as a brief experience or two that I’ve had while waiting in His *awesome* Presence. *Prepare your heart for an intimate relationship with the Trinity!*

Almost everyone remembers the scandals that took place in 1987 involving Jim Bakker, Jimmy Swaggart and various other men of God. During this period, I was attending a Christian college in Southern California. I can remember watching Jimmy Swaggart’s teary eyed confession, thinking to myself; “Why did this great man of God give into an attack like this?” Furthermore, I *saw* the media blitz of anti-Christian, anti-church slogans before they were even aired. My heart was broken. I couldn’t understand how these men could fall prey to *such* attacks by the enemy. I asked the Lord for wisdom and understanding as to why these scandals had happened. However, due to my own frustration and confusion, *I* failed to receive the insight that I was seeking. Sometimes one can be overwhelmed by so much confusion, that one is unable to hear the Voice of God. Thus I was the one who was unable to hear His Spirit do to my own hurt.

Then, in February of 1995, the Holy Spirit came upon me and gave me the answer that I was seeking. During my first *real* encounter with His wonderful Presence, I began to understand why so many ministers of the Gospel were falling prey to attacks by the enemy. I then realized that many of them had unknowingly separated themselves by other *things*.

Some of you may be thinking, “Isn’t that nice, he got filled with the Holy Spirit for the first time, and had a great time with God.” Yes, I

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had a great time with God that day, but I did not receive my prayer language that day. Actually, I was saved and filled with the Spirit on New Year's morning 1979. The encounter that I am writing about was something *much* deeper than when I received the gift of tongues for the first time. I am referring to how I began learning to walk and live on a daily basis with His Presence by my side. This is the kind of encounter that *all* believers need.

This is the missing ingredient from most Christians' daily lives, and it is the main reason why so many believers are unable to live a life of victory. The Holy Spirit has taught me that waiting in His Presence is the missing ingredient which I, and all believers, vitally need in order to live a victorious Christian life. Without a daily refreshing of His Presence it is impossible to live a successful Christian life.

You may be wondering, "What do you mean by waiting and how do I go about learning how to wait?" That is the purpose of this chapter. God wants me to share with you that which He has taught me.

Therefore, I ask you in the Name of Jesus, to open yourself up spirit and soul to receive that which God wants to reveal to you from this chapter. Moreover, I encourage each reader to research all the information in this chapter as well as the entire book for themselves.

We'll start off by defining what is meant by "waiting in His Presence." The dictionary defines *wait* so perfectly, "to remain *inactive* in readiness or **expectation**, to act as attending servant."¹ This is the essence of waiting in His Presence. We are to **inactively** wait before Him in *readiness* and **expectation** of receiving from the Spirit of Jesus. This is because the Holy Spirit speaks most often in restful silence.

Waiting In His Presence Causes Restoration

(Isaiah 40:31) But those who **wait** for the Lord [who *expect, look for, and hope in Him*] shall **change and renew** their strength *and* power; they shall lift their wings *and* mount up [*close to God*] as eagles [mount up to the sun]; they shall run and *not be weary*, they shall walk and *not faint or become tired*.

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Here Isaiah reveals to us the secret of receiving spiritual renewal or restoration. Waiting in His Presence is the *secret* to restoration. We are told that if we will wait in and upon His Presence, with *expectation* that we will begin to **change**. This is what every godly believer desires; real and lasting change. Waiting is the secret to *the beginning* of lasting change. The trouble we face is how to get to that point! Waiting in His Presence is a *life long* process. Just any lasting relationship takes time—so too with the Holy Spirit.

(Job 14:14) If a man dies, shall he live again? All the days of my warfare *and* service *I wait*, **till my change and release** shall come.

The book of Job confirms what Isaiah chapter 40 has already told us: waiting **is** the secret to real, long lasting change. Something happens to us when we are in a quiet position before the Lord...*we start to listen!*

Let's continue with (Isa. 40:31). After He starts to change us, He will begin to renew our strength and power. God *literally* starts to recharge our batteries. *Strength* represents our physical bodies being renewed or restored, but *power* represents the restoration of our spirit man. Christians become worn down spiritually as well as physically. This is why many of the great men/women of God have fallen. They were not only worn out physically, but they were even more worn out spiritually, because they were failing to take time to be restored by His Presence.

Isaiah also tells us that if we wait before the Lord we will mount up on wings close to God. We will begin to learn how we are to conduct ourselves in this world, *by* walking close with Him in a daily lifestyle. In order for us to walk and talk like Jesus, we will need to learn how to walk with Jesus on a daily basis and not just on Sundays. Waiting in His Presence lifts us up to the heavenly realms, where we obtain adequate fellowship with our Creator. Fellowship is the glue that holds together our relationship with God.

Moreover, we are told that if we wait before the Lord expectantly; we will run but we will not faint or become tired. I asked the Lord "What do You mean by we 'won't become tired'?" He answered, "When you wait on Me, you will not *burn out* physically or spiritually." Thus, waiting in His Presence is **the cure** for *burn out!* The majority of the min-

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isters, who burn out and fall, are doing so because they have not taken the time to wait before His Presence so that He can refresh them. Instead other things have taken His place! Our preachers *must* have His Presence to minister.

People of God, this is just the beginning of the benefits that waiting will bring into our lives. Remember that waiting is not for God's benefit, He doesn't get tired. We are the ones who need restoration: spirit, soul and body (1 Thess. 5:23). If we want to be strong thus avoiding burn-out and defeat, we should take time **every day** to wait.

Waiting—Isn't An Option; It's A *Command*!

(Isaiah 41:1a) “LISTEN IN silence before Me...”

(Psalm 37:7) Be still *and* rest in the Lord; wait for Him *and* patiently lean yourself upon Him; fret not yourselves because of him who prospers in his way, because of the man who brings wicked devices to pass.

(Psalm 46:10 NKJV) Be still, and **know** that I *am* God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!

(Hosea 12:6) Therefore return to your God! Hold fast to love *and* mercy, to righteousness *and* justice, **and wait** [*expectantly*] for your God **continually**!

Perhaps you're wondering, “Why did you use so many verses of Scripture?” Because it is important that we Scripturally establish waiting in His Presence as a *one hundred percent command* of God.

Waiting—*Captures God's Attention*

(Psalm 40:1-3) I WAITED patiently *and* expectantly for the Lord; and He *inclined* to me and *heard* my cry. He *drew me up out* of a horrible pit [a pit of tumult and of destruction], out of the miry clay (froth and slime), and *set my feet upon a rock*, steadying my steps *and* establishing my goings. And He has put a *new song in my mouth*, a song of praise to our God. Many shall see and fear (re-

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vere and worship) and put their trust *and* confident reliance in the Lord.

Waiting before the Lord will capture God's attention, because He will incline to us; and He will also *hear* our prayer. When God sees His children waiting on Him, He gives them His attention. Why? This is because He wants to "know" what they want. One's willingness to wait on God stirs Him up with desire to meet the need of that diligent person. Waiting before the Lord captures God's attention, because He is moved to lift us out of the horrible miry clay.

This symbolizes God lifting us out of the mire of Sin that we sometimes get ourselves into. Once we are willing to be still and wait, God is moved with compassion, thus He delivers us from oppression and any destruction in our lives. He not only rescues us from oppression and destruction, but He also gives us firm footing. He sets us upon a rock (**Jesus**). Jesus Christ, through the Holy Spirit's help is our solid rock foundation.

David continues with, "And He puts a new song in my mouth..." When we wait in His Presence, we will receive a fresh new song, which will come forth out of a changed heart. The new song that He gives us will remind us of His goodness, and this will keep us from straying back into the old miry clay. This song is a song of joy and praise to God.

This new song that we receive will encourage others to give their lives over to the Lord. In verse (3) it says "**Many** shall see and fear and *put their trust* and confident reliance **in the Lord.**" Waiting will cause us to be a witness to the world of Jesus' saving, freeing power. People will see the change in us and want to have Jesus too. This is the reason why we have not won the world by now. They look at us and our failures and *think* they are better off than God's children. Daily waiting in His presence will change us and hence change the world in which we live; because, they will see the light of God's Presence in our lives.

There are three additional insights that the Holy Spirit has taught me about getting God's attention through patient, obedient waiting. One insight is in Psalm 104 v:27 and 28.

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These all wait *and* are dependent upon You, *that You may give them their food* in due season. When you give it to them, they gather it up; You open Your hand, and they are *filled with good things*.

Because of our obedience in waiting before Him, His attention will be turned toward us, and He will give us our food in the proper season. I believe that as we wait before Him, He will give us food from heaven. In other words, we receive *revelation* from the mind of God concerning His Word, plus any vague situations where we need His divine direction. Revelation from the heart of God **will not** come to those who have no time to wait on His counsel. *Only* those who will wait on Him will receive Super-natural guidance and insight from the throne of God! It takes faith and patience. Finally, Isaiah tells us more with regards to how God's attention is captured by those who earnestly wait on Him.

(Isaiah 64:4) For from of old no one has heard nor perceived by the ear, nor has the eye seen a God besides You, Who works *and shows Himself active* on behalf of him *who* [earnestly] *waits* for Him.

