



## *The Lord's Mountain Mover's* **NEWSLETTER**

*"If you have the faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible to you."*

(Matt. 17:20)

October 2016

Issue 0031

### **WHERE IS THE LOVE?**

In 1972 Roberta Flack wrote the lyrics to the Grammy Award winning song, "Where is the Love?" Several of the stanzas sadly represent the gradual decline of the Christian after their conversion.

The Gospel is preached and received. The convert comprehends his or her depraved state and their captivity to sin and Satan. They realize that their only way out of this predicament is through the sacrificial gift of love given by Christ's death on the cross. The convert accepts this gift and pledges their undying and unending love to their new Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Then everything that was surrendered over is gradually taken back. Old habits rise up and the old man who was supposed to die slowly comes back and wedges his way back into the Christian's new life. The love that was once earnestly pledged to Christ finds its way back to the world and its temporary ruler.

Part of Roberta Flack's song properly depicts what I believe to be the heart of Christ when this happens.

Where is the love  
You said you'd give to me  
Soon as you were free  
Will it ever be  
Where is the love

You told me that you didn't love him  
And you were gonna say goodbye  
But if you really didn't mean it  
Why did you have to lie

Where is the love  
You said was mine all mine  
Till the end of time  
Was it just a lie  
Where is the love

["Roberta Flack & Donny Hathaway" \(1972\)](#)

We cannot, as Christians, allow this to happen. Last week I was reading a daily devotional that I share with two other lifelong friends, one in Florida, and the other in Minnesota. We each text

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on how the reading inspired or touched us in some way. This particular reading dealt with being grateful, especially for the things that God gives. My text consisted of the following:

All too often, we Christians are like children at Christmas. We are excited to receive the gifts, but the newness soon wears off and the gift soon goes unused and unappreciated. This should not be so with the gifts of God. The Bible says His mercies are renewed every day and His grace is sufficient in and for all things. How could we possibly get tired or disinterested in God's gifts? When was the last time you were filled with the excitement of a child over God's gifts? There are no sleigh bells, no decorated trees, and no fat man coming down your chimney. Just the cry of a mother and the Son of God hanging on a cross who sought to come into your heart.

God pledged His eternal love to us and has not relented. Ask yourself, where is the Love? Let us all get excited once again.

In His service,

*Pastor Pete*



## THE WORD IN MOTION message

In keeping with the theme of the cover story, let us look into this trend and see if this is something new for God's children. I will simply share a verse from the Old Testament, one from Christ's earthly ministry, and one from God's revelation to the Apostle John.

### **Old Testament verse:**

*Jerimiah 2:2 "Now the word of the LORD came to me saying... "Go and proclaim in the ears of Jerusalem, saying, 'Thus says the LORD, "I remember concerning you the devotion of your youth, The love of your betrothals, Your following after Me in the wilderness, Through a land not sown.""*

Let us make no mistake in understanding who spoke this proclamation, who it is meant for, and what the message is. Having this information is critical for our application purposes today. Who delivered the message is moot, as God can make a donkey (ass in the KJV) speak on His behalf if He so chooses, amen! Just ask old Balaam.

God spoke this proclamation and no one else, "*Now the **word of the Lord** came to me saying...*" (Emphasis mine) As I said earlier, identifying the source of the proclamation is critical. If we are to listen for, to, and obey any voice... it is God's! God does not like to be ignored and most of us have experienced the consequences which can be most unpleasant at best. God spoke the universe into existence, do we actually think that His voice carries any less power and authority

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today, than it did then? That question should be rhetorical for a Christian. Knowing that this proclamation came from the mouth of God gives its words their authority. It also gives the responsibility for listening to and obeying them to the person He is speaking to.

Whom is the message intended for? *“Go proclaim in the ears of **Jerusalem**,”* A cursory understanding of the Old Testament’s use of the word “Jerusalem” shows us that this is not only limited to the physical location of the city but is also synonymous with God’s people, the Israelites. Now here is where some Christians draw lines. Some will say that it was only intended for the Jews, and only for those during that time. Others will say that every word spoken by God then is relevant for Christians today. I tend to join with the latter group based on one fact only, and that is, I serve an unchanging God. Of course knowing the “why” of the message is important in discerning the application process too.

One other point I want to make here is that this was to be spoken *“in the ears”* of the recipient. This was a direct message to the intended person(s) and not passed from one individual to another so it could get convoluted. I always cringe when I hear a Christian say that, so and so told so and so who told me to tell you. We all know how stories can be twisted going around the campfire, passing from one person to another. They never end up the way they started.

