



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 2018

Issue 0048

What do You have to lose?

For the past five years I have been reading through different devotionals with about eight other men who are scattered across the United States. We all read the same devotional and then give our insights to each other in a group text. It has been insightful and inspiring to see how the same biblical scripture can feed in so many ways. I want to share our reading from September 23rd with you and what stood out to me in a profound way.

Deliverance from Dust and Chaff

"Surely, I will command, and will sift the house of Israel among the nations, as grain is sifted in a sieve; yet not the smallest grain shall fall to the ground."

(Amos 9:9)

The sifting process is going on still. Wherever we go, we are still being winnowed and sifted. God's people are being tried "*as grain is sifted in a sieve.*" Sometimes the devil holds the sieve and tosses us up and down with the earnest desire to get rid of us forever. The world lends a willing hand at the same process and shakes us to the right and to the left with great vigor.

Well. Let it go on. Thus, is the chaff severed from the wheat. Thus, is the wheat delivered from dust and chaff. And how great is the mercy that comes to us in the text, "*yet not the smallest grain shall fall to the ground.*" All shall be preserved that is good, true, gracious. Not one of the least of believers shall be lost; neither shall any believer lose anything worth calling a loss.

(Faith's Checkbook, Charles H. Spurgeon)

I believe that every true Christian can agree that this sifting process is a real-life experience. We do not have to be preachers, teachers, evangelists or in any other high-profile position, all we must be is a true, born-again, regenerated, believer in Jesus Christ, surrendered to His Lordship and a willingly devoted bondservant to His will.

Jesus even forewarned us of some impending sifting that will naturally come our way for merely believing in Him. "*Blessed are you when people insult you and persecute you, and falsely say all kinds*

of evil against you because of Me. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward in heaven is great; for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.” (Matthew 5:11-12) Jesus also said, “It is inevitable that stumbling blocks come, but woe to him through whom they come.” (Luke 17:1)

We can see just from these two Scriptures that our lives as Christians will have some trials and tribulations. Some ordained and directed by God, and some allowed and restricted by God. Either way we are under the watchful eye and in the mighty hand of God in and through all things that will come our way. Always remember, *“No temptation has overtaken you, but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it.” (1 Corinthians 10:13) and, “And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.” (Romans 8:28)*

As I said in the opening paragraph, I am inspired and receive insight into scripture by how it speaks to others. In Charles Spurgeon’s last sentence of his insight into Amos 9:9 he writes, *“neither shall any believer lose anything worth calling a loss.”* This insight cut right to my heart and a sense of guilt and shame came over me. I had to stop and pray about why this was affecting me so much, why was I feeling so strongly about this? The Scripture that kept flashing before me was, *“For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world, and forfeit his soul?”* I had to go back to that passage and read it and reread it and pray to God for some understanding of what He was trying to tell me, to answer the gnawing question of why I was feeling this overwhelming guilt and shame.

The passage goes as follows, *”³⁴And He summoned the crowd with His disciples, and said to them, ‘If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me. ³⁵For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel’s will save it.³⁶ For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world, and forfeit his soul? ³⁷ For what will a man give in exchange for his soul? ³⁸ For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will also be ashamed of him when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels.’” (Mark 8:34-38)*

The title of this month’s newsletter is, What do you have to lose? Maybe we should simultaneously ask the question, What do you have to gain? It seems that the above passage deals with a loss verses gain situation. There is little wiggle room here to argue with what Jesus is saying, gain comes through loss. I wonder what was going through the hearts and minds of those who heard these words for the first time? I know what went, and is going through, my mind. I am overwhelmed with an ongoing list of things that I have not examined as necessary things or endeavors in my life.

I find myself in a spiritual tug of war with God over things that have no real value when it comes to eternal matters. I have latched onto things physically, emotionally, and spiritually that in the greater scheme of things, DO NOT MATTER! Remember Spurgeon put it like this, *“neither shall any believer lose anything worth calling a loss.”* You see, it is a mindset of over-evaluation. What value have I placed on the things in my life that God has not?

Remember when Jesus said, “*But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.*” (Matthew 6:32) In the entire chapter of Matthew 6 Jesus is trying to set our priorities in the right order. How we should give, how we should pray, how we should fast, and lastly the proper valuation of temporal things in respect to Godly things. I have come to learn that we have the innate ability to turn a blessing into a curse when we do not receive it or perceive it in the manner in which it was given or intended to be used.

White knuckling it. In my group text for that day’s devotional I wrote, “How tightly we hang onto things of little eternal value. We can become so focused on the ‘thing’ that we do not see who is really trying to take it from us. If you are in a tug of war with God over something, you are in a losing battle. Let go of it and avoid the mud puddle of embarrassment.”