(Isaiah 49:23) "...and you *shall know* [with an *acquaintance* and *understanding* based on and grounded in **personal experience**] that I am the Lord; for they *shall not* be put to shame who wait for, look for, hope for, *and* expect Me."

These portions of Scripture tell us that God works and shows Himself active on behalf of those who earnestly wait for Him. God **rarely** moves fast, therefore, patience is a needed must when it comes to receiving from Him. I believe *impatience* is probably the main reason why so few people take the time to wait in His Presence on a daily basis. Most people want it fast and their way, like at Burger King. However, the Spirit realm does not operate like Burger King. God *longs* to show Himself active in our lives, but very few will do what He requires of them in order to receive this from Him. It comes only to those who thirst after it.

Finally, Isaiah chapter forty-nine, verse twenty-three tells us that those of wait on God will **know Him** with an acquaintance and understanding *based on personal experience*. Because they know Him from personal

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experience, He *will not* allow them to be put to shame. His promise is not to those who do their own thing. It is only for those who dedicate themselves to knowing their Lord by ***personal experience***; which comes through waiting daily in His Presence and through attentive study of His Word.

I trust that you now can see what waiting before the Lord could have done for Jimmy Swaggart and Jim Bakker? We have looked at many of the changes God will cause in and for those of us who wait. These changes were needed in both men during their own hour of temptation. I believe daily waiting would have protected them during these attacks. This should be a solemn reminder to all believers to take time daily to fellowship with the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Without His Presence, none of us will live victoriously.

Here's a short review of our last several points: Waiting before God captures His attention and He will cause 7 wonderful things to happen:

- (1) He will hear and answer our prayer.
- (2) He will deliver us from oppression and destruction.
- (3) He will give us a new song of joy in our hearts.
- (4) He will cause others to see Jesus in us and they will repent.
- (5) He will give us spiritual food (revelation).
- (6) He will actively move on our behalf.
- (7) He will not allow us to be put to shame.

It is seriously important that we continue in our study on waiting in His Presence, because we have finally come to what I believe is the best *experience* offered by God to those who wait. However, this experience does not come to the impatient. As the cliché goes, "Good things come to those who wait." We must patiently wait to experience it!

Waiting—Causes: The *Secret Place* To Open!

(Psalm 91:1-4) HE WHO dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall remain stable *and* fixed under the shadow of the Almighty [Whose power no foe can with stand]. I will say of the Lord, He is my Refuge and my Fortress, my God; on Him I lean *and* rely, *and* in Him I [confidently] trust! For [then] He will de-

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liver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence. [Then] He will cover you with His pinions, and under His wings shall you trust *and* find refuge; His truth *and* His faithfulness are a shield and a buckler.

David begins Psalm 91 by describing the lifestyle of one who waits daily before the Lord. He uses the word *dwelt*, which means to live, abide, surround one's self in. A person who daily waits before the Lord is one who dwells or lives in His Presence. Thus, the doors of the secret place of the Most High open to those who fellowship daily with His Spirit. Therefore, because of our dwelling in the secret place, we will remain stable and be fixed (held) under the shadow of the Almighty. I believe the shadow of the Almighty described here is the Holy Spirit Himself. Then, no foe will be able to stand against us. No temptation, no sickness or disease, no oppression of the enemy will be able to stand against us. His is our shield.

Once we have entered the secret place, we will have a new bold confession of the Lordship of Jesus. But this confession **won't** be like our confession here in this natural realm. Our confession of His Lordship will have so much more power behind it. This new bold confession will literally tear down the strongholds that the enemy has built against us through deceptive attacks. David said this will take place because the Lord is our Refuge and our Fortress. In the secret place we're *infused* with a new confidence of His protection and guidance.

In verse (3) it states that He will deliver us from the snare of the fowler and his deadly pestilence. We will be delivered from the temptations (snares) to sin. Sin will not have any attraction for us, because we live daily in His wonderful Presence.

Furthermore, in verse (4) it tells us that God will take us under His wings of protection, in the same way a mother hen protects her chicks. Just as she fends off any predators, God will take authority over any presence of evil that would try to attack and hinder our walk with Him. In the secret place, God's faithfulness becomes our shield and our buckler. Another way to put this is that our faith in God and His Word as our shield and defense becomes renewed. We can then go out into the natural realm and take authority over the attacks that the devil brings into

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our lives. His Word is our shield and sword for battle. We become offensive soldiers.

Perhaps when you read this a thought comes to your mind “This sounds like some sort of fantasy land story.” That’s probably because you’ve *never* entered into the secret place of the Most High. This is **only** fantasy to those who have never **experienced** what it is like to enter His secret place. That is why it is called the secret place of the Most High. It’s God’s best kept secret, and patient waiting opens it up to those who diligently seek His face.

(Psalm 91:5-10,14) “You *shall not be afraid* of the terror of the night, nor of the arrow (the evil plots and slanders of the wicked) that flies by day. Nor of the pestilence that stalks in darkness, nor of the destruction *and* sudden death that surprise *and* lay waste at noonday. *A thousand* may fall at your side, and *ten thousand* at your right hand, but it *shall not come near* you. **Only a spectator** shall you be [yourself **inaccessible** *in the secret place* of the Most High] as you witness the reward of the wicked. Because you have made the Lord your refuge, and the Most High your dwelling place. There shall *no evil* befall you, nor any plague *or* calamity come near your tent...Because he has set his love upon Me, therefore will I deliver him; I will *set him on high*, because he knows *and* understands My [has *a personal knowledge* of My mercy, love and kindness—trusts and relies on Me, knowing I will never forsake him, no never].”

David explains in verse (5) that all fear leaves when we enter the secret place. When we enter His Presence all fear must leave, *because* perfect love casts out **all** fear. This is a place where we are protected during every evil attack. No destruction or darkness has the right to come near us when we are dwelling (*remaining in*)² the secret place of the Most High. Please understand, this is not a place that we go into *and leave*. Rather, this is a place that we go into and **dwell**. We can live there, by daily fellowship with Him, through waiting in the Presence of God. This time of fellowship is where we get to truly know God and His Word. It prepares us to walk and live in the Spirit.

David reveals to us what happens in the Spirit realm when we get renewed in the secret place; a thousand fall at our side and ten thou-

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sand at our right hand. All of the demon forces of hell don't stand a chance against a believer who *dwells* in God's secret place. This is the place where we receive God's *daily* anointing for living. Without a daily anointing, we **will not** be able to stand against the works of the enemy. We'll be spiritually vulnerable to attack.

Some of you may be asking yourselves, "Where does reading the Word and *normal* daily prayer fit into all this?" Waiting is an important part, the same as they are. However, waiting is the key that will cause all the things we read and pray to *take effect* in our lives. The anointing needed for them to operate in us is received by our daily waiting. Jesus said, "If you dwell in Me and My Word dwells in you, ask what you will and you will get it." Waiting **is** dwelling in Him!

Please notice that in verse (8) God's Word says that we will only be a spectator, *inaccessible* in the secret place of the Most High. This is a real place! That is why it says we will be inaccessible there. In other words, no one and nothing will be able to harm us there. It is a place to rest and be refreshed by the Holy Spirit. Evil isn't there. Confusion isn't there. Depression isn't there. Evil thoughts are not there either. It is a place of total freedom from the attacks of the devil. When we *live* in the secret place, sickness and disease have to turn back when they come near our door. This is because they no longer have authority to plague the children of God who dwells with Him in His secret place on a daily basis. The secret place is not in an earthly realm where Satan reigns.

I've had many wonderful times with the Trinity, in the secret place. It was there that I first experienced the anointing in the form of an *electrical current* running into my hands, down my arms and through my body. One time while I was worshipping **the Trinity** I, also experienced this electrical current as it turned into a *numbing, burning ache* that was unlike anything I had ever experienced in my entire life. I have no doubt that these manifestations were the Holy Spirits' Presence (the Anointing) moving upon and through me!

When I said *worshipping the Trinity*, that is exactly what I meant. The Holy Spirit is God **isn't He**? And seeing that He is God, He is also worthy of worship in the same way as the Father and Jesus. He won't demand it, but He's worth.

Waiting In His Presence

Jesus is saying to us, that He will set those on high who know and *understand* Him by personal knowledge. These are the ones who have *begun* to learn His ways by having daily fellowship with Him through waiting in His Presence. This is *the key* to “knowing” and “understanding” the Trinity. I did not say we would know and understand *everything*, but it sure is a great way to start. Therefore, we will never be forsaken. The Father forsook Jesus so that we would **never** have to be forsaken. He took *our* separation (Spiritual Death) from God upon Himself, and its punishment, so that we would never have to be forsaken.

At this point I would like to briefly share this principle from a New Covenant perspective.

Waiting In His Presence In The New Covenant

(Acts 1:4) And while being in their company *and* eating at the table with them, He commanded them not to leave Jerusalem but to **wait** for what the Father had promised, Of which [He said] you have heard Me speak.