The last thing we are going to look at is the content of the message. *“I remember concerning you the devotion of your youth, The love of your betrothals, Your following after Me in the wilderness, Through a land not sown.”* We see the same thing happening then as we see today with many Christians; this is not a new phenomenon. Although some individuals may forget the things that God has done for them and the devotional commitment they made to Him, God never does. Our memories and commitments may fade, but they remain clear and concise in the mind of God. What impresses me is that He is so patient and willing to reach out and rekindle what is so precious to Him, His relationship with us. The questions we are left with are, what does that relationship mean to us? How are we treating it today? How does it line up with our original devotional commitment to God?

### **Christ’s earthly ministry:**

*“No one can serve two masters; “for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.”* Matthew 6:24 Here we have a truth given to us by Christ, *“No one can serve two masters”* and the facts of our attempting to accomplish such a feat, *“for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other.”* There are no shared commitments when it comes to a relationship with God. You may fool others, but we cannot fool God. You may somehow think that not serving God just puts you in some sort of state of neutrality, but it does not.

As the song entitled by Bob Dylan implies, “Gotta Serve Somebody”, and what Christ said, we are going to serve somebody. It does not matter whether it is self, money, earthly relationships, careers or material things. We are incapable of shared loyalties when it comes to our relationship with God. He is committed wholly and fully to us in every way. He has no split loyalties, everything He does, start to finish, centers on His relationship with His children. His relationship with us started with the sacrifice of His Only Son and He continues to give nothing less.

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## Revelation to the Apostle John:

Revelation 2:2-5 *I know your deeds and your toil and perseverance, and that you cannot tolerate evil men, and you put to the test those who call themselves apostles, and they are not, and you found them to be false; and you have perseverance and have endured for My name's sake, and have not grown weary. But I have this against you, that you have left your first love. Therefore, remember from where you have fallen, and repent and do the deeds you did at first; or else I am coming to you and will remove your lampstand out of its place—unless you repent.”* There is a lot here but I only want to focus on what God had against them, *“But I have this against you, that you have left your first love.”*

Once again, we have God's people falling away from their relationship commitment to God. In the greater scheme of things, it does not matter how much we do right, if we fail in our relationship with God, we get a failing mark, plain and simple.

God does not grade on a curve, He graded on the cross.

Not all is lost for those who have fallen or slipped away. The God who created us for this personal relationship has not given up on us. Just like His message to Jerusalem (His chosen children) and here in the Book of Revelation, He wants us to remember the beginning of our relationship with Him. What He did for us, how we felt about it, and the commitment that followed. Jacob remembered where he first encountered God and returned there.

What does God want from those who have slipped away? Repent and return, it is that simple. How will God respond? You only need to read, or reread, the story of the prodigal son in Luke 15:11-32. If you are in this predicament what are you waiting for? Are you tired of settling for second best, or worse? Isn't it time to get back to what matters the most, a personal and beneficial relationship with the creator of the universe and our loving heavenly Father?

Where is the love?

In His service,

*Pastor Pete*

## BE A BARNABAS

*Worthy of Your calling*

*“So that you will walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please Him in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;”* Colossians 1:10

The other day I was talking to my cousin on the phone who has not received Christ. He told me that someone was selling something and mentioned to that someone that I may be interested in purchasing the item. He said he wasn't sure if I was really interested in buying something like that, but felt compelled to mention it anyway. I told him that I *was* interested in something like that and God knew, which is why he felt compelled. I said that God had moved him to speak on

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my behalf. Now I am not sure if God really moved him or not, but I did like my cousin's response.

He said God wouldn't have used him, because even if there was a thing such as God, my cousin knew that he was completely unworthy of being used by God. Wow, what wonderful insight and I couldn't have agreed more. I told him how I felt that, realistically, none of us are ever worthy of God to be used by Him. Yet, by His grace, He uses us.

How humbling and yet how awesome was that true statement by my unbelieving cousin. It made me think that he is already a believer, he just doesn't know it yet. However unworthy all of us are, we believers know that there are certain things that we shouldn't be doing while we are serving the Lord. We are called to walk in a way that pleases Him. The things we do are also a witness of our faith to the unbelievers around us. When we walk in a way pleasing to God, fruit will come out of our work. Also, we will share in our Master's delight.

We on our own will never be worthy of God, but Christ who is in us makes us worthy and able. Let us still do our part in getting rid of the sin that hinders us from serving Him well, that we bear good fruit for our Lord and glorify Him with our lives.

Be blessed in Him,

*Brother Daniel Rodney*

### **We want you!**

That's right; the Lord's Mountain Movers Ministry wants you to be a bigger part of what we are doing in God's kingdom. We have received several contributions for your newsletter and thank those of you who have taken the time to send your submissions. We hope that more of you will share some of the talents God has given to you through writing, drawing, etc. Keep them coming. If you send something you need to have back, we will be glad to return it to you, just let us know.