Reflecting on the passage in Mark 8:34-38 I have to ask myself the same questions Jesus posed to the crowd, what am I willing to forfeit and what do I actually gain by not forfeiting? My endeavor to re-evaluate my priorities under the guiding eyes of God has begun. Some things are more obvious than others and some will take more time and effort to uncover. I will leave no stone unturned and no matter is too small to investigate. I will continually remind myself that a little yeast will infect the whole lump.

I may find that through this exercise in seeking His righteousness in my life that what I finally let go of never was anything to begin with. Things that I surrender over to God may come back with a whole new perspective. More importantly, whatever I do to set myself, the things in my life, and any relationships I have right before God will only have positive results. It will take trust, it may seem risky, but it will ultimately result in gain for me and glory for God.

What do I have to lose? Nothing! What do I have to gain? Everything!

I ask for your prayers as I, and others, go through this winnowing process. I look forward to becoming a better person, disciple, and Christian. Through this endeavor I seek to draw others to Christ and bring glory to the transforming truth of the gospel of Jesus Christ. I know that this is not a one-and-done experience, but an ongoing lifelong process.

I will close with the following passage;

“To those who have received a faith of the same kind as ours, by the righteousness of our God and Savior, Jesus Christ: ² Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord; ³ seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence. ⁴ For by these He has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, so that by them you may become partakers of the divine nature.” (2 Peter 1:1-4)

God bless you all

Pastor Pete

A word from Kenny

BLESSINGS FOR OBEDIENCE

"Now it shall be, if you diligently obey the Lord your God, being careful to do all His commandments which I command you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth. All these blessings will come upon you and overtake you if you obey the Lord your God: "Blessed shall you be in the city and blessed shall you be in the country. "Blessed shall be the offspring of your body and the produce of your ground and the offspring of your beasts, the increase of your herd and the young of your flock. "Blessed shall be your basket and your kneading bowl. "Blessed shall you be when you come in and blessed shall you be when you go out. "The Lord shall cause your enemies who rise up against you to be defeated before you; they will come out against you one way and will flee before you seven ways. The Lord will command the blessing upon you in your barns and in all that you put your hand to, and He will bless you in the land which the Lord your God gives you. The Lord will establish you as a holy people to Himself, as He swore to you, if you keep the commandments of the Lord your God and walk in His ways. So, all the peoples of the earth will see that you are called by the name of the Lord, and they will be afraid of you. The Lord will make you abound in prosperity, in the offspring of your body and in the offspring of your beast and in the produce of your ground, in the land which the Lord swore to your fathers to give you. The Lord will open for you His good storehouse, the heavens, to give rain to your land in its season and to bless all the work of your hand; and you shall lend to many nations, but you shall not borrow. The Lord will make you the head and not the tail, and you only will be above, and you will not be underneath, if you listen to the commandments of the Lord your God, which I charge you today, to observe them carefully, and do not turn aside from any of the words which I command you today, to the right or to the left, to go after other gods to serve them."

PUNISHMENT FOR DISOBEDIENCE.

"But it shall come about, if you do not obey the Lord your God, to observe to do all His commandments and His statutes with which I charge you today, that all these curses will come upon you and overtake you: "Cursed shall you be in the city, and cursed shall you be in the country. "Cursed shall be your basket and your kneading bowl. "Cursed shall be the offspring of your body and the produce of your ground, the increase of your herd and the young of your flock. "Cursed shall you be when you come in and cursed shall you be when you go out. "The Lord will send upon you curses, confusion, and rebuke, in all you undertake to do, until you are destroyed and until you perish quickly, on account of the evil of your deeds, because you have forsaken Me. The Lord will make the pestilence cling to you until He has consumed you from the land where you are entering to possess it. The Lord will smite you with consumption and with fever and with inflammation and with fiery heat and with the sword and with blight and with mildew, and they will pursue you until you perish. The heaven which is over your head shall be bronze, and the earth which is under you, iron. The Lord will make the rain of your land powder and dust; from heaven it shall come down on you until you are destroyed. "The Lord shall cause you to be defeated before your enemies; you will go out one way against them, but you will flee seven ways before them, and you will be an example of terror to all the kingdoms of the earth. Your carcasses will be food to all birds of the sky and to the beasts of the earth, and there will be no one to frighten them away. (Deuteronomy 28:1-26 NASB)

This passage of scripture was written by Moses late in life and it was one of many such warnings to the stubborn and rebellious Israelites. They experienced the blessings and they experienced the punishment, so you would think they would have learned their lessons! They sound a lot like you and I don't they? We've experienced the goodness of God and we've experienced the punishment for our disobedience. As men and women of God we want the best for our family, we don't want them to experience the pain of being out of the Will of God. Yet, they will have to experience the pain of disobedience you and I have been through on their own.