(Acts 2:1,2) AND WHEN the day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all assembled together in one place, when suddenly there came a sound from heaven like the rushing of a violent tempest blast, and it filled the whole house in which they were sitting.

If you remember the story of Pentecost, Jesus told many to go into the upper room and **wait** for the promise of the Father. Did those people just go up there and *wait*? Of course, not, they fasted, they prayed; they worshipped the Lord. However, they also *waited* in His Presence. I totally believe that had those people not gathered, the Holy Spirit probably would not have come.

This cannot be proven, either way, but I believe the Father sent him because there were 120 obedient believers who waited and expected to receive the Promise of the Father, until He filled their lives.

Since waiting is so important to receiving so much from God, does the Bible say anything about Jesus waiting before the Lord?

Speak the Word Only

(Luke 6:12) Now in those days it occurred that He went up in to a mountain to pray, and *spent the whole night* in prayer to God.

I can hear someone now. “This doesn’t say that Jesus waited before the Lord.” This is true! It doesn’t say it in those exact words. However, Jesus went up on the mountain to be alone where He could pray uninterrupted.

No one will ever convince me that Jesus was praying (*talking*) the entire time that He was there. I know beyond any doubt that Jesus spent a lot of this time **listening** to His Father and being ministered to by the Holy Spirit. These were His times of restoration (refreshment). He *needed* to be spiritually refueled just as we do. Prayer and waiting recharges spiritual batteries, and Jesus needed renewed energy, for His earthly ministry. Please never forget that Jesus was as much human as He was God. He was totally dependent upon the Presence of His Father.

At this point I would like to share the things that I do before and during waiting in His Presence. *First*, I take some time and ask the Father to forgive me of any sins that I have committed. Then **if** I have pressing needs that I want to bring before His face I make them known.

When I’m finished, I lay on the floor, lift my hands and worship Him; until I come to a *special* point in my time with Him...then I “be still (shut my mouth/mind) and **know** that He is God.” At this time I listen for His Voice to direct me in my day or whatever **He** desires to talk to me about. **He** talks...**I** listen!

In closing, I would like to share some Scripture with those of you who are still somewhat skeptical. I simply ask that you take these verses and study them out for yourself.

6 Keys On How To Wait In His Presence

- (1) We must repent of sin (1Jn. 1:9).
- (2) Prepare ourselves for His Presence (Job 11:13).
- (3) Let our words be few (Eccl. 5:2).
- (4) Worship God—*Father, Son, Holy Spirit* (Ps. 99:9).

Waiting In His Presence

- (5) Confess God's Word back to Him (Joshua 1:8).
- (6) Rest in His presence, be still and wait (Isa. 41:1a).

A Closing Scripture

(Isaiah 41:1a) “*LISTEN **IN** silence* before Me,...”

The Confessions: Affirming Who You Are In Him

Section 1:

WALKING IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

It is not *in my own strength*, for it is **God** Who is all the while effectually at work **in me**, energizing and creating **in me** the power and desire both to will and to work for His good pleasure, satisfaction and delight. (Phil. 2:13 TAB)

I am *crucified* with Christ, it is no longer I who live but Christ Who lives **in me**. And the life I live in the body I live *by faith* in the Son of God. Who loved me and gave Himself for me. I am also baptized into Christ and have put on or have clothed myself with Christ. (Gal. 2:20/3:27 TAB)

I walk and live *habitually* in the Holy Spirit, responsive and **controlled** and **guided** by the Spirit. So I will certainly not give into the cravings and desires of human nature without God. (Gal. 5:16 TAB)

I have the fruit of the Holy Spirit working within me. **I have**: love, joy, peace, patience which is (forbearance), kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and **self-control**. (Gal. 5:22 TAB)

Because of Christ I am made **free**, *Completely liberated*. I will stand fast and not be ensnared and enslaved again by **any yoke** which I have once put off. (Gal. 5:1 TAB)

I am a **new Creation** in Christ, therefore I have **no past**. I am His workmanship created in Christ Jesus. Therefore, I possess *the same mind as* Jesus, and God's wisdom is fully formed **in me**, so that His thoughts direct me. (2 Cor 5:17/Eph. 2:10/1 Cor. 2:16 KJV/TAB)

I will *continually* strip myself of my former nature, And will be **constantly** renewed in the spirit of my mind, having a fresh new mental and spiritual attitude. And I will also put on the new nature that is created in God's image. (Eph.4:22-24; TAB)

Speak the Word Only

God is on my side. He is **in me** now, who can be against me? God has given me *all things* concerning life and godliness. Therefore, I possess **His nature in me**, and all abundance supplied through His riches in heaven. (2 Cor. 6:16/Jn. 10:10/2 Pet. 1:3,4/Rom. 8:31/Phil. 4:19 KJV)

I lean on, trust in and am *completely confident* in the Lord *with all my heart and mind*. I also lean not on my own understanding, but in all my ways I recognize Him and He directs and makes straight my paths. (Prov. 3:5,6 TAB)

I will *continually* present myself: spirit, soul & body to God on a daily basis; which is *only* my reasonable service. I also will not allow myself to be conformed to this world's way of thinking and acting, but I will daily be transformed by the renewing of my mind; by and through His Word. Therefore, **I am able** to prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God for my life in Christ Jesus. (Rom. 12:1,2 NKJV)

I **do not** desire to sin by lust and idolatry and become wicked. I present my spirit, soul (mind, will, emotions) and body to God. My body is the temple of the Holy Spirit and He lives **in me**. I *refuse* to lust and be an idolater. In the Name of Jesus I command my mind, will, emotions, and body to settle down and conform to the Word of God. I command all evil actions of my mind and body to stop now and come into line with the Word of God. (Rom. 12:1/ 1 Cor. 6:19 KJV—Modeled from a confession by Charles Capps)

Jesus has given me the keys **of** His kingdom, so that whatever I bind (declare unlawful), on earth is also bound in heaven, and whatever I loose (declare lawful) on earth is also loosed in heaven. And In the Name of Jesus, I bind all the weapons of the enemy, that are being used to destroy my life and I loose (call on) the Spirit's power to carry me through to 100% victory; 100% of my life...Amen (Matt. 16:19 TAB)

I will not *let* any foul or polluting language, no evil word or **worthless talk** come out of my mouth; but I will speak that which is **productive** for good. And I will not grieve, vex or hurt the Holy Spirit Who has sealed me. (Eph. 4:29,30 TAB)

I will not neglect the gift of God that is in me; but I will stir it up daily by exercising His gifts and I will **build myself up** through praying the Holy

Walking In the Spirit

Spirit. (1Tim. 4:14/Eph.4:22/Jude 20 TAB).

[The Father] has delivered me *and* drawn me unto Himself out of the control and dominion of darkness and transferred **me** into the kingdom of the Son of His love. Therefore, I will walk in His Spirit. (Col. 1:13 TAB)

[For it is He] Who delivered and saved me and called me with a calling that is holy and leading to holiness. Not because of anything of merit that I have done, but because of and to further His own purpose and grace which was given to me in Christ Jesus before the world began...I now hold fast and follow the pattern of wholesome and sound teaching in the faith and love which are for me in Christ Jesus. (2 Tim 1:9 &13 TAB)

[For I always pray to] the God of my Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, that He may grant unto me a spirit of wisdom and revelation [of sight into mysteries and secrets] in the [deep and intimate] knowledge of Him. That the eyes of my heart be flooded with light, so that I can know and understand the hope to which He has called me and how rich is His glorious inheritance in the saints. And [that I can know and understand] what is the immeasurable and unlimited and surpassing greatness of His power in and for me since I believe. (Eph. 1:17-19 TAB)

Section 2:

PROSPERITY: Spirit, Soul & Body

I'm not cursed with a curse because I bring **all** my tithes, *the whole tenth* of my income, into God's store house; the church. And because I obey and trust Him, He has opened heavens windows and poured out upon me abundant blessings. Moreover, He has also rebuked the devourer, **anything** that seeks to destroy my financial abundance, *in the Name of Jesus*. (Mal. 3:9-11 TAB/NKJV)

I honor the Lord with my capital, my sufficiency, and with the *first fruits* of **all** my income. Hence, my storage places are filled with plenty and my vats are overflowing with new wine. (Prov. 3:9,10 TAB)

The Lord is my Shepherd, *I do not want for anything*. Because Jesus became poor, that I through His poverty might have **abundance**. Jesus came that I might have life and that my life might be more abundant. (Ps. 23:1/ 2 Cor.8:9/Jn.10:10 NKJV)

I have everything I need because my God has *liberally* supplied my **every need** according to or [in proportion to], His riches in glory in Christ Jesus. (Phil. 4:19 TAB)

I am faithful in little things, therefore God says I am faithful in much. And since I am faithful, He is giving to me the true, and lasting riches of His kingdom. (Lk. 16:10,11 TAB)

I walk in *complete* and *total* **abundance** because I seek **first** the kingdom of God and His righteousness. And I will not allow myself to worry or become anxious about my future, because my Father provides *all* my need. (Matt. 6:33,34 TAB)