### ***Our Prayer Requests for God's Children***

Greetings to all our brothers and sisters in Christ who receive our newsletter through the mail. Due to financial constraints, we have revised the way we do our prayer requests. We are currently posting and maintaining all prayers requested on the Internet so your brothers and sisters all over the world can continue to pray for your petitions and praise God for the ones He has already answered.

We are encouraged by the work that God has already done through so many people praying for the needs of those they do not even know. What a privilege we have to go before the throne of God with our requests and the requests of others. Let us keep praying and seeking His will for

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our lives and the lives of others. If you have a prayer request you would like added to next month's newsletter and/or posted on the ministry website, please fill out the form below and mail it to us. Previous prayer requests are still there on the website for people to read. We are wondering if your prayer has been answered yet? We want to know and share it with everyone else who reads the newsletter, so keep us updated. We look forward to hearing from you and standing in the gap as a prayer warrior. Please note that we will be removing older prayer requests, especially when we do not hear about updates. The newest requests are at the top of the list and the oldest requests are at the bottom of the list. These will remain on our website prayer list.

### **September- October 2016 Prayer List**

Gabriel.....Prayer that chapel services to run smother and for the KAIROS program to continue.

Robert M. ....Asks for prayer and healing for Rudy, Betsy & Maria (Valley fever and Capel tunnel)

James.....Prayer for the program on the yard to change for the better for everyone.

Matlock .....Requests for prayer for a closer relationship with his son.

Joe S .....Asks for prayer for his family to come to know the Lord Jesus Christ.

Geno .....For help with his soon-to-be-wife's family. To have them come visit him.

Pastor Jack .....We pray for his health to improve and to get instruments on the yard.

Tom S.....Asked for prayer to be able to spend time with his wife.

Bob &

Gina N.....Asking for prayer for the family... They suddenly lost their 36-year-old daughter, Laura, after complications from elective Dental surgery. She is survived by her Husband and 2-1/2-year-old son. The Family is struggling to understand this sudden loss. Pray for their healing.

Dave G. ....Askes for continued prayer for favor in appeal, family, delivery from excessive incarceration, re-unification of marriage and children, provision to fund all needs and continued blessings to this ministry. Pray that AB1909 will be retroactive.

Sebastian M....Requests prayer for his children, that the Lord will soften their hearts and they will turn to Jesus for salvation.

Hazel C.....Pray for her condition to improve. She is now in a convalescent hospital.

Alice S.....Brother "Tee" prays for her and her kids during a difficult time and transition in her life.

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Helen C. ....Keep Helen and her son “Tee” In prayer for safety and guidance from the Lord.

John L.....Pray for his family’s healing. He lost his son Michael who went to be with the Lord. He died of congestive heart failure in his early 20’s.

Roger C .....Prayer for him in his current situation that it will be resolved soon.

Anthony S. ....Pray that my brothers in Christ; get blessed, have a speedy trial and go home soon.

Steve T. ....Pray for God’s favor over trial- strength in fasting prayer, soften his wife’s heart and not divorce him.

Winifred W. ...Pray that the attacks on chapel, pastor get resolved and evening services are restored.

Maurice A. ....Request urgent prayer for his young niece not to be tried as an adult and for his warrant to be dismissed.

Richard L. ....Please pray that he gets right with the Lord before he gets a life sentence, he is messing up bad.

J. Jackson .....Request prayer for Soledad Prison and its staff. Prayer for the Jackson and Packer family that God would become the center of their lives and reunify them again. Prayer that I will be a good person and husband and we will have a good life together.

Greg.....Prayer for clear vision on what God wants to do with “The Cure” Ministry. Maintain ministry’s focus on God only. Also prayer for his marriage to Shelia as he gets ready to go home. Prayer for Shelia as she recovers from a work injury. **Update on previous prayer requests; Aaron passed SD Sheriff’s test, Stephen is working at a Christian Camp, Justin has a job at Toyota Dealership and is working for EMT position.**

Joshua H.....Pray to take me away from drugs and bless me with a new life and family of my own.

Timothy R. ....Pray that all families stop lying and tearing fathers from their kids and wife. Prayer for the Lord’s blessing in court case and trial.

R. White .....That the Lord will open doors for suitable housing upon his being paroled. **Praise report: He has found a place to welcome him and is doing well, reconnecting with brothers as well as family.**

Pete C. ....Keep him in prayer that he will continue to run to the Lord and not from Him.

This Ministry..Please pray for this ministry that we may be girded up with faith and strength to keep this ministry going in order to spread the Lord’s word.

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The Lord's Mountain Movers - Prayer request

Person requesting prayer

Pray for:

Nature of request:

Place request on Ministry website      Yes    No

Place request in Newsletter            Yes    No

(Use back of request if necessary. You can also use blank paper)

Mail to: The Lord's Mountain Movers, PO Box 1211, Boulevard, CA 91905-0311

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