The punishment for disobedience in the Old Testament was literal and severe, now we are under Grace and will not experience the exact same thing as they did. Thanks to our Lord and savior Jesus Christ. Yes, we will be punished for disobedience and yes, we will be rewarded for our obedience and yes our family will benefit from our obedience and they suffer from our disobedience. The difference is we have access to the throne room of God through the blood of Jesus Christ! We can boldly approach Him and ask for forgiveness for our disobedience and intercede for our family! It's time for you and I to take a stand for our families! Galatians 5:1 says "It was for freedom (from sin and disobedience) that Christ set us free; therefore, keep standing firm and do not be subject again to a yoke of slavery." We can make a difference in the lives of our family and friends by being obedient to the Word of God. Obedience is better than sacrifice... Many of us have experienced the separation from our family due to disobedience and some of us have lost everything we owned, but God is good, and he saved us from eternal damnation and gave us eternal life.

Kenny Johnson

How would you like to bless and encourage someone?

We would love to receive your testimony of how God has impacted your life in the past or present. God does things in our lives not only to bless us, but to be an inspiration to others who may be facing some of the same circumstances you have. Please keep your testimony to one page or less. We look forward to seeing and sharing God working in your life. 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. 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.

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 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? Send us your praise reports! 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: We ask that you keep your prayer requests short and to the point using the prayer request form. We cannot print many pages of hand written requests, bible tracks, lengthy stories and Bible scripture.

August - October 2018 Prayer List

Anthony M.Pray for his recovery for significant heart issues, surgeries and procedures. Also pray for his family and wife who are also stressing over his condition.

Dale CPraying he resists the negative spirits attacking him and gets back on his medications and assuming his responsibilities again.

Dale C.Praying that he keeps uplifted in his faith in Jesus Christ as his spirit is attacked with Family and employment issues.

Daniel RPraying that he realizes his blessings as he assumes more responsibility at work and with his parents as they move. Keeping a humble heart and praising Jesus in all our challenges.

Rosalind K.Pray that the Lord will heal my spleen.

Joanne R.....We pray for a successful back surgery and speedy recovery.

Donald A.Pray for Chaplain Helerbent for "G" Yard to get off of lockdown and have a revival and Chapel services again.

Juan SPrayer for myself, my Wife Luz R. cleaning, protection, healing, reconciliation and ask to destroy all assignments of darkness against us. I pray that my wife to be liberated from all witch craft and I pray she comes back renewed / revived in the power of God, Son and Holy Spirit.

Raymond W ...I request prayer for everyone on this prayer list. I pray that God will let me one day go home. I thank God for my life, even while in custody. In His Name

Michael SI request prayer that God would reveal to me any hinderance in my walk and that He removes anything that He did not create in me. That I have a heart of humility and contrition. Prayers for my wife "Angela" that God anoint her from head to toe with the

blood of Jesus. For our children and their faith. For the brothers and sisters of the world. That God protects them. That our faith be combined and together rebuke Satan. Love to my siblings in Christ in Jesus, Amen!

Mar CPrayer for healing after a fall, broken ribs and collapsed lung. Pray for a fast recovery.

Michael SI request prayer for my walk and to continue to grow in faith. Also, that my prison sentence be shortened, For my family and their safety. For my wife “Angela” stays in our marriage. That all non-believers become unmuted and unblinded by Satan so that they can become believers, that any strongholds that Satan has on me that God binds them and that He becomes my stronghold. Also, for your ministry that God allows it to prosper and he blesses every brother and sister involved. In Jesus name, Amen.

Dave GPrayer for continued safety. Continue prayer for deliverance through the appeal and to be reunified with my children. They are all grown now. Please pray for their salvation.

Richard DPrayer as he goes through some medical issues, three family members have taken their own life. Pray for the surviving family’s healing. Please keep him in pray as he transitions to a facility. Also, for Richard to be strong, kind and humble as he moves to a new living environment. Pray that Robert G. to find peace inside these concrete walls and electric fence, and for his Mom- Kids and Family.

Yolanda“The Cable Lady” asks for prayer for her people and her situation. God knows what she needs as we reach out for her to be uplifted in the Lord.

Robert GPrayer for the Griller, Solorio, Latner, Brown & Griffin Families that God Strengthen and comfort all of these families and draw those who don’t know Him close unto Him. Asking for prayer for Richard D’s., daughter’s safety and that they be able to write him more. Also pray for Linda L. that God comforts her as she battles cancer and she stays surrounded by family & Christian family during this trying time.

Aimee PPrayer for relief from Multiple Sclerosis and her comfort and for her to draw nearer to Christ throughout this trial.

Thomas GPrayer for God to restore him to his family and keep him healthy. Pray for his children and grandchildren’s safety and salvation.

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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