God's desire for me *above all things* is that I prosper and be in health, **even as my soul prospers**. Therefore, I roll my works upon the Lord by committing and trusting them wholly unto Him, and He causes me to think His thoughts; so that my plans are established and will succeed. (3 Jn.2/Prov. 16:3 TAB)

Speak the Word Only

Father, in the Name of Jesus I thank You that You bless (me), the uncompromisingly righteous; as with a shield of protection. And You surround me with good will, pleasure and favor with my employers (or customers) and all men. (Ps. 5:12 TAB)

I remember this: he who sows sparingly *and* grudgingly will reap the same, and he who sows generously [that blessing will come to someone] will reap generously *and* with blessing. Therefore, I will always sow generously. Because God is more than able and will make all grace (every favor and earthly blessing) to come to me ***in abundance***, so that I may always and in all circumstance *and* whatever the need I am self-sufficient [possessing enough to require no aid or support and furnished in abundance for every good work and charitable donation]. (2 Cor. 9:6,8 TAB)

I am a liberal giver to the end time harvest of God, and He says I shall be made fat, and since I am one who waters, I will be watered also. (Prov. 11:25 KJV)

Section 3:

THE POWER OF CONFESSION

Life and death are in the power of my tongue and I **must** eat the fruit of my words. Therefore, I will only **think** and **speak** those things which are true, worthy, honorable; pure, just and praise worthy. In Jesus Name, Amen! (Prov. 18:21/Phil. 4:8 TAB)

I am an overcomer, because of the blood of the Lamb and because of my daily confession of God's Word, which creates a hedge of the Holy Spirit's protection in every area of my life from Satan's attack. (Rev 12:11 NKJV)

Because a man's [moral] self is filled with the fruit of his mouth, and with the **consequence** of his words he **must** be satisfied [*whether good or evil*], therefore; I will guard the words that come out of my mouth by speaking the Word of God, regardless of the circumstance. (Prov. 18:20 TAB)

Because I **guard** my mouth, I **protect** my life. Therefore, I am a good servant and I eat good from the fruit that my mouth *produces*. (Prov. 13:3,2 TAB)

God's Word (the Law) will never stop from coming out of my mouth, but I will meditate on it day and night, that I may observe **and do** according to all that is written in it. For this will make my way prosperous and then I will deal wisely and have good success. (Joshua 1:8 TAB)

Section 4:

COMBATING THE SPIRIT OF FEAR

God has not given to me a spirit of timidity, (of cowardice, craven, cringing or fawning fear), but [He has given to me a spirit] of power and of love and a calm, well-balanced; disciplined and self-controlled mind. (2 Tim. 1:7 TAB)

I will not fret or have anxiety about anything, because in every circumstance and in everything I make my prayer to God. And *with thanksgiving* I remind Him daily of my need. Hence, God's peace which transcends all understanding mounts a guard over my heart and mind in Christ Jesus. Because of this, I **set** my mind on whatever is true, worthy, just, honorable, pure, lovely; and if there is any virtue, excellence or praise worthiness, I think on those things *and those things only*. (Phil. 4:6-8 TAB)

I am in Christ Jesus, therefore [there is] no, condemnation (no adjudging guilt of wrong) for me, because I am **in Christ Jesus** my Lord. (Rom. 8:1 TAB)

I will not let the Word escape from my sight. For His Word is life to my inner self. I also walk securely, and with confident trust in His Word; so that I will not stumble & fall. And when I lie down, I will not be afraid, but rather will have sweet sleep. (Prov. 3:21-24 TAB)

God has the very hairs of my head numbered, therefore, I will **never** give into fear. (Matt. 10:30&31 TAB)

I have union and communion with my Father through the love of Christ that dwells in me. And there is no fear in love, but full-grown (complete, perfect) love turns fear out of the doors and expels every trace of terror. (1 Jn. 4:17,18 TAB)

Speak the Word Only

I dwell daily in the secret place of the Most High, so I remain stable and fixed under the shadow of the Almighty. I say boldly, that the Lord is my Refuge and my Fortress, in Him do I trust. Therefore, I will not be afraid of the terror by night, nor of the (evil plots and slanders of the wicked), that come by day, nor of the pestilence that stalks in darkness, nor of the destruction and sudden death that surprises at noonday. A thousand shall fall at my right side and ten thousand at my right hand. But only a spectator will I be to all this [inaccessible in the secret place of the Most High], as I witness the reward of the wicked. (Ps. 91:1,2; 5-8 TAB)

I will let my character or moral disposition be free from the love of money. And I will be satisfied with [what I have]. For God has said, I will not **in any way** fail you, nor give you up, nor leave you **without support**. So, I will take comfort and encouragement and confidently [and boldly] say, "The Lord is my Helper I will not be seized with alarm, [I will not fear or dread], what any one can do to me." (Heb. 13:5,6 TAB)

I am led by the Spirit of God, hence I am a child of God. For [the Spirit which] I have now received [is] not a spirit of slavery to put me once more in bondage to fear, but I have received the Spirit of adoption which cries Abba (Father!) And the Spirit Himself testifies together with my spirit [assuring me] that I am a child of God. (Rom. 8:14-16 TAB)

I will allow the peace of God to rule [act as umpire continually] in my heart; and I will also allow the Word of Christ to have its home [in my heart and mind] to teach and admonish me with all insight and wisdom. (Col. 3: 15&16 TAB)

Father I thank You that Your manifold Wisdom lives and reigns in me, according to the eternal purpose which You accomplished in Christ Jesus my Lord. In Whom I have boldness and access with confidence through my faith in Him. (Eph. 3:10-12 NKJV)

Lord, I thank You that You have set me free from all fear and have given me boldness to open my mouth boldly and preach the mystery of the Gospel before the whole world. Furthermore, I thank You that You have given me the privilege to come boldly into Your throne of grace to obtain mercy and find grace to help me in my times of need. (Eph. 6:19, Heb. 4:16 NKJV)

Combating the Spirit of Fear

Love has been perfected in me: and I will have boldness in the day of judgment; because as He is so am I in this world. And because of His blood I am washed pure as the new fallen snow. For perfect love has casted out my fear. (1 Jn. 4:17,18 NKJV)

In peace I will both lie down and sleep, for You, Lord, alone make me dwell in safety and confident trust. (Ps. 4:8 TAB)

The Lord has given [unyielding and impenetrable] strength to me the Lord has blessed me with peace. (Ps. 29:11 TAB)

I am meek and I have inherited the earth. I delight myself in the abundance of peace. (Ps. 37:11 TAB)

He has redeemed my life in peace from the battle that was against me [*so that none came near me*], for they were many who strove with me. (Ps. 55:18 TAB)

I will listen [with expectancy] to what God the Lord will say, for He will speak peace to His people, to His saints (those who are in right standing with Him). (Ps. 85:8 TAB)

I love Your Laws. I have so great peace; nothing shall offend me or make me stumble. (Ps. 119:165 TAB)

I pray for the peace of Jerusalem! May all prosper who love you [the Holy City]! Thank you that peace is within my walls and prosperity within my palaces! (Ps. 122:6,7 TAB)

God's wisdom (His Word) in me is a highway of pleasantness, and a path of peace. (Prov. 3:17 TAB)

My ways [learned from God's Word] please the Lord, He makes even his enemies to be at **peace** with him. (Prov. 16:7 TAB)

Because God loves me a Child is born, His Son was given...the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called **Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father** [of Eternity],

Speak the Word Only

Prince of Peace. The increase of His government and of peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from the [latter] time forth, even forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts has performed this because He loves me. (Isa. 9:6,7 TAB)

You guard me and keep me in perfect and constant peace because my mind [both its inclination and its character] is stayed on You, because I have committed myself to You, lean on, and hope confidently in You. (Isa. 26:3 TAB)

Lord, You have ordained peace (God's favor and blessings, both temporal and spiritual) for me, for You have also wrought in me and for me all our works. (Isa. 26:12 TAB)

Section 5:

THE AUTHORITY OF THE BELIEVER

I through the Law have [in Christ's death for me] died to the Law and all the Law's demands, so that I may [henceforth] live to and for God. (Gal. 2:19 TAB)

Christ has redeemed me from the curse of the Law, by being a curse for me; because it is written: "Cursed is every one that hangs on a tree." And Jesus did this for me so that I could receive the blessing of Abraham and the promise of the Holy Spirit. (Gal. 3:13,14 TAB)

God has raised me up together with Christ and has made me to sit down together [giving me joint seating with Him] in the heavenly sphere in Christ Jesus. (Eph. 2:6 TAB)

I have strength for all things in Christ Who empowers me [I am ready for *anything* and *equal* to anything through Him Who *infuses inner strength* into me. I am self-sufficient in Christ's sufficiency]. (Phil. 4:13 TAB)

There is only one God and mediator between God and me; therefore, Jesus is praying for me, and hence I will make it to the end of my race 100% victorious (1 Tim. 2:5 TAB).

I reckon (consider) myself dead to Sin and my relationship with it **broken**. So, now I am alive to God (living in **unbroken** fellowship) in Christ Jesus. (Rom. 6:11 TAB)

I know with out a doubt that I have been baptized into Jesus Christ. Therefore, since I have been baptized with Christ, I also have been raised from the dead with Christ; so that I can (habitually) live & behave in *newness* of life. (Rom. 6:3,4 TAB)

Speak the Word Only

I have Jesus Christ living in me, so my body (my old self) died because of Sin. However, now I have the Spirit of God living in me because of the righteousness which Christ has given to me. (Rom. 8:10 TAB)

I am a child of God, so I am an **heir** of God and a fellow heir with Christ. I share His inheritance with Him, and I also share in His sufferings; so that I can share in His glory. (Rom. 8:17 TAB)

My body belongs to and is controlled by the Lord Jesus. Therefore, I will not allow my body to be joined with any harlot (anything that takes me away for Him), because Jesus and I are one flesh. (1 Cor. 6:15,16 TAB)

I am therefore ingrafted into Christ (the Messiah), so I am a new creation (a new creature altogether). My old [moral and spiritual condition] **has passed away**. Behold, I am *fresh* and *new*. (2 Cor. 5:17 TAB)

I have the mind of Christ (the Anointed One) and I hold the thoughts (feelings and purposes) of His heart. (1 Cor. 2:26 TAB)

It is from Christ that I have my life. So, I have received Wisdom, Righteousness, Consecration, and Redemption; because Christ has been made those things in me. (1 Cor. 1:30 TAB)

I have been raised with Christ [to new life] so I aim at and seek the [rich, eternal treasures] that are above. Also, I **set** my mind and **keep it set** on what is above, not on the things that are on this earth. (Col. 3:1 TAB)

Jesus has raised me together with Him to sit in heavenly places, and because of this I have the same anointed mind as Jesus had on this earth. (Eph. 2:6 / Phil. 2:5 KJV)

Since I am justified freely by His grace through the Redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Therefore now there is **no** condemnation for me who is in Christ Jesus my Lord. And the Law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me **free** from the Law of Sin and Death. Hence, nothing will be able to separate me from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus my Lord. (Rom. 3:24/Rom. 8:1,2;39 KJV)

Jesus is the Vine and I am one of His branches. I live in Him and He lives in me, therefore, I by the Holy Spirit's power bear much fruit.

The Authority of the Believer

Without Him I can do nothing. (Jn. 15:5 KJV)

By the authority of God's Word I boldly say that there is no weapon formed against me that can ever prosper. **Every** tongue that attempts to rise against me in judgment I condemn now. For this is my divine privilege says the Lord. (Isa. 54:17 KJV)

Section 6:

HEALING AND DIVINE HEALTH

God said in His word, I am the Lord that healeth thee. I am the one who forgiveth **all** thine iniquities, who healeth **all** thy diseases. Therefore, I will bless the Lord, O my soul, and I will **forget not** all his benefits. For he has redeemed my life from destruction and has crowned me with loving kindness. He also satisfies my mouth with good things; so that I my youth [spirit, soul: mind, will, emotions and body] is renewed as the eagles. (Ex. 15:26/Ps.103:3,2/4,5 KJV)

God my Father has healed my broken heart. He has wrapped up all of my wounds and He has cured me of all my pain and sorrow. (Ps. 147: 3 TAB)

Because I revere and worshipfully fear the name of the Lord, the Sun of Righteousness has arisen with healing in His wings for me. So, now I will go forth like a calf released from it's stall, leaping for joy; because I have been released from **every** disease and **every** weakness. (Mal. 4:2/Matt. 4:23 TAB)

Soft, anointed words coming out of my mouth will turn away wrath, and my tongue anointed with God's wisdom brings healing to **every** area of my life. (Prov. 15:1/12:18 TAB)

I am diligent to keep the Word of God in the center of my heart (on a daily basis), therefore, His Word is life to me because I hear **and obey** it; and His Word also gives me healing and health to **all** my flesh. (Prov. 4: 21,22 TAB)

I am not wise in my own eyes, for I reverently fear and worship the Lord; and **turn entirely away** from evil. Thus, I posses health for my nerves and sinews and *marrow*, also *moistening* for my bones. (Prov. 3: 7,8 TAB)

Speak the Word Only

Because Jesus went to all the cities and villages, teaching and preaching the good news (the Gospel); and curing all kinds of diseases and every weakness. Therefore, Jesus' will for me is total wholeness, because His will **never** changes. So, in the name of Jesus I take authority over **every** disease and **every** illness that is attacking me, and I **command** my body, and soul to come into line with the Word or will of God; in Jesus name Amen. (Matt. 9:35/16:19 TAB)

God's Word is pleasant, as a honey comb, sweet to my *mind* and also healing to my **whole** self [spirit, soul and body]. (Prov. 16:24 TAB)

My light shall spring forth like the morning, and my healing shall spring forth speedily, and my righteousness in Christ shall go before me. Therefore, the glory of the Lord shall be my rear guard. (Isa. 58:8 NKJV)

I am restored to complete health and all my wounds are healed in Christ Jesus. (Jer. 30:17 TAB)

He has borne my griefs (*sicknesses, weaknesses, and distresses*) and carried my sorrows and pains [**of punishment**], yet we all [ignorantly] considered Him stricken, smitten, and afflicted *by* God [as if with leprosy]. But He was wounded for my transgressions, He was bruised for my guilt and iniquities; the chastisement [*needful to obtain*] peace and well-being for me was upon Him, and with the stripes [that wounded] Him I am healed and made whole. (Isa. 53:4-9 TAB)

With the Lord's help I turn away my eyes from beholding vanity (idols and idolatry); and He restores me to vigorous life and health. (Ps. 119:37 TAB)

My tongue is wise by speaking His Word. His wisdom brings divine health to my whole life. (Prov. 12:18 TAB)

I possess a calm and undisturbed mind and heart which is life and health of my body...I have a gentle tongue [with healing power] which is a tree of life...I speak pleasant words like a honeycomb, they are sweet to my mind and healing to my entire being. (Prov. 14:30, 15:4, 16:24 TAB)

I have a happy heart which is a good medicine and my cheerful mind [washed with God's Word] works healing to my whole life (spirit, soul,

Healing And Divine Health

body and financially). (Prov. 17:22 TAB)

Now shall your light break forth like the morning, and your healing (your restoration and the power of my new life) shall spring forth speedily; your righteousness (your rightness, your justice, and a right relationship with You) shall go before me [bringing me to peace and prosperity], and the glory of the Lord shall be my rear guard. (Isa. 58:8 TAB)

I revere and worshipfully fear Your name so the Sun of Righteousness has arisen with healing in His wings and His beams, I shall go forth like a calf [released] from the stall and leap for joy (because You have set me free).(Mal. 4:2 TAB)

Section 7:

WORDS TO LOVE BY

I am a husband and I will love my wife as Christ loves the church, so I will give all of myself for her and to her; showering her with the Word that washes and sanctifies. (Eph. 5:25,26 TAB)

I have found a [true] wife, and have obtained favor from the Lord. Because a wise, understanding, and prudent wife is from the Lord. (Prov. 18: 22/19:4 TAB)

Because of the temptation to impurity *and* to avoid immorality, let each [man] have his own wife and let each [women] have her own husband. Therefore, we will let our marriage be held **in honor** (esteemed worthy, precious of great price and especially dear) in all things. And thus **we will keep** our marriage bed undefiled. (1 Cor.7:2/Heb. 13:4 TAB)

We have the love of God being perfected *in us*, so that we bear up under **anything** and **everything** that comes. We are ever ready to believe the best of each other. Our hope is *fadeless* under **all** circumstances, and **we will** endure everything [without weakening or giving up]. Because God's love in us, never fails. (1 Cor. 13:7,8a TAB)

But from the beginning of creation God made us male and female. So, for this reason a man shall leave [behind] his mother and father *and be joined to his wife and cleave closely to her permanently*. And from this moment on, the two of us shall be one flesh, so that we are no longer two, but one flesh. What therefore God has united (joined together), let not any one separate or divide. Finally, in the Name of Jesus, we reconfirm our martial union before God and all the world. (Mk. 10:6-9 TAB)

Love is the basis for all marital relationships; However, if we [can] speak in the tongues of men and [even] angels, but walk not in love (that reasoning, intentional, spiritual devotion such as is inspired by God's love for us and in us), we will be only a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. Therefore, we will endure long and be patient and kind [to one another]; we will resist all envy, jealousy, and displays of haughtiness. We will not be conceited (arrogant and inflated with pride); and will not be rude to

Speak the Word Only

each other. (God's love in us) does not insist on having *my* own way or rights. We will not be touchy or fretful or resentful; and will not take any account of the evil done to either of us. We (through God's love for each other); will bear up under anything and everything that comes, and we are ready to believe the best of each other, and our hope will remain fadeless in all circumstances. With [God's love in us]; we will endure everything [without weakening]. (1 Cor. 13 TAB)

A CONFESSION OF MARITAL UNITY

Father, because you are in _____ and I. We acknowledge that love reigns supreme. We esteem our marriage as precious, worthy, and of great price. We commit ourselves to live in mutual harmony and accord with one another delighting in each other, being of the same mind and united in spirit.

Father, we believe and say that we are gentle, compassionate, courteous, tenderhearted and humble minded. We seek peace and it keeps our hearts in quietness and assurance. We follow after love and dwell in peace, our prayers are not hindered in anyway.

We are heirs together of the GRACE OF GOD. Our marriage grows stronger day by day in the bond of UNITY, because it is founded on Your Word and rooted and grounded in Your love.

Love is displayed in full expression enfolding and knitting us together in truth, making us perfect for every good work, You are also working in us that which is pleasing in Your sight.

Contributed by Anne K. Huestis
Author Unknown

Freedom From Past Sexual Relationships

Father, in the name of Jesus, I submit my complete soulish desires and emotions to Your Spirit and authority.

I confess as sin all of my premarital/extramarital, promiscuous sexual relationships.

Words To Love By

I confess as sin all of my spirit, soul and body ties, before, (after and/or during) marriage.

I thank You Father God for giving me the keys of Your kingdom. The keys of spiritual authority so that whatever I bind on earth is bound in heaven and whatever I loose on earth is loosed in heaven.

Therefore, in the name of Jesus, I loose myself from all soulish ties to past sexual partners and I uproot all the tentacles of sexual bondage and of lingering emotional longings and enslaving thoughts that have reinforced each tie to past sexual partners.

I bind any evil spirits that have been involved in my past relationships and that have enslaved my mind, will and emotions, and have brought back any of these lingering thoughts of my past.

I **renounce** their hold on my life. I **declare** that I am totally free to give myself: spirit, soul and body to my spouse or future spouse.

I command my spirit, soul and body to forget all past ungodly sexual unions with...*[name the person(s)]* and to remain completely free.

Father, I thank You for remembering my sins no more. I **receive** Your forgiveness for all of these past sexual sins. Thank You for cleansing me from all unrighteousness. I commit myself totally to You to keep me holy: spirit, soul (mind, will, emotions) and body.

I praise and thank You...In Jesus name. **Amen!**

(Based on a confession I witnessed while attending the Eagle's Nest Church, Pastor Gary Greenwald)

Section 8:

CONFESSIONS OF WARFARE

Wow! I have been given authority and power to trample upon serpents and scorpions [physical and **mental strength** and ability], and over **all** the power [ability] that the enemy [possesses]; and nothing shall in any way harm me. (Lk. 10:19 TAB)

I walk and live continually in submission to God. Therefore, when I resist the devil [stand firm against him], he **must** flee [in terror every time]. (James 4:7 TAB)

These are the attesting signs that will accompany me because I believe: In the Name of Jesus, I will drive out demons. I will speak in new tongues, if I must pick up a serpent, and if I drink anything deadly, it will not hurt me. I will lay hands on the sick and they **will** recover. (Mk.16:17,18 TAB)

I do not wrestle with flesh and blood [contend only with physical opponents], but against the despotism's, against the powers, against [the master spirits who are] the world rulers of this present darkness, against the spirit forces of wickedness in the heavenly sphere. Therefore, I am praying at all times (on every occasion, in every season) in the Spirit with all [manner of] prayer and entreaty. Also, I keep alert and watch with strong purpose, interceding on the behalf of all of God's people. (Eph. 6:12; 18 TAB)

Section 9:

FAITH'S CONFESSION

I am a person who is made just and upright by faith. So, shall I live and receive my living by faith. And therefore since I am justified (acquitted, declared righteous, and given as right standing with God) through faith, I will also [grasp the fact that I] have peace with God through my Lord Jesus Christ. (Rom. 1:17/5:1 TAB)

I am a faith believer, because without faith it is impossible to please and be satisfactory to Him. For I have come near to God, and I believe that God exists and that He will reward me because I earnestly and diligently seek Him [out]. (Heb. 11:6 TAB)

Since, I have *received* the faith of God, I am able to say to **any** mountain (*circumstance*), be lifted up and thrown into the sea! Because I refuse to doubt in my heart; but I believe that what I say [*anything in line with God's Word*] will take place, and it will be done for me. Therefore, whatever I ask for in prayer, I **believe** (trust and be confident) that it is granted to me, and **I have it**. Amen! (Mk. 11:22-24 TAB)

The Word (God's message in Christ) is near me, on my lips and in my heart; that is, the Word (the message, the basic and object) of faith which I preach and live. (Rom. 10:8 TAB)

NOW FAITH is the assurance (the confirmation, the title deed) of the things [I] hope for, being the **proof** of things [I] do not see [with natural eyes], *and* the conviction of their reality [faith perceived as real fact what **is not** revealed to my senses] (Heb. 11:1 TAB)

For I walk by faith [I regulate my life and conduct myself by my convictions or beliefs respecting my relationship to God and divine things, with trust and holy fervor; thus I walk] *not by sight* or appearance. (2 Cor. 5:17,18 TAB)

I have faith by hearing, and I have hearing by the Word of God. So, that my faith **does not** stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God. (Rom. 10:17/1 Cor. 2:5 TAB)

Speak the Word Only

I practice what I believe seeing that faith, if it does not have works (deeds and *actions* of obedience to back it up), by itself is **destitute** of power (inoperative, dead). So I by my [good] works [of obedience] show my faith. (James 2:17,18 TAB)

For by God's grace I have been saved through the gift of God's faith that He gave to me, and this is not of myself. It is not merely by my works and therefore, I will never boast. Thus, I have His faith living in me and a good (clean) conscience; so that I will not suffer a shipwreck. Hence, I live a life of God's love to all people, because my faith will only work by and through God's love in me. (Eph. 2:8,9/1 Tim. 1:19//Gal. 5:6 NKJV)

Section 10:

WORDS OF WISDOM

Understanding in me is a well spring of life, and my mind filled with God's Wisdom instructs my mouth, and adds learning *and* persuasiveness to my lips. (Prov. 16:22,23 TAB)

I will behave myself wisely [live prudently and with discretion] in my relations with those of the outside world (the non-Christians) making the very most of my time *and* seizing (buying up) the opportunity to proclaim Christ. (Col. 4:6 TAB)

The reverent, worshipful fear of the Lord is the beginning of Wisdom and skill [the preceding and just essential, the prerequisite], good understanding, Wisdom and meaning; **belong to me** because I do [the will of the Lord]. My praise of Him endures forever. (Ps. 111:10 TAB)

Behold Lord, You desire truth in the inner being, **make me** therefore *to know* Your Wisdom in my inner most heart. (Ps. 51:6 TAB)

I forsake not [wisdom], and she keeps, defends, and protects me. I love her (wisdom) and she **guards** (acts as gatekeeper of my mind). (Prov. 4:6 TAB)

My mouth utters [God's] wisdom, and my tongue speaks justice because I meditate in Your Word. (Ps. 37:30 TAB)

My mouth shall speak wisdom; and the meditation of my heart shall be understanding from Your Word. (Ps. 49:3 TAB)

Lord, You desire truth in the inner being; make me therefore to know Your wisdom in my inmost self. (Ps. 51:6 TAB)

Father, teach me to number my days, that I may get the heart of wisdom...I give praise to Him Who by wisdom and understanding made the heavens, for Your mercy and loving-kindness endure forever. (Ps. 90:12, 136:5 TAB)

Speak the Word Only

Because I have turned (repented) and have given heed to Your Word, therefore; You will pour out Your Spirit upon me. You have revealed Your Word known unto me. (Prov. 1:23 TAB)

I will hearken to [wisdom] and dwell securely and in confident trust in You and be quiet, without fear or dread of evil. (Prov. 1:33 TAB)

Skillful and godly wisdom has entered into my heart, and Your knowledge is pleasant to me. (Prov. 2:10 TAB)

You have given me skillful and godly wisdom with understanding (discernment, comprehension, and interpretation); help me dear Lord to not forget it or turn back. (Prov. 4:5 TAB)

I am attentive to Your Wisdom [godly wisdom learned by actual and costly experience], I incline my ear to Your Word. (Prov. 5:1 TAB)

God's wisdom has caused me to walk in the way of righteousness (moral and spiritual rectitude in every area of my life and relationships). (Prov. 8:20 TAB)

God's wisdom rests [silently] in my mind and heart. I have understanding [and I am empowered to obey Your Word]. (Prov. 17:16 TAB)

Section 11:

OVERCOMING TEMPTATION BY OUR CONFESSION

I say that there is no temptation (no trial regarded as enticing to sin, ***no matter how it comes or where it leads***) that has overtaken me *and* laid hold on me that is not common to man [that is, no temptation or trial has come to me ***that is beyond human resistance*** and that is not adjusted and adapted and belonging to human experience, and ***such as I am able to bear***]. But God is faithful [to His Word and to His compassionate nature], and He [can be trusted] not to let me be tempted *and* tried *and* assayed ***beyond my ability and strength of resistance*** *and* power to endure, but with the temptation He will [***always***] *also provide the way out* (the means of escape to a landing place), that I will be capable and strong and powerful [full of His Anointing] to bear up under it patiently. (1 Cor. 10:13 TAB)

I have become one with Him by sharing a death like His, and I have also become [one with Him in sharing] His resurrection [by a new life lived for God]. Therefore, I know that my old [unrenewed] self was nailed to the cross with Him in order that [my] body [which is the instrument] of Sin could be made ineffective *and* inactive for evil, so that I no longer have to yield to temptation and willfully sin. Hence, I can live clean and free from all of Sin's demands. (Rom. 6:5,6 TAB)

Section 12:

KNOWING JESUS INTIMATELY

My determined purpose is that I may **know** Him [that I may progressively become more deeply and intimately acquainted with Jesus, thus perceiving and recognizing and understanding the wonders of His person more strongly and clearly], and that I may in that same way come to know the power out flowing from His resurrection [which it exerts over me], and that I may also share His sufferings as I am continually transformed [in spirit into His likeness even] to His death. (Phil. 3:10 TAB)

Jesus said, “If you live in Me [abide vitally united to Me] and My words remain in you and continue to live in your hearts, ask whatever you will, and it shall be done for you. Therefore, since I abide in Him and He abides in me, I have deep intimate fellowship with Him and I receive my desired requests of Him. (Jn. 15:7 TAB)

I Seek, inquire for, and require the Lord while He may be found [claiming Him by necessity and by right]; calling upon Him while He is near. I **forsake** my own way and my own thoughts...Therefore, He will have love, and pity, on me, and He will multiply to me His abundant pardon...For as the rain and snow come down from the heavens, and return not there again, but water the earth and make it bring forth and sprout, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater, So shall His word be that goes forth out of His mouth [God’s Word]: shall not return to Him void [without producing any effect, useless], but it shall accomplish that which He pleases and purposes, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it. (Isa. 55:6,7; 9&10 TAB)

Section 13:

RESTORATION OF YOUR MEMORY

“...I **have** the mind of Christ [*the Anointed One, and His Anointing*], therefore, **I have an Anointed mind** and I can remember **all** important information and even the smallest details involved...I also hold the thoughts (feelings and purposes) of His heart in my heart **Amen!** (1 Cor. 2:16 TAB)

“I bless (affectionately, gratefully praise) the Lord, O my soul; and with all that is [**deepest**] within me, I do bless His holy Name...**I will not forget** [*even one of*] all His benefits—Who forgives [*every one of*] all my iniquities, Who has healed [*each one of and*] **all attacks of disease** that come against me...He satisfies my mouth with good so that *my youth* [spirit, soul: **mind, will; emotions**, and body], *is renewed*, is like the eagle’s [strong, **overcoming**, and soaring] high in the Spirit. **Amen!**” (Ps. 103:1-2b,3; 5 TAB)

“God did not give me a spirit of fear [or forgetfulness], but He has given me a spirit of power and of love and a calm, well-balanced; disciplined, and self-controlled mind. My mind operates with total clarity, and is completely obedient to the Word & will of God. **Amen!** (2 Tim. 1:7 TAB)

God said in His word; I am the Lord that healeth thee. I am the one who forgiveth **all** thine iniquities; who healeth **all** thy diseases; Therefore, I will bless the Lord, O my soul, and I will **forget not** all his benefits. For he has redeemed my life from destruction and has crowned me with loving kindness. He also satisfies my mouth with good things; so that I my youth [spirit, soul: mind, will, emotions and body] is renewed as the eagles. (Ex. 15:26/Ps.103:3,2/4,5 KJV)

I am restored to complete health and all my wounds are healed. I will therefore prosper and be in health **even as my soul prospers**. (Jer. 30:17/3 Jn.2 TAB)

Speak the Word Only

God's Word is pleasant, as a honey comb, sweet to my *mind* and also healing to my **whole** self [spirit, soul and body]. (Prov. 16:24 TAB)

Jesus has given me the keys **of** His kingdom, so that whatever I bind (declare unlawful), on earth is also bound in heaven, and whatever I loose (declare lawful) on earth is also loosed in heaven. And In the Name of Jesus, I bind all the weapons of the enemy, that are being used to destroy my life and I loose (call on) the Spirit's power to carry me through to 100% victory; 100% of my life...Amen! (Matt. 16:19 TAB)

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of Wisdom and good understanding. Wisdom **belongs to me** because I do [the will of the Lord]. (Ps. 111:10 TAB)

Section 14:

JOY IN THE LORD

I will take refuge and put my trust in You. I will sing and shout for joy, because You make a covering over me and defend me. (Ps. 5:11 TAB)

You have shown me the path of life; in Your presence is fullness of joy, at Your right hand there are pleasures forevermore. (Ps. 16:11 TAB)

I will joy in Your strength, O Lord; and in Your salvation how greatly shall I rejoice. (Ps. 21:1 TAB)

You make me to be blessed and a blessing forever; You make me exceedingly glad with the joy of Your presence. (Ps. 21:6 TAB)

Now shall my head be lifted up above all my enemies round about me; in Your tent I will offer sacrifices of praise and shouting of joy. (Ps. 27:6 TAB)

I favor Your righteous cause and have pleasure in Your uprightness so I shout for joy and be glad and say continually, Let the Lord be magnified, Who takes pleasure in the prosperity of me Your servant. (Ps. 35:27 TAB)

Lord, my soul yearns, yes, even pines and is homesick for Your courts; my heart and my flesh cry out and sing for joy to You—the living God. (Ps.84:2 TAB)

I am invigorated and strengthened with all power according to the might of His glory, [to exercise] every kind of endurance and patience because His joy lives in me. (Col. 1:11 TAB)

Section 15:

THANKSGIVING

I will not fret or have anxiety about anything, because in every circumstance and in everything I make my prayer to God. And **with thanksgiving** I remind Him daily of my need. Hence, God's peace which transcends all understanding mounts a guard over my heart and mind in Christ Jesus. Because of this, I **set** my mind on whatever is true, worthy, just, honorable, pure, lovely; and if there is any virtue, excellence or praise worthiness, I think on those things *and those things only*. (Phil. 4:6-8 TAB)

I am a mighty one upon the earth and I shall eat [in thanksgiving] and worship the Lord all my days. (Ps. 22:29 TAB)

My lips shall pour forth praise [with thanksgiving and renewed trust] because You teach me Your statutes. (Ps. 119:171 TAB)

I bring an offering of praise and thanksgiving to honor and glorify Him, and He orders my way aright. (Ps. 50:23 TAB)

Section 16:

Victory

I am not *merely* a forgiven sinner, because I am now the righteousness of God in Christ. I am absolutely 100% redeemed from sin, sickness (*physical, mental and spiritua*), demons and fear. Disease, sickness and fear are no longer lords over my life. I am in Christ, therefore; I am a new creature. All my previous ways of living have passed way I now walk-out a new life. (Eph. 1:7-8/2 Cor. 5:17)

Jesus is the Vine and I am a branch grafted into Him. I abide in Him daily and He abides in me. Therefore, He has imparted to me *His Supernatural life* and I produce much **abundant** fruit. I have Him living in me so I can do all things, and I ask for whatever is according to His Word/will and He gives it to me. For it is not in my own strength, for it is God all the while effectually working in me both **to will and to do** of His good pleasure satisfaction and delight. (Jn. 15:1-7, Phil. 2:13)

I am no longer controlled by natural limitations because I have Jesus Who is unlimited living in me. Life's circumstances can no longer keep me in bondage. For I have strength for **all things by Christ's** Anointing which empowers me [I am ready for anything and equal to anything through Him Who infuses inner strength into me; I am self-sufficient in Christ's sufficiency]. (Phil. 4:13)

Jesus is my salvation, victory and my deliverer from every attack of the enemy. **I am not afraid of anything**. I am fearless because His mature love lives and works in me. I **allow** His love to run its full course in me now. I *chose to love* because He has imparted His love in my heart through the Holy Spirit. (Rom. 8:15/Isa. 41:10)

Jesus has given me power/authority to cast out the devil, to heal the sick and to raise the dead. I receive and walk in that authority **now**. In the Name of Jesus, I bind every evil work that has come against the lives of my loved ones and me. I **command** the enemy to cease and desist **now**.

Speak the Word Only

I plead the blood of Jesus over my family and my life. I thank you Lord that we are protect 24/7 from any and all attacks that seek to bring destruction into our lives. My loved ones and I are totally free fear of attack. Mature love lives in them and myself by faith. (Matt. 16:19/Rev. 12:11)

I resolutely proclaim: no weapon formed against me shall prosper, and every tongue that shall rise against me in judgment I shall show to be in the wrong. This [peace, righteousness, security, triumph over opposition] is the heritage of the servants of the Lord. This is the righteousness or the vindication which I obtain from Him says the Lord...The Lord is on my side; I **will** not fear. What can man do to me? I have chosen to: Fear not [**there is nothing to fear**], for He is with me; I will not look around myself in terror and be dismayed, for You are my God. You have strengthen and harden me to difficulties, yes, You help me; yes, You hold me up and retain me with Your [*victorious*] right hand of rightness and justice. (Isa.54:17/Psalm 118:6/Isa. 41:10)

Psalm 91: A Confession of Protection

I dwell daily in the secret place of the Most High, so I remain stable and fixed under the shadow of the Almighty. I say boldly, that the Lord is my Refuge and my Fortress, in Him do I trust. For He has delivered me from the snare of the fowler and from the deadlypestilence. He has covered me with His pinions, and under His wings I will trust and find refudge; His truth and His faithfulness are a shield and a buckler for me. Therefore, I will not be afraid of the terror by night, nor of the (evil plots and slanders of the wicked), that come by day, nor of the pestilence that stalks in darkness, nor of the destruction and sudden death that surprises at noonday. A thousand shall fall at my right side and ten thousand at my right hand. But only a spectator will I be to all this [inaccessible in the secret place of the Most High], as I witness the reward of the wicked. Because I have made the Lord my refuge, and the Most High my dwelling place. Therefore, there shall no evil befall me, nor any plague or calamity come near my tent. For He as given His angels charge over me to accompany and defend and preserve me in all my ways (of obedience and service). They shall bear me up on their hands, lest I dash my foot against a stone. I will tread upon the lion and the adder; the young lion and the serpent shall I trample underfoot.

Victory

Because I have set my love upon Him, therefore will He deliver me, He will set me on high (with Christ), because I know and understand His Name by personal experience. I will call upon Him and He will answer me, and He will be with me in trouble, He will deliver me and honor me with long life and will satisfy me and show me His salvation. (Ps. 91)

I will allow the peace of God to rule [act as umpire continually] in my heart; and I will also allow the Word of Christ to have its home [in my heart and mind] to teach and admonish me with all insight and wisdom. (Col. 3: 15&16 TAB)

Father I thank You that Your manifold Wisdom lives and reigns in me, according to the eternal purpose which You accomplished in Christ Jesus my Lord. In Whom I have boldness and access with confidence through my faith in Him. (Eph. 3:10-12 NKJV)

Section 17:

Powerful Prayers of Freedom

Prayer of Freedom From Addiction

Father, I come to You I the Name of Jesus, and I submit myself to Your Lordship [spirit, soul (mind, will, emotions), and body]. I commit myself to You 100%. I dedicate myself to doing all that You have told me to do in Your Word. I ask You to give me the desire to desire to be totally free from any and all addiction(s) that are controlling my life. Stir up within me the ability to resist the temptation to submit my freedom once again to the addiction(s) that I have struggled with in the past. I abandon all connection with: [tell the Lord the addiction(s)]. I thank You that this freedom is not in my own strength: for it is You Who is all the while working in me both to will and to do of Your good pleasure, satisfaction and delight. I bind the spirit of fear of failure that would attack my mind to condemn me and keep me in bondage. I thank You Father, that You are in me now working, and strengthening me to resist the very thought of going back to the things that I have abandoned. I call myself free...absolutely delivered from any and all addiction(s) that have kept my life captive. Father, forgive me for allowing myself to give into these temptations in the past. I thank You for Your forgiveness and for setting me free from each and every addiction. I thank You for keeping, and strengthening me so that I will be able to resist and stay free from all the things that have kept me in bondage & defeat...In Jesus Name...AMEN!

Prayer of Thanksgiving For Wisdom

Father, I come to You, in the Name of Jesus, seeking Your Wisdom to be active in my life. I thank You that Your Word is Wisdom in me and upon me. I thank You that I not only have Your Wisdom in me, but that I also have the understanding to use that Wisdom. I thank You that the Spirit of Wisdom and Revelation is in me and upon me. I know and comprehend Your Word more and more on a daily basis. I receive **Wis**

dom and **Revelation** in the deep and intimate knowledge of You. I thank You that the eyes of my heart have been flooded with light so that I know what is the hope of Your calling for me. I submit my life to do Your will...to do what You tell me to do...to go where You tell me to go, and to do all of this when You tell me to do it. Please help me to not rebel from Your call and Your Anointing that is upon my life. Give me the desire to desire to walk in complete and total obedience to Your

voice. Help me to hear Your voice and obey what You tell me...even if I am not wanting to listen. I submit my will to You. I let Wisdom reign in my life that I may be used by You to touch others with Your love and Anointing. I thank You for the strength and Anointing to be used by You. I also thank You that this Anointing touches and delivers all who You bring to me to minister too! In Jesus Mighty Name...AMEN!

Prayer of Thanksgiving For Healing

Father, in the Name of Jesus, although my body is in constant pain (or attacked by fever, cancer or any incurable disease), I still thank You that Your Word has told me “by the stripes of Jesus I am healed.” I thank You for my healing and I receive it NOW by faith. I consider not what my body or the report the doctor’s say, I consider Jesus my Great High Priest, the Author and Finisher of my faith. I don’t deny this attack of sickness and disease which came from the enemy, but I deny its right, and hold of bondage upon my life. I call things that be not in this natural world as though they were...I call myself healed, walking in divine health according to Isa. 53:5-9. Your Word says, “whoever calls upon the Name of the Lord will be saved.” I thank You that I am saved (totally delivered) from all illness and disease. I bind the spirit of sickness and disease that has attacked my body, mind, and soul. I command all illness (physical, mental, or spiritual) to get out of my life, in Jesus Name. I walk in Super-natural health, wealth and healing. Your Word says that it is Your will for me to never be sick a day in my life. I am strong in Your Strength. I am free in Your freedom. I am healed because You were made sick in my place. Thank You for taking my sickness and disease upon Yourself that I can live free from it. I declare myself healed by the Name and blood of Jesus: spirit, soul (mind, will, emotions) and body. In Jesus Name, AMEN!

Prayer of Thanksgiving For Prosperity

Father, in the wonderful Name of Jesus, I thank You that You supply all of my needs *and even wants* that are according to Your Word/will. I dedicate my financial life to You. I ask You for forgiveness for not always giving as You have lead me to do so. I repent from robbing You by not tithing. I also ask You to forgive me for allowing myself to be moved by my own desires to have things *now* by using and abusing credit. I thank You for forgiving me for getting myself into bondage to the spirit of debt. I thank You for the strength and ability to resist all temptation to impulse buy. I dedicate myself to do Your will: spirit, soul (mind, will, emotions) and body to follow Your command to get out of and stay out of debt. I thank You Lord for a Super-natural miracle of debt cancellation that has come into my life starting today. I thank You that I am free from debt by Your Spirit. I say NOW: “*Money cometh...to me...today!* *Money cometh...to me...today!* *Money cometh...to me...today!* In the Mighty, precious Name of Jesus; that I may be blessed to be a blessing to others. AMEN!

Prayer of Warfare Against Fear

Father, in the Name of Jesus, I bind the spirit of fear that has come **against my mind**. I destroy its power over my thought life NOW! I plead the blood of Jesus over my mind to protect and keep me in perfect peace. I have overcome the enemy by the blood of the Lamb **and** the Word of my testimony. Father, I thank You that **now** no weapon formed against me shall remotely prosper. I cancel every dart of fire the enemy has launched against my mind. In the Name of Jesus, I call upon the Spirit of Peace and Calmness to come over me now to keep me in perfect peace. I also cast down **all** imaginations that attempt to rise up against the Word of God, I take every thought captive into obedience to the Word of God. I **set my mind** on whatever is pure, just, clean and of a good report. I think on the things that build up my faith and strengthen me. I thank You for setting me free from the control of enslaving thoughts and actions. I also thank You for making me more than a conqueror in Jesus Christ. Help me to ever focus my attention on Your Word/will that I may live my life according to all that You have chosen for me. In Jesus Name, AMEN!

Prayer of Thanksgiving For Victory

Father, in the Name of Jesus, I thank You that because of Your Substitute Sacrifice for me...I NOW walk in complete and total victory over the enemy and all his plans of attack. Satan I bind you in the Mighty Name of Jesus. I lift up a tidal wave of the blood of Jesus against you and all of your evil forces. Father, I thank You for the Keys of Your Kingdom to bind the enemy and for the ability to call upon the Anointing of God to over come the enemy in every circumstance of life. I have the victory because the Victor, Jesus Christ the Son of the Living God, lives big in me. I thank You Father, that You have given authority to me to tread on serpents and scorpions that none of these by any means can harm me. I praise You for the victory over sin, sickness, demons, fear and Death. No weapon formed against me shall be able to even remotely prosper. I thank You Lord, for Your armor: the shield of faith, breast plate of Righteousness, and the helmet of salvation so that I am equal and able to the challenge of any attack that the enemy tries to bring against my life. I say boldly: the battle is the Lord's and the victory is mine **Now**...in Jesus Name. AMEN!

***Speak
The Word
Only***

End Notes

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Chapter 1: Visualization: Is It Scriptural?

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11. Ibid., word # 3820.
12. Ibid., word # 8444.
13. Ibid., word # 3049.
14. Ibid., word # 4295.

Chapter 2: See Yourself The Way God Sees You

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2. *The Vine's Expository Dictionary of Old & New Testament Words*, (Fleming H. Revell, Grand Rapids, MI, 1981), 33.
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The End Notes

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Chapter 4: Waiting In His Presence

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